Honoring female founders

New Lyceum exhibit highlights women behind Inova Hospital
BY KASSIDY MCDONALD

The “Alexandria Hospital: Women Mobilize the Community” exhibit opened Oct. 27 at the Lyceum. The exhibit was created to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Inova Alexandria Hospital, formerly the Alexandria Infirmary, and the women who made the healthcare facility into a reality.

A woman named Julia Johns organized a group in 1872 to start the first infirmary in Alexandria. She was the daughter of the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Due to the hard work and dedication of Johns and her group, later referred to as the Board of Lady Managers, they opened the city’s first infirmary in March 1873.

Then in 1917, the city’s first purpose-built hospital facility was built on the 700 block of Duke Street. The hospital facility was made possible by donations within the city that funded hospital wards and operating rooms. The new exhibit in the Lyceum pays homage to this piece of Alexandria’s history.

According to the city, women played such an integral part of healthcare in Alexandria that Inova became one of Alexandria’s most “community-based enterprises.” The exhibit highlights the like-minded women who worked extremely hard to establish and sustain the hospital.

“This exhibit highlights the role of women’s activism in operating the hospital and marshaling the support of organizations such as the Colored Citizen’s Association, Hospital Auxiliary Board, The Twig Junior Auxiliary, business, churches and schools so it would thrive,” a news release from the city reads.

Visitors will learn about the history behind...

City Council approves athletic field lights

Approval to be part of upcoming discussions
BY OLIVIA ANDERSON

During its public hearing on Saturday, City Council approved the installation of lights on several athletic fields: Francis C. Hammond Middle School, Patrick Henry K-8 School and Recreation Center, Jefferson Houston K-8 School, George Washington Middle School and Eugene Simpson Stadium Park.

The decision follows ongoing debates about whether the lights are necessary that go back several years. Most recently, on Nov. 1, the Planning Commission voted unanimously, 6-0, to recommend approval of the new plan.

According to the city’s website, the approval will “provide additional capacity to accommodate current and increasing scholastic and community program needs within the city’s fixed field resources.”

It also intends to support City Council’s priority on expanding youth programs and providing equitable access to facilities and services for all ages, Abigail Harwell, an urban planner with the Department of Planning and Zoning, said.

Evening use, Harwell added, will allow up to 1,000 additional hours each year each year and add to the city’s recreational options, which are presently limited to 20 fields.

Requested by the Department of Recreational, Parks and Cultural Activities, the five special use permits will allow the lights to measure up to 60 feet in height, which exceeds the city’s 40 to 45-foot height limit.

The fields at Francis Hammond, George Washington and Jefferson Houston could have lights next year, while Patrick Henry and Eugene Simpson will undergo construction in 2024 and 2025.

Saturday’s discussion in...

Alexandria Film Festival
See LIGHTS | 14

Seniors
See LIGHTS | 14

How to prepare for the chilliness of winter.
Page 8

Page 19
Timeless elegance and panoramic vistas from this classic brick four square perched majestically in the shadow of the Masonic Temple! This landmark residence has been brought back to life by Bluestone Builders in collaboration with Thompson Moran Design team. The home is the epitome of classic: with approx. 3,400 sq ft with 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 2 covered porches, a gracious front entry foyer and a light filled home with an open floor plan, exposed brick wall and gourmet kitchen with center island! The main and upper level have 9 foot ceilings, transom windows above the doors, wide plank wood flooring, open staircase, 9" baseboard and oversized 2 over 1 windows. Entertaining is effortless with the open circular floor plan making this the social center of the home. Beautiful french doors lead to the back porch overlooking rear yard... perfect for al-fresco dining. The dining room has a secondary entry & powder room tucked away off the hall. The second level has an owners suite with custom built-ins & wainscotting, 2 walk-in closets, luxurious bathroom and a Jack & Jill bath flanked by two additional spacious bedrooms. The third level offers panoramic views of the City, full bath, 3 walk-in closets making a perfect guest suite or home office! The lower level incorporates an au pair suite/guest room, full bath, family room w service bar, laundry & private entrance. 2 off-street parking spaces. Blocks to Metro!

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Washingtonian Magazines Top 100 agents  
Author meets with ACPS students

Students in grades three to five at Ferdinand T. Day gathered for an author visit which took place on Tuesday morning.

Dr. Deborah Hall-Greene Thomas, author of “They Believed They Could Fly!... And They Did!: The Tuskegee Airmen,” spoke to elementary school students about some extraordinary history that often goes unrecognized.

Thomas’ book educates the younger generation on a group of African American veterans, or the Tuskegee Airmen, who realized that their role during World War II is not included in traditional history books. These men wanted to fix that and make their contributions known, as well as the impact they had on the civil rights movement in the United States and abroad.

Thomas is committed to educating young students about the importance of the Tuskegee Airmen and their contributions to civil rights through her book.

City offers new affordable home units

The city’s Office of Housing has announced that it will be marketing Affordable Homeownership Units at Dylan Condominiums, according to a news release.

Dylan is a new residential development in Potomac Yard near the new Potomac Yard Metro Station and Metroway bus rapid transit, parks, retail and other neighborhood amenities. There will be nine condominium units available to income-eligible, first-time homebuyers at this new community, which is located at 701 to 737 Swann Ave.

Due to anticipated high demand, eligible purchasers will be selected through a lottery. Applications for the units will be accepted through Dec. 15 at 11:59 p.m., according to the release.

Interested buyers are invited to visit Dylan’s sales office, located at 2316 Richmond Hwy., to learn more about the available units, or visit dylanva.com.

For more information about the application requirements, the lottery process, and obligations of the purchaser, contact Vicente Espinoza at the Office of Housing at 703-746-4990, or visit https://www.alexandriava.gov/housing-services/homebuyer-resources.

Meet Molly!

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“Because everyone needs a home.”
Awaiting adoption

Tails High rescues abandoned and homeless cats and kittens and prepares them for adoption into permanent homes. Tails High is an all volunteer foster home-based 501(c)(3) non-profit group.

The non-profit is always accepting applications from volunteers who want to help! There are many ways to do just that, from fundraising to helping at adoption events.

If you're at least 18 and want to work with the cats, you can apply to become a feeder or caregiver in Annandale.

Since all Tails High cats and kittens live in foster homes while waiting for their perfect, permanent families, foster parent applications are accepted year-round.

Those who are not yet 18 but want to spend time with the cats must have a parent or guardian attend, too. Minors can also help set up adoption events and clean the cats’ cages.

Tails High participates in the annual Combined Federal Campaign fundraising drive. Their CFC number is 23910. Please consider including Tails High for a portion of your CFC, for a Spring2Action, giving Tuesday, or a year end donation. You can also donate by shopping at www.smile.amazon.com. Choose Tails High as your charity of choice and they will get a donation with no extra cost to you.

