Inside the Taylor Run restoration

Passionate residents collaborate with willing city staff to chart a path forward
BY AMY WILL

Three million dollars of funded money slipped through the city’s fingers last week after City Council announced it would rescind two grants backing the Taylor Run and Strawberry Run stream restoration projects.

“The project as we had originally conceived, it is done. My understanding is that there will be a report that’s coming to us in June, which represents some kind of consensus that has been reached between the community and the Environmental Policy Commission (EPC). And we’re going to have to consider whether we accept that conclusion,” Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson said at the April 11 council legislative meeting.

The consensus the mayor is referring to is a highly anticipated proposal, expected to be presented sometime in May. Alexandria resident and local environmental advocate Russell Bailey has been deeply...

Abortion zoning discussion turns emotional

Council approves storefront amendment at Saturday’s public hearing
BY KAITLIN MURPHY

Both pro-life and pro-choice residents made emotional statements during Saturday’s public hearing as City Council discussed zoning amendments regulating abortion services providers.

The issue dates back almost a year, to the landmark ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court on June 24, 2022, that overturned Roe v. Wade and returned the issue of abortion to the states – and by extension to localities. Alexandria’s City Council four days later, on June 28, passed resolution 3087 to ensure that abortion service providers would be permitted by-right access in commercial and mixed-use zones in the city.

Council then asked the Department of Planning and Zoning to propose amendments to the city’s zoning ordinances’ definition of health professional offices and medical care facilities. The range of health care services, including providing abortion services, would be permitted in mixed-use and commercial zones.

Those amendments were clarified at Saturday’s public hearing, which included a presentation by planning and...
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For additional information & photos, go to: www.ChristineGarner.com
Shooting incidents cause school lockdowns

On April 17, students and staff at two different schools on campuses in Alexandria were forced into lockdowns following unrelated shooting incidents in separate areas in the city. According to a press release, at approximately 1 p.m., students and faculty at St. Anthony’s preschool at 321 First St. were placed in lockdown following a report of shots fired in the 1200 block of Madison Street. In connection with this incident, the APD recovered two firearms and detained three subjects.

Later that day at approximately 4 p.m., the APD initiated a lockdown at the SSSAS’ middle school campus at 4401 West Braddock Road following a shooting incident at the Bradlee Shopping Center. According to a statement from Eric Hols, the director of safety and security at St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes school, at approximately 4 p.m. a suspect ran through Fort Ward park toward the campus. There were students and faculty on campus for after school activities and meetings. Students and staff remained on lockdown for approximately 20 minutes until the APD determined there was no longer a threat in the vicinity. No injuries were reported, one firearm was recovered and one arrest was made.

 Shootings and larcenies continue

According to notifications from the APD, there have been a slew of incidents involving gun shots, robberies and grand larceny over the past week. On April 13, an individual suffered a serious, but non-life-threatening injury in the 300 block of South Reynolds St. following a shooting. On Sunday, an individual suffered a serious injury following a shooting in the 200 block of South Whiting Street. On Monday, a commercial robbery took place in the 3000 block of Duke Street with an individual suffering a serious, non-life threatening injury. And on Tuesday, four juvenile suspects were arrested and a firearm was recovered following a traffic stop in the 1400 block of North Beauregard Street. A stolen vehicle was also recovered.

Duke Street transitway talk to be held

On April 24, Agenda Alexandria, a nonprofit that organizes debates and discussions about city topics, will host a program to discuss the Duke Street Transitway proposal. Representatives from City Council, small business, journalists and others will be on hand to discuss the corridor and impacts from the development. All are welcome to attend. To learn more and to register, visit agenda alexandria.org.

Union Square

Union Square is a masterstroke of creativity. A unique adaptive reuse space located in Historic Old Town. With a decidedly French influence, this stunning venue showcases a selection of original paintings, prints and surrealistic fashion images by internationally recognized photographer, Rodney Smith.

