Remembering the unthinkable after a decade

Officer Peter Laboy loved being a ‘motor cop.’ He’s shown here riding with fellow officers in one of Alexandria’s many parades.

Ten years ago, Peter Laboy received a call for assistance in Old Town. An Alexandria Police Department motorcycle officer at the time, Laboy rode to confront a taxi driver at the intersection of Wilkes and South St. Asaph streets, near Lyles-Crouch Elementary School, who had been reported as acting erratically that morning.

He took a shortcut through a nearby alley to get to the car, and was several feet away when gunfire sounded. Then it went black.

"I remember responding, making a turn on the street, and that’s it," Laboy said. "... Then I remember waking up..."

The image showing where the bullet that Kashif Bashir fired at close range remains lodged in Peter Laboy’s brain.

Vanessa Carlton to play the Birchmere

Vanessa Carlton to tour new album “Love Is An Art”

Vanessa Carlton took the music scene by storm in the early 2000s, as a young pianist armed with a catalog of original music. The singer-songwriter gained notoriety early on for one particular song, her debut single “A Thousand Miles” that entered cultural zeitgeist, became a smash hit and immediately launched her into superstardom.

Following the meteoric success of the song, which appeared on her album “Be Not Nobody” that would go on to sell more than 1.38 million copies and earn several Grammy nominations, Carlton has had some time to pause and catch her breath, but she hasn’t slowed down musically. To date, she’s released six studio albums, the most recent being “Love Is An Art” which dropped in March 2020.

Carlton is the first to admit that several mishaps along the way have frustrated her efforts. Vanessa Carlton will stop by the Birchmere on her “Future Pain” tour, which runs through April 9.
Shop Small This Spring

Our Alexandria real estate experts are sharing some of their favorite local businesses for you to check out this season. We hope you enjoy our selections and won’t hesitate to get in touch should you need any additional recommendations or real estate assistance. Happy Spring!

Reunions VA

“Known as the “Neighborhood Gift Shop” for those in Fairlington, Shirlington, and beyond, Reunions offers a blend of old and new merchandise that changes daily. For more than 30 years, Reunions has been Alexandria’s source of distinctive antiques, home furnishings, and accessories.”

— The Goodhart Group

Boxwood

“Located a block off of King St, Boxwood is a hidden gem for all things home decor, gifts and workshops. I love that I can pop in for a housewarming or wedding gift and while there grab a can of chalk paint to transform a tired piece of furniture. They also offer a variety of workshops throughout the year. There’s always something fun to do or gift (even to yourself)”

— Pia Taylor

Couleur House Salon

“Couleur House is our favorite boutique salon located in the heart of Old Town Alexandria. Co-owned by the talented duo Heather Murphy and Tami Leysalle, each service is delivered with the high quality you’ve come to expect and ethical and environmentally conscious products.”

— Homes of Alexandria Team

The Shoe Hive and The Hive

“They are the quintessential Old Town boutiques, having paved the way for what is now a thriving boutique district! With each piece and collection thoughtfully selected by the owner, the shops offer quality designer clothes, shoes and accessories ranging from the latest trends to long-lasting styles that suit varying price points. With unique offerings and gorgeous stores, paired with an amazing staff, you have to get in on the Hive Love!”

— The Rivkin Group

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Motorcycle crash investigation pending

Alexandria police are investigating a crash that occurred on Feb. 23 at approximately 7:51 a.m. according to a news release. A 25-year-old male crashed his motorcycle in the 100 block of Callahan Drive. He was transported to the hospital with serious injuries. APD’s crash reconstruction team is investigating and any witnesses with any information should contact Officer Wesley Vitale by phone at 703-746-6178 or email wesley.vitale@alexandriava.gov.

Arrest made in DASH bus hijacking attempt

According to an Alexandria Police Department news release, an Alexandrian resident, 33-year-old Lorenzo Johnson was arrested and charged with grand larceny auto, being drunk in public, driving while intoxicated, accident hit and run property damage, and other traffic offenses. On Feb. 23 at approximately 9:55 p.m., police were called to the intersection of Duke Street and Quaker Road for an attempted carjacking of a DASH vehicle. No weapons were involved and no injuries were reported.

Shots fired near Bishop Ireton

According to a statement released by the head of Bishop Ireton, on Feb. 23 at approximately 8:45 p.m. the school received reports of a police presence in the 1100 block of Quaker Hill Drive in response to a shots fired call. Students sheltered in place until the scene was cleared by the APD. No injuries were reported.

City manager proposes FY2024 budget

On Feb. 28, City Manager James Parajon proposed an operating and capital budget for the 2024 fiscal year to City Council. The budget adoption is scheduled for May 3. The proposal included a general fund base budget of $881.1 million as well as a $2.39 billion 10-year capital improvement program.

City Council adopted six priorities for budget and policy decisions for the next fiscal year. These include public safety, affordable housing, multilingual community engagement, youth and families support, economic development growth, staff retention and recruitment and action on the climate crisis. Other major features of the proposal include a recommendation for no tax rate increase for city residents or businesses, continued support to fully fund the requested ACPS operating budget and financial support of two collective bargaining agreements with AFD and APD.

Tonight, Parajon will present his proposal to the public at the Beatley Library at 5005 Duke St. at 7 p.m. Details about community events, including times, locations and virtual participation options, can be found at alexandriava.gov/Budget.

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“Because everyone needs a home.”
40th Saint Patrick’s Day Parade

On Saturday, thousands will join to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the oldest St. Patrick’s Day parade in the D.C. area. There will be a classic car show located on the 100 block of N. Pitt Street starting at 9 a.m. The parade kicks off at 12:15 p.m. at the corner of King and Alfred Streets. The Ballyshaners, Gaelic for ‘Old Towners,’ is a nonprofit organization that seeks to promote and preserve Irish heritage. Thousands of spectators and participants expected. For more information, visit www.ballyshaners.org/parade.html -lgolden@alextimes.com

Slow zone pilot launched, city seeks feedback

The City of Alexandria is launching a slow zone for dockless scooters and e-bikes and would like the public’s feedback on the pilot program. There will be a slow zone which limits speed of scooters and e-bikes in the Robinson Landing neighborhood. The pilot program will run through May 21 and residents, businesses and visitors are encouraged to provide feedback on the program. For more information, www.alexandiava.gov/DocklessMobility.

-jgolden@alextimes.com

2023 St. Patrick’s Day Parade route.

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Westminster Presbyterian Church

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WEEKLY BRIEFING
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Nina Teresi Carroll died peacefully on Feb. 22 in Alexandria. She is survived by her son, James W. Carroll, Jr., and his wife, Mary D. Carroll, and daughter, Theresa Carroll Buchanan, and her husband, Thomas M. Buchanan. She is also survived by her grandchildren: Thomas M. Buchanan Jr. and his wife, Victoria; Margaret Carroll Jentsch, and her husband, Max; James W. Buchanan, and his wife, Lauren; James W. Carroll, III, and his wife, Victoria; and Ian J. Carroll; as well as two great-grandchildren: Mia Carroll and Esther Jentsch. Mrs. Carroll was predeceased by all three of her husbands: James W. Carroll, a former Alexandria City Council member; John (Jack) Bogle, an Alexandria businessman; and Dr. Bruce L. Gilmore, an Alexandria physician.