AT A GLANCE

Name: Tails High Inc.
Location: No dedicated facility – cats are in foster homes
Neighborhood: D.C. Metro area
Year opened: 2009
Type of nonprofit: Cage-free cat rescue and adoption organization
Hours of operation: Email anytime – adoption events at multiple locations
Email: meow@tailshigh.org
Phone: 703-819-5240
Website: www.tailshigh.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/tailshigh
Instagram: www.instagram.com/tailshigh

City announces holiday festivities

The City of Alexandria has announced several upcoming holiday festivities, such as the Scottish Christmas Walk Parade and the Alexandria Holiday Boat Parade – both to take place on one of the city’s biggest weekends.

The Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade will march through the streets of Old Town at 11 a.m. on Dec. 3. Parade-goers can expect to see more than 35 Scottish clans dressed in colorful tartans from around the D.C. region, joined by pipe and drum bands, country dancers, as well as terriers and hounds, community groups and more.

Sponsored by Amazon, the 22nd Annual Holiday Boat Parade of Lights will take place on Dec. 3 at 5:30 p.m., when more than 50 illuminated boats will cruise along the Potomac River shoreline. There will also be boat parade dockside festivities from 2 to 8 p.m.

Waterfront Park at the foot of King Street, near the official parade start line at the Alexandria City Marina, will include a pop-up beer garden from Alexandria’s award-winning Port City Brewing Company, hot chocolate from Dolci Gelati, gourmet popcorn from America’s Favorite Gourmet Popcorn and holiday music from 97.1 WASH-FM.
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Additional interesting items on display include Dr. Samuel B. Moore’s Sphygmomanometer, a tool used to measure blood pressure; a Candy Stripper Uniform from 1985; programs from Board of Lady Managers fundraising events; and a map of hospital locations.

“I went to the opening of the exhibit, and I think that it was very well organized. The exhibit was wonderful, we had time to walk through ... it is one room with panels on the wall and also three-dimensional displays of objects,” Mary Ryan, a former president of the Board of Lady Managers, said. “It’s not a large space but there is a lot of information packed in there.

Kristin Lloyd, curator for the City of Alexandria, said that the response of the new exhibit has been extremely positive, and visitors have seemed to appreciate all of the history that the exhibit highlights.

“Like any project, exhibition development has its ups and downs, but there weren’t really any obstacles in creating the exhibit. We did have to adapt because of the [COVID-19] pandemic situation – such as holding electronic meetings with staff and stakeholders rather than in-person gatherings, and it was necessary to record many oral histories via Zoom,” Lloyd said in a statement.

Visitors to the exhibit will be immersed into a world of women’s history and learn about these women who were able to change Alexandria for the better.

Johns, who was the driving force behind the hospital and the founder of the Board of Lady Managers, was honored in another way this summer by the current board. They held a tree planting ceremony in her honor by planting a tree right outside her gravesite at the Theological Seminary. Today, the Board of Lady Managers continues to raise money for the hospital to provide significant improvements to their facilities.

Johns was a Christian and valued service to others as a part of her religious beliefs. She took up this servitude after her father, John Johns. He became Assistant Bishop of Virginia in 1842 and served as president of the Virginia Theological Seminary’s Board of Trustees after the Civil War until he died in 1876, according to the Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum.

The infirmary opened March 1, 1873 on the corner of Duke and Fairfax, which was the former residence of Dr. Francis Murphy, according to the Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum. Johns and the Board of Lady Managers were responsible for overseeing the staff, which at the time included three consulting physicians, a matron, a cook and a nurse.

“A year after opening, inadequate income forced the Infirmary to move to smaller quarters. The Governing Trustees were on the verge of closing until Julia Johns gave an emotional appeal for the hospital to remain open at any cost – and that she was fully willing to take the cost of running the hospital upon herself,” a script from the Alexandria History Museum at the Lyceum reads. “With her leadership the Infirmary continued.”

The hospital’s creation is also important because it allowed people to no longer have to travel far for hospital care. Before the Board of Lady Managers built a facility, residents of Alexandria had to travel to Richmond or Washington for medical care. Due to their group efforts, people could receive life-changing care in Alexandria.

“People were having to travel to Richmond or other cities to receive medical care and therefore there was a need ... It was really interesting that it was a group of women at this time in history that actually got the ball rolling,” Ryan said.

The Women Mobilize the Community exhibit was made possible by donations from Inova Health System, The Twig – the Junior Auxiliary of Alexandria Hospital – and individual donors who wanted to commemorate a piece of Alexandria and women’s history.

The exhibit will be open to the public until Oct. 29, 2023. The museum is free to residents of Alexandria. It is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

-kmcdonald@alextimes.com

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The 16th Annual Alexandria Film Festival returns this year in a hybrid format, offering both in-person and online screenings. Viewers can purchase a ticket and watch anytime from now until midnight on Black Friday. This year, the festival includes a mix of local and international films, short and feature-length films, and numerous Q&A sessions with directors, producers, actors and composers. On the next few pages are a selection of film reviews from Alexandria Times staff. For more information, visit alexfilmfest.com.
‘Guest House’ is about hope and second chances

“Guest House,” by filmmakers Hannah Dweck and Yael Luttwak, opens by following Maddison, a recovering addict who was recently released from Arlington County Jail; Grace, a recovering addict; and Selena, another recovering addict, through their journey in a re-entry program in Alexandria.

The film explains and shows the importance of re-entry programs after prison. The Guest House serves more than 200 women per year, helping them adjust to life post-prison and after their addiction. Without treatment programs, 80% of recovering addicts will relapse within a couple months, but people who graduate from the Guest House program have only a 10% chance of relapsing. These are facts that most people do not know about re-entry programs, and it causes the viewer to think about all the good these programs can do for recovering addicts.

The program takes place over a six-month period, two months at Guest house, four months at an independent living apartment facility and then an optional 18 months at an after-care house.

The film closely follows the three women and their experiences within the program, learning how to be accepted and be held accountable within the community. There are women from all different walks of life, levels of education and backgrounds who live in the Guest House and are trying their best to avoid being caught in the cycle of being in and out of prison. They tell their personal stories of how they became addicts, and reflect on their time in prison. The one-on-one interviews with the women offers the viewer an insight into their lives and experiences, making you root for their recovery.

The film continues to show the success of Grace and Maddison, who live in an after-care facility together. Selena ends up getting a job as a cook, but relapses. She tries to begin the recovery process again after being forced to leave the after-care facility. Grace started a new internship and Maddison now works at a non-profit that helps formerly incarcerated people find jobs.

“Guest House” ends by sharing where these women are now and also hearing from some of the people who operate the program. They express the need for understanding and acceptance. There need to be more opportunities for treatment and rehabilitation in this country, like Guest House programs, so that recovering addicts can be integrated back into society. The documentary shines an important light on the Guest House’s treatment and rehabilitation program, which promotes integration back into society for recovering addicts instead of just being locked up in prison.