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April is Volunteer Appreciation month!
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GardenFest to be held Sunday

Del Ray’s GardenFest will take place on Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Learn from master gardeners. Collect free seeds and tree seedlings. Informational booths, interactive activities and interviews with beekeepers. Free and open to all. More information is available: delrayalx.wixsite.com/gardenfest -lgolden@alextimes.com

Athenaeum to host award winning poet

On Friday, the Athenaeum will host C. Alexandria Bernard Thomas, an award-winning poet, orator and teacher. April is National Child Abuse Prevention as well as Sexual Assault Awareness month. Thomas survived physical and sexual abuse as a child and has worked with trauma survivors serving students, former prisoners in reentry programs and other vulnerable populations in the region. They have recently released their fifth book of poetry. The event is free and open to the public, though spots are limited. For more information, visit eventcreate.com/e/reclamationrelease. -lgolden@alextimes.com

New luxury hotel to open in Old Town

Italian architect Piero Lissoni will bring his first hotel to the United States with the opening of Hotel AKA Alexandria. Located at 625 First St., the 180-room property will also house two dining options. A French-inspired café and a restaurant lounge and bar will be available to guests. For more information, visit stayaka.com/hotel-aka-alexandria. -lgolden@alextimes.com

The Hotel AKA Alexandria will be located at 625 First St.

ADOPTABLE PET OF THE WEEK

Golden Girl

Say hello to Edith, our sweet girl who is house hunting this spring. Edith would like a quiet environment, although she is very friendly and loves attention. Edith weighs about 50 pounds of solid gold! Won’t take much to make this gal happy – good food, comfy bed, and a loving human. She enjoys leisurely walks, followed by a nap.

Meet Edith!
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engaged in the new plan and no stranger to the controversy of the old.

“The city staff and community group met several times since September, evaluated a number of options and developed a set of consensus recommendations. These recommendations will be included in a report by the Institute of Engagement and Negotiation that will soon be made public,” Bailey said in a statement to the Times.

Details have not been released, but several sources and city officials, including Jesse Maines, Alexandria’s division chief of stormwater management, describe the plan as a “scaled down” version of the original grant-funded proposal.

What led to a group of advocates, the EPC and city officials joining forces to create an entirely new proposition for stream restoration is a complicated journey – one that involves some strong community voices and a city eventually willing to hear them out.

The grant

At the center of this story is Taylor Run, an area most agree should be protected and preserved. Just how that can be achieved, however, has been the source of a rather contentious debate that goes back to 2019 when the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality awarded the city two grants from the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund for up to $800,000 for Strawberry Run Stream Restoration and $2,255,000 for Taylor Run.

According to a previous Times report, the grant program was initiated by the state to help the city meet its Chesapeake Bay pollution reduction requirements.

Rod Simmons, a natural resource manager and plant ecologist with the city’s Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities has been operating separately from his government job as a citizen advocate for years. He explained the thought behind these requirements.

“The reason for doing a stream project at all, we need to control nutrients, phosphorus and nitrogen and sediments from getting into the bay,” Simmons said.

According to Maines, Taylor Run had been on the city’s radar for more than a decade due to downcutting – a geological process by which the stream channel deepens because of high volumes of water.

“The stream was impacted when the sewer went in. As you look at it over time, a stream has kind of an s-curve back and forth and when you straighten it out, you increase the velocity of the waters in the stream too and it can erode,” Maines explained.

Paulette Kay Martin Korns

Paulette Kay Martin Korns of Alexandria was born on Good Friday, April 4, 1947, and passed away from complications from cancer, surrounded by her family, on Good Friday, April 7, 2023. Born to Paul and Norma Martin in Wilbur, Washington, her foundation came from growing up on the family’s wheat farm. After high school, she graduated from Washington State University then moved to Washington, D.C., where she met her husband of 48 years, John Hamilton Korns, who survives her. Family was the center of Paulette’s world. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her children Michael (Katherine Wray), Peter (Michael Hill) and Paul; and her grandsons, Jackson and Andrew. She is also survived by her brothers, Larry and Randy Martin, two nephews, and numerous cousins. A devout Lutheran and a committed volunteer, she had a passion for adventure and learning new things. Above all, she spent her life giving to and helping others. A memorial service to celebrate Paulette’s life and legacy will be held on Friday, April 21 at 10:30 a.m. at St. John’s Lutheran Church, 5952 Franconia Road, Alexandria, 22310 with a lunch reception to follow hosted by the church. Family and friends are also welcome to greet the family and share memories of Paulette from 4 – 6 p.m. at the Korns’ family home. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Paulette’s honor to St. John’s Lutheran Church in Alexandria.
The controversy

Bailey and Simmons agree the real issues began after the first public meeting in 2020. It was then that the method of how surrounding areas have evaluated pollutant levels and determined the viability of stream restoration projects was revealed.

The Times previously reported that for years, instead of being based on local samples of pollutant levels, the determination for the grant money was based on the Chesapeake Bay Program expert panel’s default metrics, which are drawn from samples taken in nutrient-rich farmland in rural Pennsylvania.