Mrs. Carroll was born in Alexandria to Joseph and Mary Teresi, and graduated from George Washington High School, and from Virginia Intermont College. After college, she joined her parents in the family business, Alexandria Floral Co., Inc. She and her first husband, Jim Carroll, took over the business from her parents and operated it together until his death in 1984. She continued to successfully run the business on her own for more than 25 years until her retirement.

Mrs. Carroll was an accomplished businesswoman. Alexandria Floral Co. was repeatedly recognized by Florists Transworld Delivery as one of the top 100 florists in the country. Mrs. Carroll also was involved in many business organizations, serving as President of the Alexandria Soroptimists, on the board of the Virginia District of FTD, and on committees with the Society of American Florists, the Northern Virginia Florists Association, and the Alexandria Business and Professional Women’s Club. Mrs. Carroll was also a member of the Alexandria Rotary Club. City Council appointed her to serve on the Alexandria Sister City Committee and the Alexandria Beautification Commission.

Mrs. Carroll was loved by her employees, some of whom worked for her for most of their careers. She also employed dozens of local high school students; many successful Alexandria business people and professionals had their first job with Alexandria Floral Co. Her customers also loved her, with many purchasing flowers from her for more than 50 years. She provided the flowers for thousands of weddings and Mrs. Carroll was always present to ensure that every order was perfectly executed. She greeted every customer with a bright smile and friendly hello. Her exacting eye and high standards ensured that only the most beautiful floral arrangements were her trademark.

Mrs. Carroll had numerous life-long friends, a tribute to her kind and generous heart. After having provided flowers to Alexandrians for her entire working life, many residents of Goodwin House, where she spent the last years of her life, knew her even before she arrived, and loved being in her presence. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Her life will be celebrated at a funeral mass on March 2 at 10:30 a.m. at the Basilica of St. Mary, located at 310 S. Royal St., followed by interment at St. Mary’s Cemetery. Her family will also be receiving visitors on March 1 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, located at 1500 W. Braddock Road.

Peter Laboy.
saddest, most intense and most memorable days” of his career. In the days following the incident, he visited the hospital to say goodbye.

“The day was a blur,” Porter said. “… I went to the hospital to pay my respects because everyone thought he was going to unfortunately pass away.”

But that’s not what happened. Suzanne DeVine, Laboy’s ex-wife, who is a nurse anesthetist, remembers arriving at the hospital and feeling a sense of hope after seeing his test results and vitals. Laboy’s eyes were reactive, according to Suzanne, which was a promising sign ahead of surgery.

While Laboy was undergoing surgery, DeVine waited in a room where more and more police officers began showing up, most of them really emotional.

“They put me in a room with police and we’re just all sitting there waiting and people are showing up in tears. People are crying. And I’m consoling everybody. I’m saying, ‘It’s OK. I think he’s going to be OK.’ … I mean I didn’t really know, but everything I knew so far looked good,” DeVine said.

After Laboy came out of the operating room the surgeon said everything went well – then it became a waiting game.

“The ICU doctor wanted him to wake up from anesthesia enough to see if he would respond to command and then immediately put him back down,” DeVine said. “That’s what you do, you put him back to sleep. So Peter woke up from anesthesia enough that they said, ‘Squeeze my hand. Give me a thumbs up.’ … And he did all of that. And I was like, ‘Oh my God. He’s going to survive this.’”

Eventually, Laboy woke up and slowly yet meticulously began his road to recovery. He remained in the ICU for a week, and then spent several more days in a step-down room at Washington Hospital Center. He then moved across the street to the National Rehab Center for eight weeks of rehab. Doctors determined they would not be able to safely remove the hollow-point-9-millimeter bullet, which is still in his head today.

Laboy had to relearn how to walk, talk, write and perform other basic motor skills. The succeeding months involved extensive rehabilitation, from medications to doctors’ appointments to neuropsychologist visits.

The fact that Laboy survived was collectively deemed a miracle.

“It really is nothing short of a miracle that he is walking, talking and has as much of [his] personality and is able to have a life,” Porter said. “... While there’s a lot of sadness involved in the story, there’s also a lot to be proud of him about.”

Although Laboy inexplicably survived such a violent event, the aftermath proved to be challenging. Laboy was forced to retire from APD due to constant seizures, which impaired his ability to drive. The motor unit officially retired his number – Motor 8 – in 2014. To this day, Laboy yearns to return...
to work.

"[I wish I could] tell the chief, 'Be sure that tomorrow you have my uniform ready and you have my motorcycle parked in my parking spot,'" Laboy said, an undercurrent of sadness in his voice. "It's better than being here doing nothing."

**Impact**

The incident greatly affected Laboy’s personal life. He and DeVine eventually divorced, but the two remain vital parts of each other’s lives. They are raising their children together and live across the street from one another, communicating regularly.

"Peter and I are no longer married. ... I consider us friends. But he’s not the man I married. That person died that day I believe. But I’m probably not the person he married either," Suzanne said. "You go through something like that and you have trauma. You have PTSD. I’m in therapy and I have a great therapist. ... That’s how I cope."

DeVine said she and the couple’s four children made it through that difficult time with the help of family, friends and the caring, larger Alexandria community.

“My family was very supportive. My mom moved in with me for nine months. My sister moved in for three or four months. ... The support was amazing. People were bringing food and dropping off things for the kids. And constantly fundraising. That blew my mind," she said.

Laboy feels a mix of gratitude for his survival and anger at both his perpetrator and his perpetrator’s verdict. In 2014, Bashir was found not guilty by reason of insanity by Alexandria Circuit Court Judge James C. Clark.

Bashir subsequently entered a mental institution for what was ordered to be five years, where he received treatment for paranoid schizophrenia. In 2018, he was found to be competent and conditionally released. He was given an apartment in Prince William County and required to check in with a treatment team periodically.

Then, in February 2019, Bashir was arrested and charged with arson, two counts of attempted arson and two misdemeanor counts of possession of a firearm by a person acquired by reason of insanity. He obtained the guns legally, even though his name should have been listed as prohibited. The Virginia State Police would later admit to a clerical error.

"It seemed outrageous to me that he would be released so quickly to the community after committing such a violent act," Porter said, noting that the reason Laboy was shot in the first place was because he was investigating Bashir as a suspicious person.

On that fateful day 10 years ago, Bashir had been stalking a woman in Old Town, and according to Porter, was likely intending on abducting and sexually assaulting her.

"I made all of those arguments in court and really was surprised that the court ended..."
SCENES FROM MOUNT VERNON

Nepenthe Gallery hosts a display of artist Gwen Bragg’s watercolor paintings of Mount Vernon. The exhibit is hosted in conjunction with Mt. Vernon and Woodlawn Wine, cheese and art. Open to all.

Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.
Location: 7918 Fort Hunt Road
Information: nepenthegallery.com/events

‘FUN WITH ONE’ EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION

Del Ray Artisans display monochromatic artwork. Come see the variety created using just one color. Gallery hours vary.

Time: 7 to 9 p.m.
Location: 2704 Mount Vernon Ave.
Information: delrayartisans.org/exhibits/

MARCH 4

ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARADE

The Ballyshane’s 40th parade features more than 60 groups including pipe bands, Irish dance schools, community groups and a host of other performers and entertainment. A classic car show and dog show will take place prior to the parade. Times and locations vary.

Time: 12:15 p.m.

MARCH 5

ALX WEDDING SHOWCASE

Meet with local wedding experts, win prizes and meet Monte Durham at the event presented by Alexandria Living. Tickets required.

Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: 2701 Cameron Mills Road
Information: wpc-alex.org/music/

MARCH 6

DIG INTO ALEXRENEW’S TUNNEL PROJECT

RiverRenew is the largest infrastructure initiative in the history of Alexandria. Join for a series of Community Listening Sessions to provide feedback and learn more.

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Location: 501 N. Union St.
Information: riverrenew.com/community/community-listening-sessions

MARCH 12

AN IRISH HOOLEY HITS OLD TOWN

Alexandria’s Ancient Order of Hibernians host their annual St. Patrick’s Day “hooley.” Irish food and drink catered by Murphy’s. Irish dances, bagpipes, a silent auction and a raffle to win a trip to Ireland await. Tickets required.

Time: 3 to 6 p.m.
Location: 300 Green St.
Information: aohalexandria.org

LABOY

FROM | 8

up granting release over our strenuous objection,” Porter added. “I actually think I warned the court that this was a recipe for disaster or something.”

It was determined later that the women whose homes he set on fire were part of his medical treatment team. According to Porter, the crime was a result of both women rejecting his romantic overtures.

In July 2022, Bashir was sentenced to life in prison plus 11 years for his crimes. For Laboy – who found out after Bashir was sentenced that he had been searching Laboy’s home address online – knowing that he’s behind bars brings relief.

“He probably wanted to go and finish the job,” Laboy said. “… I feel better now.”

Laboy said he still frequently thinks about how sharply Feb. 27, 2013 altered the trajectory of his life.

“One of the things they teach you at APD is that when you go to work in the morning, you never know if you’re going to come back,” Laboy said. “I went to work in the morning and I came back four months later.”

These days, Laboy’s life looks much different than it did before. He spends the majority of his time with his children or friends, and has recently taken up going to the gym. The seizures have let up, too, though he still takes medication and has regular doctor appointments. He recently fulfilled a longtime dream of becoming scuba diving certified, and plans to go deep sea diving in the future.

To commemorate the 10th anniversary, he had dinner on Tuesday for the first time with some members of his rescue team, including several medics and the helicopter pilot. In many ways, Feb. 27 is a rebirth for Laboy. He received calls on Sunday wishing him a ‘Happy 10th birthday,’ which is exactly how he wishes to view it.

“I thank God every day that I’m here,” Laboy said. “There’s a reason that I’m still here.”

-Denise Dunbar and Leslie Golden contributed to this story.
-oanderson@alextimes.com

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WWW.ALEXTIMES.COM MARCH 2, 2023 | 9
I love to watch movies. The trouble is that most of the time I find my brother and I can’t decide on what movies to watch. We spend more time scrolling through the movie menu than the time it takes to actually watch the movie! To solve this problem, I give you my choices for the best family movies to watch right now.

“Encanto”: My family and I loved this movie, and it was a big hit for others as well. “Encanto” is about family, magic and love. Mirabel lives in a huge family of 12 where everyone lives in a magic house and is blessed with a gift from their magic candle. Everyone has a gift except for Mirabel. One day Mirabel realizes that the house is losing its magic and the candle which has been burning forever will soon go out, so she embarks on an adventure. Watch “Encanto” directed by Bryon Howard (“Zootopia” and “Tangled”) and Jared Bush (“Moana”) to find out more.

“Soul”: This movie is not only funny but also touching at the same time. Joe Gardener has worked as a middle school band teacher his whole life and then he gets hired for his dream gig: to play at a jazz club when all of a sudden he falls into a pothole and dies. Somehow instead of getting to the section for the afterlife called “the great beyond” he gets put to the section for babies before they are born.

There he meets 22, who has had so many people try to get her down to Earth but she has never wanted to go. When they meet each other they think it is perfect because he can make 22 earn her Earth pass by getting inspired by moments in Joe’s life. Joe starts to realize the meaning of life. Watch “Soul” directed by Pete Docter (“Up,” “Inside out” “Monsters, Inc.” and more).

“Home”: “Home” will pull at your heartstrings and the songs will make you dance. Alien Oh befriends human girl Tip while taking over the world and stealing Tip’s mother. Oh soon realizes his actions and helps Tip bring her mother back. “Home” is directed by Tim Johnson.

“Shoes On”: This family comedy will have you dying laughing. Marcel’s family goes missing. Marcel embarks on an adventure to find them again. By posting to YouTube, Marcel soon gets beloved fans making videos asking for help to find her family. This movie will make you laugh and the story will maybe even make you cry. Watch “Marcel the shell with shoes on” directed by Dean Fleischer Camp, who originally made the actual viral stop motion of Marcel.

“Sound of Music”: This beautiful classic is a touching story about a family in the mountains of Austria. A movie based on the true story of the Von Trapp Family Singers, Maria is a nun sent to take care of the Von Trapp children. Captain Von Trapp is soon getting married to his fiancé, but he realizes that he is in love with Maria instead. This beautiful film brought so much love to my family that we visited Austria and toured places where they filmed. I think it is better for older kids. Directed by Robert Wise.

I hope you enjoy these movies as much as I do and I hope they make you laugh and touch your heart at the same time.

The writer is a fifth grader at St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School.
MARCH 2

LCTA TALENT SHOW BENEFITING AWLA DC Slices
Foodtruck will be at Lyles Crouch serving up dinner, so grab some pizza and enjoy the show! Adoptable animals and a raffle, too. Join student musicians, dancers and singers at the annual auction and talent show benefiting the Animal Welfare League.

Time: 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.; show begins at 6:30 p.m.
Location: 530 S. St Asaph St.
Information: lctapta.org/animalbenefit

MARCH 4

PADDY’S PUP PARADE Guaranteed to make kids and kids at heart smile ear to ear. Join the Animal Welfare League and Ballyshaneers for a ‘Fun Dog Show’ ahead of the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Dogs of all shapes and sizes don their Leprechaun best. Registration fee for contestants.

Time: 11 a.m. to noon, Contestants arrive by 10:45 a.m.
Location: Corner of King and S. Royal streets
Information: alexandriaanimals.org/event/fun-dog-show-2023/

MARCH 11

TALES FOR YOUNG Historians Open to kids ages 5 to 8. Alexandria is steeped in history. Learn about African American heroes through books and activities with a focus on women’s history. Masks are required, free to all, no registration required.