‘Guest House’ is about hope and second chances

PHOTO/ALEXANDRIA FILM FESTIVAL

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‘Vagabond’ is a multidimensional mystery

“Vagabond” is a psychological thriller written and directed by JC Andreu, a short film showcased at the Alexandria Film Festival. Andreu was inspired by urban legend, The Tale of the Man from Taured. He also drew inspiration from personal experience when he was forced to stay in America due to travel restrictions and border closures in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

“I was on the phone with my mother and she said ‘Just stay there,’” Andreu said.

“That felt really weird. There’s a global pandemic and you’re just supposed to stay away from your roots and everything,” he said.

The film follows Vincent Martinet, an international student from Bordeaux, France who comes to the U.S. to attend college.

Andreu began his writing process focusing on the story over the visual components.

“I make sure it’s striking and airtight and as I do that, the natural pace coming through informs the tone and therefore the cinematography, music, etc.” he said.

A vast darkness swallows the audience as the opening scenes pan across the screen heightening the paranoia Vincent is staving away. Vincent, played by Isaac Liu, is an anxious young man who arrives at customs and presents his passport to the border control agent at the desk. The agent asks Vincent a series of routine questions like “Where are you from? What is the purpose of your trip to the United States?”

He calmly answers her questions and receives inquisitive looks in return only to find out the passport is void. France does not exist. The music begins to beat louder echoing the fear Vincent experiences.

Stumbling through his thoughts he scratches at the walls of his own understanding. Fully formulated thoughts that were once the foundation of everything he’s ever known crumble to dust at his feet. The score within the film can be like a compass, guiding the story and uncovering emotions that Andreu aims to evoke.

Vincent is trapped, confused, alone. The quiet darkness echoes his helpless state. He is alienated in a foreign country and the resources he depended on to aid him are rendered useless.

Agent Reynhart, played by Alexandra Milewich, is a member of the organization that has detained Vincent. She is the ‘face’ of their operation and the last person that is shown speaking to Vincent before he is locked captive in the empty room.

Against her rigorous training, Agent Reynhart makes the critical error of mistaking Vincent’s home, Bordeaux, for its northern counterpart, Paris, exonerating the interrogation process she had been previously performing.

Agent Reynhart looks directly into the camera in the corner of the room and apologizes profusely to someone unknown. It is a jarring scene from the 12-minute film alluding to the insignificance of her power and how she herself is merely a pawn.

A sea of red light bounds through the hallway in waves, a hallway hosting a series of identical doors with a variety of languages scrawled onto the doors. He is not alone. “Welcome to the United States of America,” Agent Reynhart says and kicks Vincent’s outstretched hand.

When watching this film, Vincent is portrayed as a relatable protagonist and throughout the storyline it becomes increasingly difficult to not encourage his escape. His alienation may resonate with many people who have felt chronically misunderstood, like a castaway or a disposable piece of a machine.

-awlison@alextimes.com
‘Aaron with 2 A’s’ encourages living authentically

“What is the shelf life for this kind of career at your age?” a rather abrasive man asks at a fancy work event. The respondent, Aaron (with two A’s), looks pensively into the distance in a clearly disheartened manner.

Though he’s 65 years old, Aaron, played by Steve Lichtenstein, has decided to follow his longtime dream and begin a second career as an actor. He secures a lead role in a film, which initially brings him excitement, but then finds out the film doesn’t have enough funding and will not continue. As the voices and opinions of others start to enter and swirl around in his head, fear slowly creeps in.

Aaron later repeats the above question during a meeting with his acting coach, Bert, played by Anthony Robert Grasso, as though he’s the one who thought of it. The nagging opinions of those around him have successfully penetrated his psyche, resulting in a somber, stark reminder of what it looks like for passion to fall prey to influence.

“Aaron With 2 A’s,” created and co-written by Lichtenstein and directed by Michael Goldberg, poignantly captures the delicious freedom of taking risks to live more authentically, as well as the subsequent insecurities and uncertainties that inevitably come along with deciding to tackle those risks.

In just 17 minutes, Lichtenstein skillfully architects a heartwarming story arc that follows an underdog trying to chase his dreams. He plays an endearing, likeable character that both the viewer and his loved ones want to shake several times throughout the film.

At one point, his wife, Judy, played by Pamela Jayne Morgan, finally gets fed up with Aaron’s growing doubts and says he’s starting to lose what she loves most about him.

“Is this why you act? To torture yourself, to torture me?” she asks, exasperated.

“No! I act because I love it,” he responds.

“Do you? Do you really?” she counters. The question acts as a catalyst of sorts, spurring Aaron into a period of intense self-reflection. He’s forced to come to terms with the trajectory his life could take if he continues on this destructive path, but he’s also reminded of the reason he pursued acting in the first place.

Throughout “Aaron With 2 A’s,” Aaron undergoes a dilemma that is all too familiar for many people. Changing one’s attitude and undergoing a mindset shift is easier said than done, but it starts by recognizing that we are often the ones blocking our own path.

At the end of the film, Aaron receives a call that his movie received funding and is back on. He’s excited, but by that point, he’s finally rooted that excitement in something much deeper.

{oanderson@alextimes.com}
"Thank You For Your Service," a war documentary directed by Tom Donahue and produced by Ilan Arboleda, is a tragic and mesmerizing piece of art from start to finish.

The film opens with an audio recording of a woman screaming in a recorded police call about a war veteran who has just committed suicide, immediately thrusting the viewer into the center of the scene. It doesn’t let up until the credits roll.

Over the course of the film, Donahue weaves together a kaleidoscope of interviews, anecdotes, videos and photos to illustrate how trauma affects those returning from war, and how the United States’ mental health system is not built to sustain the growing crisis.

Featured in “Thank You For Your Service” are the stories of several veterans who served in Iraq and their subsequent tribulations upon returning home and attempting to assimilate back into society. All of their stories are utterly gut-wrenching, and the film does not shy away from recounting very specific anecdotes. For instance, one veteran, Phil Straub, watched his friend get hit by tracer ammunition and burn to death during the Second Battle of Fallujah, one of the most violent conflicts of the Iraq war. Another, Lu Lobello, killed three male members of an Iraqi family in an attempt to protect his fellow soldiers in a fire fight during the invasion of Baghdad. Both now struggle with various forms of war trauma that have significantly impacted their day-to-day lives.

Through potent interviews with veterans, psychologists and politicians, the film ultimately makes the argument that the country’s current policies are not doing nearly enough as they could – and should – to care for soldiers’ mental health, despite an increasingly desperate need for services. In fact, the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs reports 22 suicides a day, according to the film. The sobering fact is both devastating and emboldening at the same time, and results in a blistering anger toward the U.S. government – as was clearly Donahue’s intent.

But he makes sure to imbue an element of hope as well. Donahue highlights a private non-profit organization called Save A Warrior that works to heal veterans and assimilate them back into society through a “reintegration boot camp.” At the end of the film, a nail-biting scene features one veteran climbing the top of a pole in front of his fellow veterans during an exercise that reintroduces the protective factor of fear of the pain of death as part of the bootcamp. At one point it is unclear whether he’s going to make it, but he ultimately does, leaving the viewer with a sense of pride and relief.