“Everybody uses it,” Simmons said. “Used it for these natural channel design projects which was from rich agricultural land near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and has no relation to these streams anywhere around here. So there is your problem,” Simmons stated.

But, recently, city officials defended their research and say the problem could not have been avoided.

“That doesn’t mean it was wrong. It means we were following the rules the federal government provided. The federal government told us to use this formula. That’s what we did,” Wilson said in an interview this week.

Community noise

When the Times looked into the true scope of the project back in October 2020, it reported that the city would need to cut down 269 trees in order to perform NCD restoration at Taylor Run, plus clear out natural vegetation and bring in heavy equipment that could harm the root systems of trees along the construction path.

As these details were introduced to the public, impassioned citizens started to band together. Bailey, Simmons and long-time community advocate Carter Flemming questioned the project’s true impact on Taylor Run and decided to conduct their own research.

“Rod Simmons was the first one to test the water,” Flemming said. “Found that it had nothing of what was supposed to be in it. And that spurred Russ and [the] Northridge Citizens Association to apply for a grant and test the water. Weekly.”

Simmons described his process of testing.

“I paid for it myself – the analysis. And, I did it on my own, off work hours. I took the soil samples as I’ve done for hundreds and hundreds of samples over the years and sent them to an industry lab,” Simmons said.

And, it did not stop there. The project was put on pause in April 2021, after the EPC sent a letter to City Council proposing alternatives to using natural channel design at Taylor Run, plus clear out natural vegetation and bring in heavy equipment that could harm the root systems of trees along the construction path.

“I live in this community. I care about the community.”

– Jesse Maines,
Alexandria’s division chief of stormwater management
Taylor Run. Simmons said he had his own pile of correspondence, too.

“It all came screeching to a head. Because I wrote a bunch of letters,” Simmons said. “I’ve written, God knows how many letters.”

**Budget concerns**

Simmons and Flemming alluded to having moments when they wished for more transparency. The question of just how much of the city’s budget has gone to consulting fees during the whole process continues to raise concerns.

“They had hired this consulting firm to draw up all these detailed plans and all. Now, what we don’t know is how much they spent on all of that, which was supposed to totally transform these streams,” Flemming said.

She also refuted the notion that listening to residents and altering the recommended plan for Taylor Run has cost the city money.

“The grant never was in our city coffers, so to speak. The state had designated it for us, but it was a matching grant and [Alexandria] had to match almost $3 million,” Flemming said.

The City of Alexandria eventually followed the lead of Simmons and conducted its own soil testing – indeed hiring a consulting firm to do the work. Maines could not

Erosion along the stream banks.
confirm an actual number, but estimated the price to be around $20,000.

When asked to elaborate on the city’s reasoning behind hiring an outside group, Maines said it was worth it, concluding they knew they could “stand behind the results.”

Collaboration and a new plan

Despite a once strained relationship between citizens and the key players behind the restoration project, all parties seem to agree that in the past few months, an impressive collaboration has been formed.

“Both our city and the work group have deliberated over the months since last September on this. And, they’ve been really productive and I must say it’s the way that things should have worked from the beginning. It’s really good and I think we’re all very pleased with it,” Simmons stated.

And, now that the grant window has closed and the $3 million in state funding is no longer available to help pay for the stream restoration, attention turns to the new plan on the horizon – and who will foot the bill.

“We’re going to have to figure out how we finance it. We’re going to have to go to the taxpayers and figure out how to fund this and that’s my concern,” Wilson said.

Bailey cautioned not to make assumptions just yet.

“One that report is available, the recommended approach for Taylor Run will be seen and the costs can be assessed,” Bailey said. “I believe that because the proposed project will be on a much smaller scale than the initially proposed stream reconstruction, costs will be far less than the mayor asserts and that money may exist in the current budget to cover them.”

Flemming agreed with Simmons, Bailey and Maines that the collaborative work of the last few months, and the resultant report, is something the city should be proud of.

“You have saved two natural areas for the city and saved the taxpayers of Virginia money on a project that was not what it was supposed to be,” Flemming stated.

Maines emphasized the community aspect of the collaboration between the city and residents.

“I live in this community. I care about the community. ... that’s why we’ve been working with them for more than a year and a half. This is not my project, this is a community project,” Maines said.

-avill@alextimes.com
The amendment was designed to allow healthcare providers to provide abortion services in commercial and mixed-use zones.

The amendment also clarifies the difference between a health professional office and a medical care facility within the zoning language. Since there was not a clear difference in the term health care, the zoning language made a distinction between the two kinds of health care professional offices and medical care facilities providing multiple services within the building.