Time: 11 a.m. to noon.
Location: 5005 Duke St.
Information: apps.alexandriava.gov/Calendar/Detail.aspx?si=50601
LTA’s ‘Lettice and Lovage’

LTA production full of physical energy in British comedy
BY MAE HUNT

“Lettice and Lovage” is a comedic British satire with a surprising amount of emotion at its center, thanks to the quirky friendship that develops between its two leads. The Little Theatre of Alexandria play, which opened on Saturday, stars Patricia Nicklin as Lettice Douffet, a flamboyant historical tour guide with a bad habit of embellishing the truth, and Rachael Hubbard as Lotte Schoen, Douffet’s stringently superior.

“Lettice and Lovage” was written by English playwright Peter Shaffer, who crafted the role of Lettice Douffet specifically for Dame Maggie Smith. Smith originated the role of Lettice in both the play’s 1987 debut at London’s Globe Theater and its subsequent 1990 Broadway run, winning the 1990 Tony Award for Best Actress in a play. Margaret Tyzack, who originated the role of Lotte Schoen, also received a Tony for Best Featured Actress.

Those familiar with Smith’s iconic roles, such as the Dowager Countess in “Downton Abbey,” will recognize the traits that make Lettice an engaging protagonist. She is an eccentric, subtly crafty older woman with a deep passion for history, but an even deeper passion for the theatrical, which often leads to her detriment. To her credit, Nicklin does not attempt any sort of Maggie Smith impression in her approach to the role of Lettice. Rather, Nicklin makes the character all her own, with an energetic performance that takes full advantage of every opportunity for the physical comedy Shaffer’s script has to offer.

The play begins with Lettice leading various tour groups through the fictional historic halls of Fustian House, embellishing her narration of past events with more and more drama each time. Her flair for theatrics is a hit among tourists but attracts the disapproval of Lotte Schoen, who works for the Preservation Trust that manages Fustian House.

Lotte calls Lettice into her office, where the two butt heads over Lettice’s choice to fill her tours with entertaining fiction rather than the dull facts of Fustian House’s remarkable history. Lotte fires Lettice from her job as a tour guide, but later feels guilty about her decision as well as intrigued by Lettice’s unconventional approach to life. The two women strike up an unlikely friendship, which is then put to the test in the play’s third act, in which several months have passed and Lettice is revealed to have been accused of a mysterious crime.

With a total run time of two hours and 40 minutes (including a 15-minute intermission between the play’s second and third acts), “Lettice and Lovage” is probably not a play to which one would want to bring small children. Most of the show’s consists of dialogue scenes between Lettice and Lotte, in which they divulge stories from their respective pasts and bond over their dis- taste of a rapidly modernizing London, which is becoming increasingly unrecognizable to both characters each day.

Nicklin and Schoen play off each other with ease, and both actresses managed to successfully capture the audience’s attention with plenty of physicality and prop humor.

Shaffer himself once described “Lettice and Lovage” as a “very English piece,” and this is certainly true. The script is chock-full of references to English history and the works of Shakespeare, and the architectural history of London is extremely relevant to the play’s story and themes.

Director Juli Tarabek Blacker made the commendable decision to recruit Hilary Adams as an English dialect coach, to ensure the show’s American actors performed Shaffer’s very British script as accurately as possible. This attention to detail largely pays off and makes it much easier to immerse oneself in Lettice and Lotte’s world.

“Lettice and Lovage” is produced by sheri ratick stroud and Griffin Voltmann. The cast also includes Tegan Cohen as Miss Framer; Colin Davies as Mr. Bardolph; and Nicole Lamberson, Nicole “Nicki” Gray and James Blacker playing multiple characters. Set design is by Julie Fisher and costume design by Joan Lawrence.

Anyone who considers themselves an Anglophile is sure to enjoy "Lettice and Lovage." Those with a more general interest in history will find something to love as well – and may even leave the theater having learned something new.

The writer, a lifelong Alexandriaian, works in the fine arts industry. She is an accomplished playwright who was the former editor-in-chief and fine arts editor of the Kenyan Collegian.

AT A GLANCE

Where:
Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria, 22314
When: Through March 18
Tickets:
Online at thelittletheatre.com or by calling the box office at 703-683-0496
to tour the new album, such as the fact that it was released amid the COVID-19 pandemic. More recently, she broke her piano pedal foot several weeks ago. This won’t affect the show since the clean break is what’s known as a dancer’s fracture – “I don’t need any surgery. It’s gonna heal, it’s fine, I can do it. The show must go on,” Carlton said – but she will have to play the pedal with her toes.

The tour, called “Future Pain” after the sixth track on the album, kicked off yesterday. The Times caught up with Carlton ahead of her show at the Birchmere tonight, where she discussed the creative process, relationship to her older music and what fans can expect from an artist hitting the road on her first headlining tour in more than five years.

This interview has been lightly edited for length and clarity.

Olivia Anderson: Welcome to Alexandria! Have you performed in the city before?

Vanessa Carlton: I’ve performed at the Birchmere a number of times. I really like that spot. So yeah, I’ve been through, I’m not sure how many times, but I’ve definitely been through.

OA: Your album “Love Is An Art” came out on March 27, 2020, right as COVID-19 threw the world into chaos. How was it putting out a record amid a global pandemic?

VC: That record came out in the worst time possible, so I never had the opportunity to tour the record. That window of opportunity to do the full band and all that passed, which is fine. Really, what I did was I spent that year as a substitute teacher at my daughter’s school. Life is quite a rollercoaster, quite the journey, totally unpredictable, and knowing that, it still never ceases to surprise me. I just never know where I’m going to end up.

OA: How will the new album fit into your upcoming tour?

VC: I still want to play some of these songs from that record for sure. What I’m trying to do is put together an anthology type set list. I’m not someone who likes to live in the past by stretch, however I know that I have sort of an eclectic mix of fans. I’ll have fans that have followed me on my path for this entire time, and then I have fans that will [say], ‘Oh Vanessa Carlton is playing a show? What? Wait, that girl? Oh I know that song!’ So I try to cover all my bases. If I’m going to play ‘baby Vanessa stuff,’ I call it – because I was literally writing some of these songs when I was a teenager – I like to play them from a new angle and present a new interesting arrangement to a song that somebody knows. [It’s] sort of similar to, for example, the Nirvana Unplugged record. These intimate shows allow me and the musician I’m going to be working with, she’s a cellist, to present really cool versions of these songs, so I’m looking forward to it.

OA: One of those songs is “A Thousand Miles.” I’m wondering what your relationship is with that song now, more than 20 years after it first came out? I imagine there’s an element of wanting to honor that song, but move forward artistically as well.

VC: Yeah, exactly. Basically, what you just said is how I look at it too. Honestly, the way I approach it, in particular for shows, is that I like to open with that song. It can sometimes be the elephant in the room, and she’s a cool elephant. I’m gonna open up with her and it sort of makes everyone feel settled and ready to hear all of this other stuff going on. I love that moment.