"Thank You For Your Service" adds a question mark to the end of that phrase. It asks the viewer to carefully ponder what thanking a veteran for their service actually means, and what can be done to add more weight to the statement.

After watching the film, it’s clear there is still a long way to go.

–oanderson@alexetimes.com
‘This Vast and Mysterious Ocean’ details a broken relationship and hints of horror

“This Vast and Mysterious Ocean,” an eerie short film, opens with Jason, the protagonist, still on his way home from making a long journey. He calls in to check on his wife, Leah, and his daughter Chloe. While using the payphone at a rest stop, Jason asks Leah how she’s doing to which she answers that there’s someone in their house. The vibe is dark and mysterious, alluding to the idea that something bad is definitely going to happen.

The scene then cuts to Jason frantically driving home through the night, while ominous music plays in the background. Once he arrives, the interior of his home is in ruins. There is shattered china on the floor, the lights are flickering, the refrigerator is open and his wife and daughter are nowhere to be found. It seems straight out of a horror film, and it wouldn’t be surprising if someone jumped out from behind the door with a knife.

Once Jason goes upstairs, he finds Leah who is in a possessed state. She tells him her daughter is somewhere safe and that his father called to tell her about a dream he had where Jason is lost and alone. The conversation between Leah and Jason is eerie, and has flashbacks of the ocean appearing. The vibe is still mysterious, and the viewer is not exactly sure how the conversation between husband and wife will end.

Leah, still in a possessed manner, recalls the way her and Jason fell in love so many years ago by the ocean. Memories from the ocean flash on screen. Jason tries desperately apologize to Leah for the pain he’s caused their family, and he promises the vicious cycle, of what appears to be his previous abuse towards her, will finally end.

“‘This Vast and Mysterious Ocean’ is directed by John Bergstrom.”

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LAVINES \ FROM 1

cluded a mix of support for the athletic field lights, opposition to the lights and several opinions in between.

Bill Rossello, president of the Seminary Hill Association, commented on the installation of lights at Francis Hammond. Rossello stated that neighbors in the Varsity Park neighborhood – which sits across from the Hammond field – are not opposed to the lights on fields, but they have “significant concerns we feel have not been heard here before.”

“Hammond field is frequently used by non-permitted adult groups throughout the year. In warm weather months, these groups often use the field until dark, which can be as late as 8:30 or 9 o’clock,” Rossello said. “These groups are known to make a party out of a soccer match, consuming copious amounts of beer, playing music from containers at Francis Hammond as well as limited field space with overcrowded fields.

He said the nature of activities occurring on the fields such as monitoring, trash and the presence of non-permitted groups are what cause issues – not the lights themselves. He also emphasized that SHA is “not in any way at odds” with the youth sports community and in complete agreement about the problems on the fields.

On behalf of SHA, Rossello requested that City Council limit the field’s use to permitted youth sports groups, to leave the lights off if no activity is allowed and to install bathrooms onsite.

In response, Mayor Justin Wilson said the city needs to accommodate both formal and informal play.

“I think there is a balance, and we certainly need to strike the right balance. I do have some concerns about being overly restrictive on every single field we have in the city. We do need to accommodate formal play; we also need to accommodate informal play.”

Terri Andros, a resident with children in the Alexandria Soccer Association program, expressed support for the addition of lights on athletic fields. She called the issue of trash on fields a “fixable problem,” as well as limited field space with overcrowded fields.

“The best way to get more field space to meet all the rising demands is to light the fields. We need to add availability after dark to the existing fields. We have the fields,” Andros said, adding that youth sports are a great way to raise healthy citizens and bring together communities. “... Kids will be somewhere after dark. It’s better to have them in a structured environment on a field than in the dark where trouble may find them.”

During deliberation, City Council discussed many of the aforementioned issues, such as field monitoring and litter. According to RPCA staff, the city has doubled its recyclable containers at Francis Hammond as the majority of the trash there was single-use plastic bottles. There is also a standard operating procedure, specifically at school sites, to address this issue every day before schools open.

Additionally, the city has put up signs encouraging people to pitch in and manage personal behavior. According to city staff, who meet with ACPS several times per month, the school district has not seen significant amounts of alcohol consumption.

City Councilor Alyia Gaskins asked for continuing the partnership between RPCA and ACPS as it relates to athletic fields. He recommended making field monitors visible – perhaps by a shirt or jacket – and give them access to Alexandria Police Department personnel and school security.

“I think that’s a growing best practice, so that you have somebody that’s almost a customer service person versus somebody that’s necessarily law enforcement,” Chapman said. “... There has to be a healthy partnership for these spaces and I know [that in] your meetings you have with ACPS, that free-flowing conversation can happen and can be done pretty easily.”

RPCA Deputy Director Jack Browand said that city staff coordinate with ACPS in instances when their security is best suited to handle the situation. Browand also addressed the recurring recommendations to add a contact number at each location so visitors have an option for first line intervention.

“We don’t have that there. All of our permit holders do know who to call when they’re on the field, if there is a problem with regard to a dispute of use of the field and they contact either our field coordinator or the designated field marshal for that day,” Browand said. “... It’s just sort of balancing that community open use with the program use.”

Vice Mayor Amy Jackson asked if the phone numbers should be for not just the permit holders, but also for anyone using the fields. Whether the issue is related to noise or accumulated trash, she said, all visitors to the fields should have access to a community phone number at each location.

She also suggested that the phone number could come in handy if the lights turn off during a game, which she said has happened multiple times.

“Let me tell you, broken hearts are left on that field if the lights go off and the game’s not over, and we still have plenty of time,” Jackson said.

In response, Browand said that generally the lights will be programmed for the scheduled time; but if something causes a delay such as an injury or overtime play, field marshals should be contacted who will then contact someone to access the lights.

Councillor Alyia Gaskins agreed that the request for a phone number at each location is necessary, but acknowledged that whoever answers the phone could be asked a wide range of questions – from lights to trash to noise to permitted use.

“I think we need to be really clear about, ‘Where does that number take people? What expectations should the public have, and is it just a phone number?’” Gaskins said. “... I just don’t want to create an expectation where people feel they’re going to call and this person’s going to be able to solve every one of their issues.”

Ultimately, Chapman made a motion to approve the SUPs and Gaskins seconded, but Wilson said the conversations regarding the lights on athletic fields are far from over.

“I appreciate everyone who added insights into this conversation,” Wilson said. “We’re working to address the concerns that we heard and I think as we go forward we’ll work to address any concerns that arise.”
Making charitable donations

BY KEVIN JAHNS

If you could pay part of your annual tax bill in the form of a donation to a local charitable organization – instead of through a check to the government – would you?

Believe it or not, a lesser known Virginia program called The Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program for Education allows you to do just that. The program, offered through the Virginia Department of Education, offers tax credits of up to 65% for donations to more than 80 approved neighborhood organizations, including the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria.