“When we looked into the definitions of the two, we realized there was not a clear distinction between the two even though the land use impacts are somewhat different by the size and nature of the practice,” Shelby said at the meeting.

“This definition dates back to the 1950s when it was introduced into the zoning ordinance and it just lists a bunch of different types of medicine. It is important to make the distinction between these two things to put in the term abortion services at both just to be sure it’s clear to be a part of the health care uses and the zoning ordinance.”

Those opposed to the amendment contended that abortion is not health care, and therefore shouldn’t be zoned as such. They expressed concerns that abortion clinics would be prioritized over established life-giving and life-saving primary care facilities, and that potential protests at abortion clinics could harm existing nearby businesses.

“When I was on the Alexandria City Council, I was known as ‘Dr. No,’” former Vice Mayor Bill Cleveland said. “So what I am asking you today is to say ‘No’ to this text amendment and save the human babies.”

In closing, City Councilor Kirk McPike, who headed up the proposal, thanked residents who came forward to speak at the hearing, noting the sensitivity and thoughtfulness that went into taking the proclamation and resolution and turning it into legislative text.

“This is a very delicate process. Thanks to those voicing concerns either today or via email. We received many emails on both sides of this question. This proposal does not prioritize abortion providers over other forms of health care providers. This is a proposal that levels the playing field for these healthcare providers in comparison to other health care who already have the opportunity to open facilities by-right,” McPike said.

“Under this proposal, all healthcare providers are treated the same. And this is appropriate because abortion care is health care.”

City Council voted unanimously to approve the zoning change.

-kmurphy@alextimes.com

“Alexandria would be a place where everyone can access the reproductive care that they need.”

– LaTwyla Mathias, executive director of Progress Virginia

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<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria Soccer Association Camps</td>
<td>alexandria-soccer.org/programs/camps</td>
<td>703-684-5425</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arcadia Farm Camp</td>
<td>9000 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria, 22309</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@arcadiafood.org">info@arcadiafood.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Baroody Camps</td>
<td>343 Gundry Drive, Falls Church, 22046 (10 NOVA locations)</td>
<td>baroodycamps.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boys and Girls Club Sports Camps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishop Ireton High School Sports Camps</td>
<td>201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria, 22314</td>
<td>bishopireton.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burgundy Farm</td>
<td>3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria, 22303</td>
<td>703-842-0477</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@burgundyfarm.org">info@burgundyfarm.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities</td>
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<td>alexandriava.gov/Recreation</td>
<td>(75 options at 20 locations in Alexandria)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educational Theatre Company Summer Camps</td>
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<td>educationaltheatrecompany.org</td>
<td>educationaltheatrecompany.org/program/schedule/summer-camps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fusion Academy</td>
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<td>fusionacademy.com/alexandria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Theatre of Alexandria Theater Camps</td>
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<td>thelittletheatre.com</td>
<td>thelittletheatre.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mariner Sailing School Belle Haven Marina</td>
<td>Alexandria, 22507</td>
<td>saildc.com</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOVA Parks</td>
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<td>novaparks.com/CampWinkler</td>
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<td>Piccolo Opal Summer Camps</td>
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<td>opalmusicstudio.com/piccolo-opal</td>
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<tr>
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<td>schoolofrock.com/music-camps</td>
<td>schoolofrock.com/music-camps</td>
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<tr>
<td>YMCA Summer Day Camp</td>
<td>420 E. Monroe Ave., Alexandria, 22310</td>
<td>ymcadc.org</td>
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On March 16, Students at the St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes lower school celebrated their 20th year of ARTStravaganza, a full day dedicated solely to the performing and visual arts. Students attended a variety of interactive workshops taught by professional musicians, dancers and artists. In addition to hands-on demonstrations and activities, students had a chance to talk with the artists and learned how these creatives discovered their passions, the paths they took to becoming professionals and the dedication that goes along with mastering their crafts.

“It is magical to see music echoing down the hallways and teachers counting one-two-three-four as dancers choreograph movements for students,” SSSAS Lower School Music Teacher Rebecca Gehlhoff said.

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Japanese calligraphy with artist Koto Maesaka.