OA: You made “Love Is An Art” with producer Dave Fridmann, who is well known for his work with MGMT and the Flaming Lips. What was it like join-
ing forces?

VC: Working with Dave is like working with a wizard. I was really excited to expand and explore. I love collaborating with artists and trying new things.

OA: From a songwriting perspective, how did the writing of this record come together? Did you have a streamlined creative process or was it more random in terms of how you dreamt up lyrics, melodies and concepts?

VC: The messaging in terms of the lyrics usually, for me, ends up being a theme. If a certain set of songs are written in a certain period of time, it sort of reveals where I’m at. And then I love to collaborate with producers and other artists. I’ve always really loved the work of Dave Fridmann and I love the idea of being able to bring those particular songs I was writing for “Love Is An Art” [and] to go into his studio and world and see where we end up together. I really did have [the album] be quite dynamic – really high highs, really low lows. It’s pretty intense; if it was a color I would call the album red. For instance, “Liberman” [an album Carlton released in 2015] was a brain bath, if you will, because it kind of washes over you easily. And that’s just not where I was at when I was writing “Love Is An Art.” It’ll be interesting to see my next record, because some albums are questions and some albums are answers. And “Love Is An Art” to me is a question mark album. So the next album is gonna be the answer to that. I know it.

OA: You have lots of exciting things coming up. What can fans expect from the “Future Pain” tour?

VC: I’m doing a dual setup with a cellist. So it’s piano [and] cello, but it’s not going to be a traditional, straightforward version of that. For instance, [the cellist] Isabel has these pedals that she connects through to her instrument that allow her to manipulate the sound of the cello, to create octaves, to create loops. I have a loop as well on my voice, so we’re able to create this psychedelic vibe surrounding these songs, and within these songs we use that technology to create really cool arrangements and moments. So I’m hoping that what we cook up creates a really cool vibe for people and [that they] experience these songs from different angles.

-oanderson@alextimes.com
How to handle noisy dogs in your home and neighborhood
BY ERIN SHACKELFORD

Barking is just one of dogs’ many forms of communication. Dogs bark for a variety of reasons, and those barks, bays and howls can tell us something. As pet parents, it’s up to us to figure out the cause of the barking and your dog’s motivation for doing it and how avoid it becoming excessive or a nuisance.

What is my dog trying to tell me?

Your dog could be barking because he or she is trying to alert you to or scare off a perceived threat. They could be excited to see you, want your attention or treats, hear other dogs barking or even be trying to tell you they don’t feel good.

Dogs barking alone in a neighbor’s backyard could be trying to tell someone they’ve been left out in weather that is too hot or cold. They may be barking because someone in the home needs help.

Spending some time investigating the reason for your dog’s barking can help identify a solution. One of the common reasons is just plain boredom. Luckily, it’s also the easiest to solve.

Tips to curb barking

Every dog is different, but all dogs need some kind of activity to keep them happy and enriched throughout the day. Dogs who are bored may bark, chew or even become destructive, but there are a variety of activities and exercises that you can offer your pup to help keep them happy and entertained all day long. Please check with your veterinarian to ensure the following activities are safe and healthy for your dog.

• A tired dog is a happy dog. Make sure your dog gets plenty of exercise.
  • Interactive toys, puzzles and feeders can help keep your dog entertained when they’re home alone.
  • Consider a daytime break. Whether it’s daycare or a midday walk from a dog walker or a friend, these activities can help keep your dog content while you’re away.

Seeking out professional help

Boredom not the issue? Dogs bark for a variety of reasons, but there are just as many ways to train them not to bark from treats to clicker training. Check with a professional dog trainer who practices positive reinforcement techniques on ways to keep your dog from barking excessively.

Handling noisy neighbors

Barking dogs can certainly be a point of contention between neighbors. A polite conversation or kindly worded note can go a long way, especially when it’s solution-oriented and focused on your joint concern for the dog. However, when friendly conversations aren’t working or possible, we urge residents to contact Animal Welfare League of Alexandria’s Animal Services team to mitigate pet-related issues. Our trained and dedicated team of Animal Services professionals can respond to these complaints quickly and efficiently.

Residents should also be aware of what is allowed and not allowed according to the City of Alexandria’s noise ordinance.

Your local Animal Services should always be the first call to humanely and legally handle pet-related issues, like nuisance complaints, between neighbors. You can contact Animal Welfare League of Alexandria’s Animal Services division 24/7 at 703-746-4444.

The writer is marketing and communications specialist at the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria.
Trendy colors to reflect a comforting life

BY FAMILY FEATURES

Upgrading your home design is an opportunity to tap into new color schemes. Knowing what shades are trendy and how different hues can work together for a cohesive design is an important step in creating an attractive design aesthetic.

While you might turn to family or friends for inspiration for your next do it yourself project, another resource for collecting concepts and options to upgrade your space is the internet. Consider sites that allow visitors to explore colors and offer paint color inspiration and decor trends they can envision within their own homes.

Color trends to consider

Many of this year’s popular nature inspired designs are all about finding comfort, embracing a flexible lifestyle, re-discovering joy and leaning into the growing DIY movement. The most trend-worthy, forward-thinking and livable colors reflect specific facets or emotions of life so you can update your well-used spaces with thoughtful colors that evoke positive energy and lasting change.

Comfort and peace

If your goal is to create a space that envelops you in a sense of comfort, consider a white with a yellow undertone that makes a space cozy like a soft blanket. Complete the softness with a muted clay that brings in brown undertones that suggest gentle contentment.

Breathtaking river views at Venue

For the buyer wanting the ultimate Old Town living experience, this is your home! This amazing two-bedroom, two-bathroom luxury condo with soaring ceilings and once in a lifetime river view is brand new. This LEED certified concierge level building with incredible amenities includes a sky lounge, state of the art fitness center with a Barre studio and a rooftop terrace with fire pits. With direct access to the Mount Vernon Trail and Montgomery Park with tennis courts, playground and weekly Farmer’s Market, as well as the Montgomery Park dog park and a dog wash located in the building garage, it is not only the ideal place for an active lifestyle for all ages but for your furry family members as well. Walking in the door, the natural light and river views are striking! Cook with a view in the incredible gourmet kitchen complete with a large island, waterfall quartz counters, custom cabinets and tile backsplash. Tons of natural light highlights the pristine hardwood floors in the open living and dining spaces. Step outside on the private balcony to embrace the waterfront. The primary bedroom has ample walk-in closet space with a spa-like primary bath, complete with quartz vanity and oversized custom tile shower. A second bedroom is the perfect flexible space; from a home office to guest room to home yoga studio, there are so many options to make this space your own. A second full luxurious bathroom finishes the space. Enjoy tons of eclectic shops, acclaimed restaurants, parks and services just outside your door, including a Metro station within walking distance. For added convenience, the condo comes with two garage parking spaces and the option to purchase a 9’6” x 9’6” x 8’ secured storage room.