These tax credits are a powerful tool for Virginia taxpayers, both individuals and companies, interested in supporting education at the local level. Approved organizations like the SFA can offer you a 65% tax credit to be applied to your Virginia state income taxes. If you were to give $1,000 to the Scholarship Fund, you would receive a $650 tax credit to pay your Virginia state tax bill. This is a tax credit, not a tax deduction – directly reducing your total tax bill.

There are other ways in which tax credits can be even more powerful. When paying your tax bill, you must pay it in cash. But your donation to an approved neighborhood organization like the SFA can be made with appreciated securities, enabling you to avoid a potentially substantial capital gain on the eventual sale of the securities. Or, it can be made as part of your required minimum distribution from your individual retirement account.

Your donations to the SFA are also a powerful tool. As an SFA donor and volunteer, I constantly see the difference our supporters have made in the lives of Alexandria City High School students and families in our community year after year. Many students would never make it through the complicated college application process, or know how to apply to career and technical programs without the scholarships and substantial advisory help provided by SFA staff. They might otherwise struggle to find their way to the right program with a financial aid package that works for their family, and they’d still have a tuition gap to close – which is where an SFA scholarship often makes the difference in making college possible.

Here are some compelling numbers that help illustrate the need, effort and support provided by the SFA:

• More than 60% of Alexandria City High School students are living at or below the federal poverty level.
• More than 60% of SFA scholarship recipients are the first in their family to apply to college.
• $1.4 million in scholarship funds were provided through the SFA in 2022.
• Community members and businesses, including SFA recipients, have helped over 5,200 students attend college.
• Over the past 36 years, the SFA has granted $17,000,000 in scholarships to Alexandria students.

Since its inception, the SFA has been a great example of broad community support at work. The vast majority of SFA funding comes via relatively modest donations from parents, teachers, administrators, businesses, neighbors and friends who understand the importance of supporting education at the community level. While the amount of each donation certainly matters, the sheer number of supporters is what has made the difference for so many students over time.

I hope you’ll consider joining me and many Alexandria community members in supporting the SFA and taking advantage of the Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program. For more information, contact the Scholarship Fund today at scholarshipfund@acps.k12.va.us or 703-824-6730 and they will be happy to provide you with the necessary information to make the tax credit process quick and easy.

The writer is on the Scholarship Fund of Alexandria Board of Trustees.

Approved organizations like the SFA can offer a 65% tax credit to be applied to your Virginia state income taxes.
27th Annual Art on the Avenue

Though initially postponed last month due to the remains of Hurricane Ian, Alexandria’s 27th Annual Art on the Avenue event finally took place. Thousands of people flocked to Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray on Saturday for a day of art, entertainment and food. This year’s event featured more than 300 artists, from jewelers to woodworkers, live music, ranging from Irish to country, and an abundance of kids’ crafts and activities for the whole family.

Obituary

Norman Richard Sherlock

Sept. 18, 1936 – Nov. 16, 2022

Norman Richard Sherlock passed away peacefully on November 16, 2022, in Arlington, Virginia, following a long illness.

He was born September 18, 1936, to Orville and Martha Ann "Mattie" (Reichert) Sherlock in St. Francis, Kansas. Soon after his birth, displaced by the Dust Bowl, his family migrated to San Luis Obispo, California, and then Walla Walla, Washington, where his father found work in the fields and later worked as a union organizer, farmer, and auctioneer.

Ambitious and hardworking, Norman graduated from Wa-Hi High School in Walla Walla and worked his way through college at Washington State University. He had a long and successful career in politics, first as a staff member for U.S. Senator Warren Magnuson, then as a lobbyist and trade association executive. He worked with the Air Transport Association before joining the American Bus Association, where he rose to the position of president before retiring.

Norman will be remembered by his family and friends as a kind and gentle man with a quick wit and a sharp intellect. He cherished his three children and was proud of his Irish heritage – his favorite film was The Quiet Man, starring John Wayne and Maureen O’Hara. An avid reader, his favorite subjects were history and politics. He followed Washington football and delighted in complaining about his favorite baseball team, the N.Y. Yankees. He loved horses, fishing, travel, and a medium rare steak with a glass of full-bodied red wine.

Norman is survived by his son, Sean Sherlock (Christina) of Alexandria, Virginia; his sister, Claudette Potter (Jim) of The Dalles, Oregon; his five granddaughters; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his daughters, Kimberley Tucker and Stacey Jeuris, and his brothers Anthony Sherlock, Eldon Sherlock, and Warren Sherlock.

A visitation will be held on Sunday, Nov. 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Everly Wheatley Funeral Home in Alexandria, Va.
Seniors, take note. Residents aged 60 and over can receive discounts at local businesses in Alexandria through Senior Services of Alexandria’s Silver Service Card program.

The program launched originally in 2017 as part of the Commission on Aging’s commitment to promote Alexandria as an age-friendly community where senior residents can shop, dine and obtain services locally, but was put on hiatus during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. SSA has now reinvigorated the program, actively inviting additional businesses throughout Alexandria to join.

The program now features nearly 50 local businesses that offer discounts to Silver Service Cardholders. Participating businesses include popular restaurants, cleaning services, salons, boutiques and more. Each business decides on what they’d like to offer, with a wide range of discounts. There is no charge for a business to join, or for an older adult to receive a card.

“Both the Del Ray Business Association and the Old Town Business Association have shown great support for the program, and are encouraging their members to join,” SSA Executive Director Mary Lee Anderson said. “We are pleased with the reaction and are looking forward to taking the program to other parts of the city.”

The Silver Service Card program is proving to be a win-win for seniors and businesses, and we are very excited to be able to offer it to all of the city’s older adults. Shopping [locally] is important to the vitality of our community. We’re proud to be able to offer our city’s seniors with a little extra incen-
The outreach to local businesses began in the fall of 2015 in the Del Ray section of the city. Pat Miller, a Del Ray resident and former business owner, joined the Commission’s Economic Development Committee and led the charge to get Del Ray shops and restaurants on board to provide discounts to Alexandria seniors. Margaret and Laurent Janowsky of Del Ray Café were the first local business owners to offer a discount to seniors dining in their restaurant.

“The concept of promoting Alexandria, and Del Ray in particular, as a senior-friendly community was easy to sign on to when the idea was presented to Laurent and me. We are excited to provide options to bring seniors to our neighborhood and to play a small part in this big idea!” Margaret Janowsky said.

If you are an Alexandria resident who is over 60 years old, you can get your Silver Service Card by calling Senior Services of Alexandria at 703-836-4414, ext. 110 or emailing admin@seniorservicesalex.org. Businesses who would like to enroll should email development@seniorservicesalex.org.

A complete list of participating businesses may be found at seniorservicesalex.org/programs/silver-service-card.

The writer is the communications director for Alexandria Senior Services.
Getting ready for winter

Ice and snow can increase chance of slips and falls
BY LEE GJERTSEN MALONE

As winter approaches, seniors need to be prepared for the many hazards the season can bring. Ice and snow can increase the risk of slips and falls, while power outages can be especially treacherous in cold temperatures. If you or a loved one is a City of Alexandria resident over age 55, here are some tips to prepare for the upcoming season.

1. First, make a plan and let your family know what it is. Knowing what you intend to do in an emergency is one of the most important things you can do to be prepared.

2. Everyone should have a kit of emergency supplies in case they get stuck at home for several days. The ideal kit should include enough supplies to last at least three days, including food, water, a first aid kit, a flashlight and a battery-powered radio. This bag should also include necessary medication and any durable medical equipment, such as spare glasses or hearing aid batteries. Consider if you or a loved one has a special diet when packing food, especially for multiple days. It’s also a good idea to have a second bag of supplies — a “go kit” — you can take with you if you must evacuate, but make sure it’s lightweight enough for you to easily carry.

Seniors should prepare for the winter weather as well as possible emergencies that could arise.

There was a time when the thought of living off MREs did little for your appetite. But those days are done—at Falcons Landing, you’ll find the MRE replaced by culinary delights ready for your enjoyment. Whether you’re looking for something quick and convenient, a cocktail with friends or something more elegant, our three dining options are sure to keep you coming back for more.

CALL 703-260-8504 TO SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!
3. It’s vital to keep copies of important documents in your emergency kit, including bank information, wills and insurance papers. You should also have a list of important names and phone numbers such as your doctor, insurance agent, and family members. Your phone may not always work in an emergency and you’ll want to be able to use someone else’s to contact people in your support network if you need help. Keep some cash as well, in case you need to buy supplies while outside your home.

4. In winter weather, make sure you have additional blankets, sleeping bags and warm clothing available if the heat goes out. Single-use hand warmers are another good option for having at home, in your go kit and in the car.

5. Stay indoors if you can during bad weather, but if you must go out, keep your clothes dry and walk carefully on snow and icy pathways. Don’t allow large scarves or hats to obstruct your vision.

6. For those concerned about keeping your walks clear in the wintertime, the Snow Buddy program provides snow removal and sidewalk treatment for eligible Alexandrians. Volunteers are matched with low-income seniors or home-bound or disabled residents who are physically unable to do it themselves, cannot afford to pay for this service or do not have neighbors, family, or friends to assist them. Interested seniors can fill out an application at volunteearlexandria.org/snow. People who are interested in volunteering to be a snow buddy or to participate in other local volunteer programs can find out more at volunteearlexandria.org.

The writer is the emergency preparedness coordinator for Volunteer Alexandria, the local community resource for volunteerism.
Comfy cozy

Five style ideas for warming up the home this winter
BY BRANDPOINT

As the days get shorter, temperatures fall and we begin to spend more time indoors, many of us are looking for ways to make our homes more snug and cozy. After all, all the winter months can be much easier to withstand when our homes become havens of warmth, calm and comfort. As British poet Edith Sitwell once wrote: “Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand, and for a talk beside the fire: It is the time for home.”

The good news is that creating your own home haven need not be difficult if you understand how to create such environments through smart decor choices. With that in mind, here are five key decor elements that can go a long way toward making your home seem luxuriously warm and inviting – for both residents and guests.

1. Soft and luxurious textiles
   The upholstery, drapes, curtains, linens, bedding and throws you pick can have a major impact on comfort levels. It may be worth spending more to purchase high-end textiles with high thread counts. One hundred percent cotton, bamboo or silk often feels best against the skin, but some luxury brands also use synthetic blends to their advantage.

2. Rich-looking hardwood floors
   Hardwood floors offer unparalleled warmth and beauty to any home, regardless of its architecture and design style. Thanks to technology, engineered hardwood flooring now offers the extra protection needed to keep them gorgeous even under duress. Engineered hardwood flooring is more impact- and scratch-resistant than traditional white oak hardwood flooring. Many are also water-resistant to help stand up to winter’s toughest effects.

3. Atmospheric lighting
   Our natural human circadian rhythms dictate that

In general, light bulbs marked “soft white” or “warm white” will warm up any room.

SEE COZY | 22
warm yellowish-white light, as opposed to cooler blue light, helps us relax and unwind. In general, light bulbs marked "soft white" or "warm white" will warm up any room. Lighting experts recommend using ceiling and non-symmetric wall lights to create the most comforting settings, but firelight and candlelight can also add a relaxing ambiance.

4. Comfortable furniture

Plenty of manufacturers create furniture that’s stylish, but not particularly comfortable. If your pieces fit that description, you may wish to exchange them for styles that allow you to come in from the cold, settle in and fully relax. Perhaps it’s time to invest in a new pillow-top mattress, a cushy sectional couch that can seat your entire family around the TV or dining room chairs comfortable enough for game-playing and lingering conversations.

5. Warm color schemes

Because warm colors such as reds, yellows, oranges and yellow-greens tend to remind us of sun, sand and heat, they can make us perceive rooms as warmer and cozier. You may wish to boost that phenomenon by painting one or more of your rooms in those colors, or by choosing a neutral, subtly tinted tone in one of those shades. Many decorators suggest balancing the effect of intensely warm colors with accents in cooler hues.

With colder weather on the way, there’s much you can do to make your home a haven of comfort for your family. Take steps now to evaluate your home and think about improvements that could make it warmer and more wonderful throughout the winter months.

Different elements of decor can make your home seem luxuriously warm and inviting.

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**HOMES**

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**HOME OF THE WEEK**

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**Charming colonial on one of Alexandria’s finest streets**

This charming home has been in the same family since it was built 87 years ago! This lovely space offers an opportunity to create your dream home. The large level rear yard awaits a fabulous two-story addition. The large beautiful living room and formal dining room are perfect for entertaining. The warm and inviting den is the ideal home office.

This solidly constructed brick colonial boasts hardwood floors, plaster walls, two wood-burning fireplaces, a slate roof and lots of charm. A huge screened porch is perfect for summer parties. The partially finished lower level features a family room and loads of storage. Don’t miss this opportunity to live on one of Alexandria’s finest streets!