Address:
925 N Fairfax Street, #1203
Alexandria, 22314

Neighborhood: Old Town

Price: $1,199,000

Square feet: 1151

Bedrooms: 2

Bathrooms: 2

Year built: 2022

Contact:
MaryAshley Zimmermann
Compass
maryashley@compass.com
MaryAshleyRealEstate.com
860-214-7474
Calming restoration
Tap into the calming tones of nature with a hazy green that has duality, which brings in both the calm and liveliness of the great outdoors. Another option is a deep midnight blue used as an elegant calming shade to restore mind, body and home.

Mindful living
Create an uplifting space where your wellness is a priority. Evoke a greater sense of health consciousness with a light blue that has a dose of softness used as a fresh neutral with uplifting qualities of a modern pastel. Reinforce the benefits of mindful living with a cool gray that is balanced by the warmth of the yellow undertone, a natural hue like a cotton muslin cloth.

Connections and joy
Establish spaces where you can celebrate relationships with others, the world around you and happiness in your being. Consider hues like a white softened by a violet undertone, a harmonious shade promoted by digital connectivity. Evoke joy with a dependable classic tan that features a yellow undertone suggesting new life with uplifting qualities.

Natural balance
Bringing hints of the outdoors into a well-loved living space creates a soothing ambiance. Consider a warm neutral brown tone inspired by the shades found in nature or a cooled down blue that strikes a beautiful balance between cool and warm shades in your design.

Inspirational thought
A work-from-home or crafting space needs color to inspire great thinking. Try a faded natural terracotta that sparks individuality and warmth or a deep blackened olive, an on-trend neutral that embodies charm and sophistication.

Are our ultimate pursuits whether you are considering an outdoor oasis, a food lover’s kitchen, or an owner’s suite. Because home is more important than ever.

Try a deep blackened olive, an on-trend neutral that embodies charm and sophistication.

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Our View

Change the verdict

Since the first issue of the Alexandria Times printed back in September 2005, a handful of crimes have particularly shocked city residents.

The shootout at Simpson Field on June 14, 2017 that grievously wounded House Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA) is certainly one. The murders by convicted serial killer Charles Severance, two of which took place after the Times was launched, is another.

And 10 years ago this week, Police Officer Peter Laboy was shot in the head at close range by a taxi driver next to Lyles-Crouch Traditional Academy. Laboy was a husband, a father of four and by all accounts a good and effective cop who was doing his duty that February day when he rode his motorcycle up to Kashif Bashir’s taxi.

Today’s page one story, “Remembering the unthinkable after a decade” reflects on how Laboy survived the shooting and how the aftermath impacted his life, with the perspective of 10 years. Three key points stand out to us from the tragedy of Feb. 27, 2013:

1) Laboy may have been a hero that day in more ways than one. The image of Bashir, sitting in his taxicab at the intersection of Wilkes and St. Asaph streets – right across from LCTA – with a loaded gun is terrifying. The nearby playground was full of children. What might Bashir have done if Laboy hadn’t done his duty by locating and approaching the taxi?

2) It was a miracle that Laboy survived being shot in the head at close range. Surely his motorcycle helmet helped slow the bullet. The quick medevac and trauma team at Washington Hospital Center deserve credit, and as Laboy told the Times for today’s story, “There’s a reason that I’m still here.” Yet Laboy lost the career that he loved, and his life has not been the same since that fateful day.

3) It is outrageous that Virginia still, 10 years later, does not have a verdict that allows people who have committed crimes like Bashir to be locked up for life. There’s still nothing but a binary ruling of either guilty or not guilty by reason of insanity in cases dealing with mental illness. Alexandria’s Commonwealth’s Attorney Bryan Porter told the Times in 2014 that about 20 other states have a third option, “guilty but mentally ill,” that would enable someone like Bashir to be kept behind bars.

Because Virginia lacks this law, Bashir was tried but found not guilty by reason of insanity. Bashir spent five years in a mental health facility, where his paranoid schizophrenia was treated. Alexandria Circuit Court Judge James C. Clark found Bashir to be competent in June 2018 and ordered his release. Eight months later Bashir was back behind bars after setting fires at the homes of two members of his mental health treatment team. Bashir was sentenced to life in prison plus 11 years last summer, finally bringing closure for the Laboy family.

The public is now safe from Bashir, but what about others like him? Virginia’s code needs to change – and this should not be a partisan issue. Remembering the tragedy that befell Peter Laboy that February day 10 years ago should be impetus to finally revise the law.

Opinion

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

Photo of the Week

Jupiter (top) and Venus (bottom) setting over The George Washington Masonic National Memorial in February.

Your Views

Reaching Alexandria’s marginalized residents

To the editor,

Grassroots Alexandria supports initiatives that increase civic participation for all Alexandrians. A good example is the Duke Street in Motion project, where Alexandria city staff effectively reached previously marginalized communities. Using both an online feedback form, the usual method, and in-person outreach, they showed that the direct method – several pop-up “tally-poll” events in the project area – reached a population that is representative of both the project area and Alexandria as a whole. City staff set a standard that should be followed in the future. Here are a few insights from staff’s October 2022 outreach for the DSIM project.

The DSIM project is expected to provide high capacity transit on Duke Street, an economically and racially diverse corridor, to achieve city sustainability and equity goals. City staff outreach included pop-up “tally-poll” events, where people could ask questions about the project, and answer the central question: “Is faster and more reliable bus service a priority, even if that means car trips on Duke Street take slightly longer?”

There were 410 tally-poll responses, with 79% of responses in English and the remainder in Spanish and Amharic. According to the census, 70% of Alexandrians speak English only, which suggests that tally-poll data is roughly representative of Alexandria as a whole. Tally-poll responses were 69% in favor of faster and more reliable bus service.

Conversely, internet form responses were 99% in English. While this result is much less representative of Alexandria as a whole, support for faster bus service was evident for some groups. Renters, for example, comprise 58% of households in the Duke Street corridor, but only 16% of internet form responses in English.

SEE DURHAM
Density policies, high taxes raise housing prices

To the editor:

In a previous letter to the editor, I suggested the impetus behind proposed zoning changes to allow greater density in residential areas is primarily about city finances and tax revenue, not housing affordability. This supposition was reinforced by the Feb. 16 Alexandria Times article "Property assessments presented to council."

The Times reported residential property assessments increased by more than 5% across the board, with the largest growth attributed to multifamily residential units. Notices of 2023 real estate assessments have already been sent to residents. What remains to be determined is the tax rate City Council will impose.

The bottom line is you cannot separate residential property tax from the housing affordability equation. Moreover, it is the only variable elected officials can directly control. Try as they might, municipalities cannot appreciably alter market dynamics.

The same novel approach being espoused to mitigate the affordable housing issue here failed to show appreciable results in California or Oregon. Yet many of our elected officials remain convinced Alexandria can achieve different results while implementing these same strategies.

Policy decisions of this magnitude should be based on empirical rather than theoretical data, particularly when there is substantive empirical evidence to the contrary. To suggest the empirical data does not apply because Alexandria is unique is sheer hubris, as market forces tend to be universal.