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**HOMES ADVERTORIAL**

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**AT A GLANCE**

**Address:**
302 Mansion Dr., Alexandria, 22302

**Neighborhood:**
Colonial Park

**Price:** $1,495,000

**Square feet:** 2,626

**Bedrooms:** 4

**Bathrooms:** 2.5

**Year built:** 1935

**Contact:**
Donnan C. Wintermute
Coldwell Banker Realty
703-608-6868

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**Left:** 302 Mansion Dr. **Middle:** Formal living room. **Right:** Formal dining room.
Weekly Words

ACROSS

1. Finally free from
6. What a key card provides
12. Middle Eastern seasoned rice
17. Stop waffling
18. Horse’s pen
19. Seems fishy
21. Cocktail colored by Angostura bitters
22. Simple life form
23. Device for a severe allergic reaction
24. Fresh-daisy connector
25. Crack, like a cipher
27. Load of library books, say
29. Salt, in Paris
30. Actress Sevigny
32. Soap opera unit
34. Verses of praise
36. *Like yeast (Hint: Each starred clue’s answer continues through a block and a neighboring answer)
38. Hold off on discussing
39. *Places to stroll
40. Fruit drink suffixes
44. Intrusive online promotions
48. Kid-lit turtle
50. Slightest amount
51. Burden
52. In ___ (where unearthed)
54. Relaxing getaways
56. Doled (out)
58. Poker player’s “Pass”
61. Rankings by win-loss records
63. LAX winter hours
64. Comfy Australian boot
66. Composer Satie
67. Untrustworthy person
68. Wineless-tapping sound
69. Spectacles’ support
70. Dos + seis
72. Horse from the Middle East
73. Taj Mahal’s locale
74. Shallow water hazard
75. ___-friendly

DOWN

1. Of the kidneys
2. “Yech!”
3. Investigate something thoroughly
4. “Garfield” canine
5. *Repairing of a damaged relationship
6. National park near Bar Harbor, Maine
7. Drops in ___-Magnon
9. Novel devices?
10. Buffalo hockey pro
11. Close angrily
12. Bogus
13. Carried out
14. Hi fashion?
15. The Matterhorn and Mont Blanc, for two
16. Hightail it
17. Restaurant offering
20. NBC sketch show
21. Campaign season grp.
23. “I don’t believe it!”
25. “I don’t need the deets!”
26. Pranks with white rolls, briefly
27. Worth having
28. Predicted
29. Spanish cheer
30. Fish packed in a tin
31. Coll. dorm overseers
32. Typewriter roller
33. Sixth ___ (intuition)
34. Minor dent
35. Chips away at
36. Tennis legend Monica
37. Hum.
38. Coll. dorm overseers
39. Vapers’ devices, for short
40. Very, very beginning
41. Very dark
42. Vapers’ devices, for short
43. Croatian brothers
44. Highlight of a trumpet concerto
45. CD predecessors
46. USC, e.g.
47. Homeland, affectionately
48. Olaj rival
49. Highlight of a trumpet concerto
50. Narrow
51. Pranks with white rolls, briefly
52. Very dark
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Solutions from last week

GWENDOLYN BROTZMAN (96), of Alexandria, Nov. 7, 2022
WILLIE HAYES (72), of Alexandria, Nov. 10, 2022
OMA HOLLAND (103), of Alexandria, Nov. 8, 2022
CHRISTOPHER MATHES (54), of Alexandria, Nov. 7, 2022
ELIZABETH WADE (93), formerly of Alexandria, Nov. 3, 2022

MEN IN BLACK by Morton J. Mendelson, edited by David Steinberg
City Hall Watch
with Bill Rossello

Whose priorities are these?

BY BILL ROSSELLO

After their spring retreat, City Council announced its six priorities for their current term. Why is it not surprising that the list doesn’t seem to reflect community preferences very well? Listed first is “Recover from the COVID-19 Pandemic.” No doubt the pandemic was disruptive and tragic, but the crisis has passed. Most residents have returned to some semblance of normal life. Why this is still at the top of the list is befuddling.

In describing the priority to “Provide Diverse Housing Opportunities,” council declared the need to “reconsider our zoning model and explore other tools.” Outside of council, developers and a few activists, no one is demanding more density in a city that already has diverse housing choices. The next one, “Define Our Community Engagement Approach,” implies that city hall lacks something so basic to municipal government. An approach to effective, honest and transparent engagement should already exist.

A noble objective is embodied in the “Support Youth and Families” priority. But this seems more like an admission of failure by a city that already has so many programs in this area. Long-time city watchers will undoubtedly say, “Well, it’s about time,” when they see “Foster Economic Development” as a priority. Particularly after more than a decade of seeing Arlington do what we haven’t — pursue smart redevelopment that attracts larger businesses and related economic activity.

Here’s one that reflects a truly astounding admission: “Develop a Compensation Philosophy.” How can a city that prides itself in sound financial management and valuing employees, have no compensation philosophy? It certainly had one in the 1990s and 2000s. What happened?

So, whose priorities are these? While many residents might agree with some of them, here are some seemingly more pressing alternatives to council’s list:

As serious crime has become more prevalent, City Council has de-emphasized one of its most basic functions: policing. So, perhaps one priority should have been to “Ensure Security.” Low pay levels, defunding the school resource officers and establishing a police review board have led to an exodus that leaves us short by some 30% of the authorized force.

How about “Maintain Infrastructure?” City officials were dragged kicking and screaming to get on this in recent years. It was mostly state government officials who forced the city to address the environmental disaster of our raw sewage flowing directly into the Potomac. And it was Del Ray residents who fought the city on flooding issues that city officials blamed on climate change and homeowner negligence.

Everyone loves their neighborhood, but residents from the West End to Old Town are now up in arms about city policies that threaten theirs. Playing around with zoning ordinances and bonus height density is the latest affront to them. “Save Our Neighborhoods,” might have been a spot-on priority.

Interesting that improving schools is a common campaign theme of local officials, but when it came time for the last council to govern, they spent more time descending to ACPS than discussing education. A priority to “Support Quality Education” would have resonated well throughout the community.

And how about “Address Traffic Challenges” as a priority. Nearly all of Alexandria’s 80,000 households have one or two motor vehicles. While increased density and “mobility” policies increasingly favor some 6,000 bus riders, a few hundred regular bike riders and a few scooter riders, congestion just gets worse.

Finally, there is a reckoning ahead, as city staff finally pointed out at the recent council retreat. This city is about to become much less affordable for residents due to city hall’s deferral of capital improvements over many council terms. There have been few times when “Manage Impending Financial Challenges” would lack something so basic to municipal government. An approach to effective, honest and transparent engagement should already exist.

PHOTO/LEE MOODY

The Wilson Bridge at dawn.

Photo of the Week

Your Views

Don’t eliminate history

To the editor:

As a George Washington High School alumnus, I was very pleased to read about the belated induction of former extraordinary GWHS athletes Joe Hensley, “Dee” Campbell, Bobby Jones, Doug Yates, Bob Garda and the 1945 State Championship Basketball team.

However, the statement issued by the School Board that “the 1945 team was the school’s “only team to win a state championship,” is blatantly false and should be corrected. The team was the only basketball team; however, the GWHS Baseball team won the State Championship game in Alexandria in 1947. Also, the teams of noted Track Coach Tom Fitzgibbons, won six state championships: four in track & field (indoor and outdoor) in 1948 and 1949, two state cross-country championships in 1947 and 1948 and a southern conference championship in Raleigh, N.C. in 1949. Coach Harry Caughron, a Virginia Sports Hall of Fame inductee, also won a state track & field championship in 1954. While there was no state championship in crew, Coaches Julian Whitestone and Jack Franklin, also an Olympic judge, won “National” crew championships in 1954 and 1956.