For Alexandria these include a desirable location, finite geography, disproportionate reliance on residential property taxes and an economy making it nearly impossible for most residents to earn wages within Alexandria commensurate with the cost of living. The average annual salary paid by Alexandria-based businesses is $81,000. The average annual salary required to live here is $105,000.

Fortunately, you don’t need to depend on being employed in Alexandria to live here. Case in point, many of our elected officials are employed outside of the city.

The lack of affordable housing will not be solved by changing zoning policy to promote more density. If past is prologue, developers will seek to maximize profit at rates the market will bear.

Our elected officials cannot dictate home prices, rents, wages, what people are willing to pay or who can move into or out of Alexandria. However, they have absolute authority over residential property assessment rates, a significant factor in housing affordability.

Choosing to move forward with zoning changes that favor more density plus raising residential property taxes while claiming to champion affordable housing is duplicitous. It’s time for city leaders to be above board.

The current residential property assessment demonstrates that higher density equates to increased potential tax revenue, with a residual negative effect on housing affordability.

Increased density combined with high residential property taxes is an antecedent for housing unaffordability. -Roy Byrd, Alexandria

About Alexandria

Using a sledgehammer to swat a fly

BY MARK EATON

Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) was exasperated when, on Feb. 2, a Virginia Senate committee blocked House Bill 2426, which would have required Virginia schools to notify students when they receive awards. Information about the bill, including the complete text, can be seen at lis.virginia.gov/cgibin/legp604.exe?231+sum+HB2426

According to WUSA-TV, Youngkin said: "I don’t understand how anybody could object to the idea that when a student receives an award or an accolade that they are informed about it, and that this is just a matter of common sense. And I do believe that our General Assembly eventually will come around to common sense. And if politics are in the way here, then I would just ask our Senate Democrats to put down politics and do what’s right for Virginia’s kids."

The General Assembly’s legislative session ended last Saturday, but lawmakers have yet to complete a budget. If House Bill 2426 is to become law, it will probably have to be passed in a future session. The bill responds to the failure by some Fairfax County high schools to notify students of their results on the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Exam.

According to a Jan. 19 Washington Post story, advocates for HB 2426 “contend the failure to tell students how about their honors was driven by an equity agenda … they charge the districts did not want to draw attention to high-achieving Asian students because students of other races did not do as well.”

Serious high school teachers and administrators spend nearly every waking moment trying to help individual students maximize their abilities. Omitting to notify students of their successes does not further that goal. The idea that teachers and administrators would subordinate their concern for individual student achievement to a “woke” conspiracy of silence to make non Asian-American students “feel better” strains credibility.

HB 2426 uses a sledgehammer to swat a fly. It also confirms the wisdom of Virginia’s system of having the General Assembly meet for short sessions. An embarrassing oversight by high school administrators does not require a legislative remedy, as this information is readily available online from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation and other sources. Moreover, nothing the high schools have done, or could do, will change those results.

The allegations of a malicious woke conspiracy also overlook, deliberately or otherwise, real world facts. Anyone in a high school, particularly a large one, knows that from the opening of school, information flows in daily torrents to students and staff. Flyers posted in classrooms and halls, endless e-mail, assemblies and daily public address announcements – such as “Underwater Basketweaving Club meets after school today” – all contribute to information overload.

At Alexandria City High School, there is so much information that Titan Media Alexandria, the student-produced, in-school televised news program, is essential viewing for students and staff. TMA’s student production staff has been expertly guided for years by Television and Media Production teacher Vilma Zefran.

Information that originates outside the school requires internal coordination for distribution. The field hockey coach is expected to provide updates on the field hockey program, but who should take the lead for communicating results on National Merit or other standardized tests administered outside class hours?

The argument that omitting to tell students of their National Merit exam results made, or did not make, a difference in their college admissions results will never be settled and is beside the point. Communication is the greatest challenge in any human endeavor.

The schools that did not tell students about their National Merit exam results should up their communications game. Even so, failing to notify parents was probably an inadvertent omission, not the product of a nefarious conspiracy. The maxim known as Occam’s Razor holds that the simplest of competing theories is the most likely explainer of unknowns and it probably applies here.

It takes a calculating politician to advocate for unnecessary legislation to enhance his political image as a culture warrior for parents, meaning voters, and then to admonish opponents of his performative moves to, “put down politics and do what’s right for Virginia’s kids.”

The writer is a former lawyer, member of the Alexandria School Board from 1997 to 2006, and English teacher from 2007 to 2021 at T.C. Williams High School, now Alexandria City High School. He can be reached at mre.eaton@gmail.com and subscriptions to his newsletter are available for free at https://aboutalexandria.substack.com/
Nursing education at Alexandria Hospital

The Alexandria Infirmary, today known as Inova Alexandria Hospital, first opened on March 1, 1873. Accordingly, Women’s History Month in March is a good time to look at the history of nursing education for women at the hospital.

Marjorie Adamson started a small training school at the hospital in 1894. She was a graduate of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary in Scotland and both a physician and a nurse. The school was the fourth school of nursing to be established in Virginia. The first year there were two pupils.

In 1916, Fannie Carter began serving as the Superintendent of Nursing for the hospital and Director of the School. The school prospered under her leadership. She raised admission requirements and hired the first full-time instructor. Students were single white women between the ages of 19 and 35.

Because of the financial challenges of the Great Depression, the School of Nursing closed in 1935. However, just 10 years later it reopened to help alleviate the nursing shortage caused by World War II.

The school was approved for participation in the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps training program and the first class, 27 students, began in October 1943. The USCNC, organized under the United States Public Health Service, was the first integrated uniformed U.S. Service Corps in the nation. Created to address the wartime nursing shortage, the program funded tuition, materials and uniforms. The school continued enrolling classes in the program every spring and fall until September 1945, when the last class began training.

In October 1944, Alexandria Hospital USCNC student Beulah Tyler served as a model for a USCNC recruiting poster. She also traveled to California to be featured as a Cadet Nurse in a small role in the movie "The Story of G.I. Joe.” Although Tyler’s part was not included in the film’s final edit, she spent a month in Hollywood, where she was featured on several radio programs and participated in the Los Angeles Cadet Corps Week ceremonies.

Nurse’s aides were also trained by the American Red Cross to help relieve the nursing shortage during World War II. In June 1944, the School of Nursing initiated their first Red Cross Nurse’s Aide class for African American women. The hospital had recently opened new north and east wings, including more facilities for African American patients, and additional staff was needed. African American nurses and nurse’s aides provided the care in the hospital’s African American sections.

After the war, the School of Nursing expanded. In 1958, it was accredited by the National League for Nursing, married students were allowed to enroll and the school became the first in Virginia to admit male nursing students. Two African American women were enrolled in 1968.

By the 1980s nursing students had begun favoring four-year baccalaureate programs over the School of Nursing’s three-year clinical diploma program and the Hospital Board of Directors decided to phase out the school. The final students were admitted in fall of 1984 and graduated in June 1987.