Accordingly, the School Board, through a communication error or lack of historical knowledge, tarnished the illustrious athletic history of GWHS by the elimination of eight state championships, a southern conference championship plus two national championships.

-Jerry File, Alexandria

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

In this century, after decades of being overlooked in favor of other fermented drinks, cider is making a comeback in the United States. To highlight its renaissance, and to draw attention to Virginia’s long history with the drink, the Virginia General Assembly established Virginia Cider Week on September 5, 2012. The joint resolution designated the full week before Thanksgiving as Virginia Cider Week not only in 2012, but in each succeeding year. Virginia Cider Week has expanded this year from Nov. 11 to Nov. 20. The bill recognizes cider’s role in early Virginia, its favor in the eyes of Thomas Jefferson, its decline due to industrialization and prohibition and its rebirth in this century.

A long-time favorite of those who crossed the Atlantic from England to Virginia and their descendants, hard cider was perceived in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as the fermented drink of the lower classes. Despite that reputation, cideries have continued to operate in the Commonwealth throughout its history. The 2012 designation of Virginia Cider Week highlights not only hard cider’s renaissance as a drink of choice, but the long and continued tradition of cider-making in our state.

Similarly, the region of Normandy, which includes Alexandria’s sister city of Caen, France, also has a historic cider tradition. Normandy, the region of which Caen is the capital, includes the only “Route du Cidre”, a 40-kilometer loop marked by signs with an apple. Cider producers in Normandy often also produce calvados, an apple brandy that is cider distilled for two years in oak casks.

Alexandrians from previous centuries consumed cider regularly, as evidenced by advertisements in newspapers, such as the Alexandria Gazette. For example, on December 5, 1863, during the middle of the Civil War, R.H. Gemeny took out an ad saying that he had just received 20 barrels of pure apple cider. Others, such as George H. Robinson, advertised a crab apple cider that probably combined methods and materials from the New and Old Worlds.

What caused cider’s decline? According to experts, the Industrial Revolution and changing tastes influenced by a growing immigrant population that preferred beer to cider was the first blow to cider production and consumption. Prohibition also dealt a fatal blow to many orchards and cideries in the 20th century.

According to Virginia Cider Week: “Virginia hard apple cider can be up to 10% alcohol by volume, without chaptalization, or adding sugar to the juice. Any fermented apple juice above 10% alcohol must be labeled ‘apple wine.’

According to current law, a cider cannot have more than 7% alcohol when chaptalized until alcohol when chaptalized. According to current law, a cider cannot have more than 7% alcohol when chaptalized.”

This year’s Alexandria Cider Festival will be held on Nov. 19. Advance-priced tickets can be purchased online at alexandriava.gov/shop for $55.00 or at the door for $65.00 per person. Tickets include cider tastings, a souvenir glass, live music and a little history, too.

OUT OF THE ATTIC

Advertisement in the December 5, 1863 Alexandria Gazette.
ADOPITION EVENT ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE OF ALEXANDRIA Join the AWLA for an adoption event with Barkhaus. Help socialize rescue pups from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. this evening. Barkhaus will remain open to the public and encourage guests to come support local rescues.

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Location: 529 East Howell Ave.
Information: https://visitalexandria.com/events/adoption-event-animal-welfare-league-of-alexandria/

DEL RAY’S 47TH ANNUAL ALEXANDRIA TURKEY Trot Alexandria’s favorite Thanksgiving morning tradition, the Alexandria Turkey Trot, returns to the streets of Del Ray. In the spirit of the season, participants are encouraged to bring and donate non-perishable food items to ALIVE!.

Time: 9 a.m.
Location: 1005 Mount Vernon Ave.
Information: https://www.alexandriaturkeytrot.com

DECEMBER 3

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL AT TORPEDO FACTORY ART CENTER The Holiday Festival at Torpedo Factory Art Center adds to Alexandria’s most festive weekend of the year. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive by fire boat around 3:30 p.m. on the Waterfront. Music fills by fire boat around 3:30 p.m. on the Waterfront. Music fills
The Webinar will open at 6:30 p.m. to allow individuals to join, while the Planning Commission hearing will begin at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V0bCpYiYSVatmfQ-5c3Jfw

Zoom Audio Conference:
Dia: 301-715-8592
Webinar ID: 941 1415 9777
Password: 157659

Public comment will be received at the meetings. The public may submit comments in advance to Department of Planning & Zoning staff at PlanComm@alexandriava.gov for the Planning Commission Hearing; to the City Clerk at CouncilComment@alexandriava.gov for the City Council Hearing; or make public comments on the day of either Hearing.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Lisa Chase at alicia.chase@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4666 or visit www.alexandriava.gov for the City Council Hearing. The public may be placed on a Consent Calendar. A consent item will be reviewed; or make public comments on the day of the Public Hearing.

If you use the Zoom Webinar application, please be sure you have updated the application to the latest version for the best results. If you are unable to access the Zoom Webinar, please use the Dial-In number to access the meeting.

For reasonable disability accommodation for the Planning Commission Hearing, contact Lisa Chase at alicia.chase@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-4666, 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.

Discussion Item: Potomac River Generating Station – Coordinated Sustainability Strategy
Staff: City of Alexandria, Department of Planning & Zoning
Special Use Permit #2022-00062

Classifieds

Information about this Public Hearing may be obtained from the Department of Planning & Zoning, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: 703-746-4666 or on the City’s website at www.alexandriava.gov/dockets

Public comments will be received at the Public Hearing. The public may submit comments in advance to Molly Lambert at molly.lambert@alexandriava.gov or make public comments on the day of the Public Hearing.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Lisa Chase at alicia.chase@alexandriava.gov or 703-746-3831, Virginia Relay 711.

Board of Zoning Appeals Public Hearing
Monday, December 12, 2022
7:00 PM
Council Chambers, City Hall
301 King Street, Room 2400
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

合法权益

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL DECEMBER 2022

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

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022 7:00 PM, CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
301 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2022 9:30 AM, CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
301 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

The December 6, 2022 Alexandria Planning Commission Public Hearing and the December 17, 2022 Alexandria City Council Public Hearing are being held in the Council Chamber (301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314) and electronically. Members of the Planning Commission, City Council, and staff are participating in person. The Planning Commission and City Council Public Hearings can be accessed by the public in the City Council Chamber, through the live broadcast on the government channel 70, streaming on the City’s website, and can be accessed via Zoom Webinar by the following links:

Planning Commission (Public Hearing Webinar):
WHAT I LOVE MOST THIS TIME OF YEAR IS

Being Home for the Holidays!

Mason Montague Bavin, McEnearney Associate

I always look forward to the family traditions: cooking up those fabulous foods and holiday favorites, the gathering of friends & family, all the festive holiday decorations, and the wonderful times that always ensue. I welcome the opportunity to help you find your home to foster your own holiday traditions, or to help you with any changes in your life’s journey.

Everyone needs to have a place they can call home. I can help you find yours.