"Alexandria Hospital: Women Mobilize the Community,” an exhibition now on view at the Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum, marks the 150th anniversary of the Alexandria Infirmary. Visit the museum and learn more about the vital roles that women have played in sustaining the hospital.

In honor of Women’s History Month, we invite you to read our series on women’s history in Alexandria throughout the month of March.

OUT OF THE ATTIC is provided by The Office of Historic Alexandria.

DURHAM FROM 18

Reaching marginalized communities during public planning is not a new problem. In addition to language, barriers to participation include unequal resources, such as free time, access to technology and differences in civic literacy.

By employing two engagement approaches, including comparing demographics of respondents to census-data demographics for Alexandria as a whole, staff demonstrated tools for more inclusive outreach. We hope that city staff agree and that future outreach efforts will build on this success.

-Jim Durham and Jonathan Krall, Grassroots Alexandria

Weekly Poll

Last Week
Did you attend a George Washington-related event this weekend?
63% No.
33% Yes, the parade.
3% Yes, the 100th anniversary of the memorial.
3% Yes, both.

This Week
Should Virginia add a verdict of “guilty but mentally ill” to its code?
A) No, I think the binary choice law is fine as it is.
B) Yes, there needs to be something other than “guilty” or “not guilty by reason of insanity.”
C) I’m not sure.

Take the poll at alextimes.com
Weekly Words

DEATH NOTICES

LEONARDO ANAYA (78), of Alexandria, Feb. 22, 2023
ARTHUR BOOTH JR. (75), of Alexandria, Feb. 16, 2023
NINA CARROLL (90), of Alexandria, Feb. 22, 2023
SUSIE COFFEY (95), of Alexandria, Feb. 4, 2023
DONALD HILTY (93), in Alexandria, Feb. 12, 2023
MARY JOHNSON (69), of Alexandria, Feb. 25, 2023
STANLEY KRONSTEDT (92), in Alexandria, Feb. 16, 2023
WILLIAM (WILL) RODGER, SR. (61), in Alexandria, Feb.17, 2023
GLADYS SHIFLETT (92), of Alexandria, Feb. 13, 2023
WERNER STARGARTD (102), of Alexandria, Feb. 18, 2023
MARGARET WELCH (95), of Alexandria, Feb. 18, 2023

TWO-WAY SWITCHES by Pam Amick Klawitter, edited by Jeff Chen

ACROSS
1 Crab catchers
2 Explore Amazon
3 AP math course, briefly
4 Explore Amazon
5 Crab catchers
6 Starship Enterprise (TV show)
7 Sprint
8 Tomato
9 AP math course, briefly
10 Mark of a special event
11 Darth Vader's daughter
12 Crab catchers
13 Character voiced by Donald Glover
14 Strawberry shortcake
15 Character voiced by Donald Glover
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SOLUTIONS FROM LAST WEEK

1 Crab catchers
2 Explore Amazon
3 AP math course, briefly
4 Explore Amazon
5 Crab catchers
6 Starship Enterprise (TV show)
7 Sprint
8 Tomato
9 AP math course, briefly
10 Mark of a special event
11 Darth Vader's daughter
12 Crab catchers
13 Character voiced by Donald Glover
14 Strawberry shortcake
15 Character voiced by Donald Glover
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WENDY CARRION, editor
Now Offering Financing! Ronnie Jenkins II Windows, Siding, Roofing and Gutters! FREE Estimates! Call 804-739-8207 for More Details! American Made Products!

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The Bath or Shower You’ve Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY

$1000 OFF AND No Payments & No Interest For 18 Months*

OFFER EXPIRES 3.30.2023
Includes product and labor; bath, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. Offer expires 3/26/23. Back contouring is independently owned and operated. “Third-party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2023 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

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20% OFF + 10% OFF

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LEGAL NOTICE

Board of Architectural Review
LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held by the Board of Architectural Review on Thursday, March 16, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, room 2400, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 on the following applications:

BAR #2023-00011 OHAD
Request for alterations and addition at 631 N Columbus Street
Applicant: Sherri Crane

BAR #2023-00012 OHAD
Request for partial demolition/encapsulation at 631 N Columbus Street
Applicant: Sherri Crane

BAR #2023-00054 OHAD
Request for alterations at 418 S Washington Street
Applicant: Tammy Mann, The Campagna Center Inc.

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

Public comments will be received at the Public Hearing. The public may submit comments in advance to Lanning Blaser at lanning.blaser@alexandriavi.gov or make public comments on the day of the Public Hearing.

For further information, contact the Department of Planning & Zoning at 703.746.4666 or visit alexandriavi.gov/dockets

LEGAL NOTICE

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

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

For information on the following applications or to comment, visit the City’s website at www.alexandriavi.gov/planning or call (703) 746-4666.

Special Use Permit #2023-00017
1118 North Pegram Street
Administrative Special Use Permit request for a New Use for a Child Care Home; zoned: R12/Residential Single Family
Business Name: Busy Bunnies
Child-Care
Applicant: Judith Paredes
Planner: Mavis Stanfield – mavis.stanfield@alexandriavi.gov

In accordance with Section 11-500 of the Zoning Ordinance, the above listed request may be approved administratively by the Director of Planning & Zoning. If you have any comments regarding the proposal above, please contact Planning & Zoning staff at 703.746.4666 or email the planner listed no later than March 23, 2023.

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CHEVY CHASE FLOOR WAXING SERVICE
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www.abc.virginia.gov/licenses | 804.213.4400 | 7450 Freight Way Mechanicsville VA 23116 | PO Box 3250 Mechanicsville VA 23111

Please publish the following item in the legal notice section of your newspaper. Please refer to the instructions provided on page 2.

Full name(s) of owner(s): EPR Packaging Inc.
Trading as: EPR Packaging
Location: 6715 Interstate 20, Ste. 100, Dallas, Texas 75247
For use of a corporation, enter name as recorded with the State Corporation Commission. For an association or tax-exempt private club, enter name as recorded with the Internal Revenue Service. For a sole proprietor, enter first, middle and last name.

Insurance Carrier: AEGIS
Address: 300 North Executive Center Drive, Suite 300, Irving, Texas 75063
The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Date notice posted at establishment: 03/16/2023

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

DAVIDSON COUNTY, NC GENERAL SERVICES OFFICE

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Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime!

Licensed, bonded & insured
(301) 656-1810
We do not repair damaged floors

License no.:
Receipt no.:
Date received:

VA License Number:

Install for Military, Health Care, and Out. Serving the local area for 35 years. Family owned and operated. (703) 356-4459. Licensed, bonded & insured. The Montgomery family thanks you for your interest.

Rev. 08/2022

Terms and conditions apply.

New order only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required.

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Power Design is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Spring is in the air

Mason Montague Bavin, McEnearney Associate

I always look forward to the first signs of Spring—the daffodils starting to peak out of the ground and the pops of color everywhere (despite Punxsutawney Phil’s prediction!). What are your favorite signs of spring? Are you planning your garden or looking for a new place to put down roots?

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