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Fusion celebrates graduating seniors

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<th>Dates</th>
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| Week 1 | June 26 - 30 | • DIY Camp (rising 8th and up)  
• Writers Camp (rising 6th and up)  
• The Simpsons: A Dive into Animation and Storytelling (rising 7th and up) |
| Week 2 | July 10 - 14 | • Japanese Culture Camp (rising 7th grade and up)  
• Music & Podcast (rising 7th grade and up)  
• DND Camp Week 1 (rising 8th & up) |
| Week 3 | July 17 - 21 | • Star Wars (rising 7th grade and up)  
• DND Camp Week 2 (rising 8th & up) |
| Week 4 | July 24 - 28 | • Fusion’s Kitchen (rising 6th grade and up) |
| Week 5 | July 31 - August 4 | • Music & Podcast (rising 7th grade and up) |

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Commonwealth collects art awards

Two students from Commonwealth Academy were awarded the 2023 All-City Palette Award in this year’s Alexandria All-City High School Art Exhibition. Eva T. and Jenna G., both class of 2024, were recognized for their outstanding achievement in the visual arts. More information about this exhibit can be found at the Torpedo Factory website: torpedofactory.org/event/allcityhighschool/

Jenna G.’24 was recognized for her outstanding achievement in the visual arts.

Browne pops in purple

April is the month chosen to acknowledge the military child. Purple represents the blending of the colors of the five branches of the nation’s armed forces.

In 2019, Browne Academy was designated a Virginia Purple Star School due to its commitment to students and families connected to our nation’s military. On April 19, children from Browne rocked their best shades of purple to demonstrate their love and appreciation for military families on Purple Up! Day.

Browne Academy students rocked shades of purple to support military families.

School Profile

George Washington Middle School

Students discover who they are as independent learners at George Washington Middle School (GW) by exploring a wide array of academic and career interests under the expert instruction of dedicated staff. Honored with the division’s first national designation for school counseling, GW surrounds students with social-emotional, mental health, academic and career-development supports that nurture the learning skills, sense of self and independence that are essential to growing middle schoolers.

A large, comprehensive middle school located in the heart of Del Ray, GW uses a team approach to create small, connected learning communities that support student achievement. Students and staff get to know each other quickly, build meaningful relationships and engage in project-based learning that promotes critical thinking, problem solving and teamwork. In addition to core classes, career technology education, college preparation courses, positive behavior intervention strategies and Dual Language programming provide GW students with truly formative experiences. Incredible staff, family and community partners support several initiatives including Aspire After-school Academic Support, mobile immersive learning lab, LINK out-of-school time programming and more than a dozen after school clubs.

This is advertorial content

AT A GLANCE

School name: George Washington Middle School
Address: 1005 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, 22301
Built: 1935
Grades: 6 - 8th grade
Number of students: 1,379
Student activities: Band, Theater, Girls on the Run, Prexie Dancers, Prexie Robotics Team, Intramural Sports
Mascot: Prexie (President)
Acting principal: Jeanette Vinson
Website: gw.acps.k12.va.us
Contact: 703-705-4500
Blessed Sacrament rocks

“Don’t forget to bring your lunch and a rock with you for the retreat” was the very odd instruction the Blessed Sacrament middle school students were given before their retreat to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. As part of the community-wide Lenten program, students visited the shrine, attended mass and adoration, prayed the rosary, engaged in trust activities and had talks and discussions about what they learned. The middle school students then worked together to place their rocks in the shape of a rosary on the floor of the Shrine where they prayed the rosary together around their creation which was a very moving moment for all.

Grace students on the hunt

Grace Episcopal School students had a blast on their annual egg hunts. Second, third, fourth and fifth graders stuffed and hid eggs for their younger preschool through first grader buddies. A perfect activity before their Easter break!
Giving back to the community we love

Spring2ACtion returns with grand goals to galvanize local organizations

BY BRANDI YEE

Spring is here, flowers are in full bloom and so is the spirit of generosity with Spring2ACtion on April 26. Since 2011, more than 80,000 generous donors have given nearly $19 million to more than 175 nonprofits through Alexandria’s day of giving.

One of the most successful city-wide giving days in the country, last year more than seven thousand donors raised more than $2.65 million for 175 nonprofits during Spring2ACtion.

For our 13th annual event, our goal is for 10,000 donors to give to the more than 185 organizations that help to make Alexandria a vibrant community for all.

What is Spring2ACtion?

Spring2ACtion is a 24-hour online giving event that inspires individuals to make a difference in their community by connecting them to the local causes they’re passionate about on an easy-to-use giving platform, powered by GiveGab.

Spring2ACtion provides an opportunity for Alexandrians to come together and give back to the community we love. Give where you live!

Why should I give?

Spring2ACtion is a way to celebrate and support the nonprofits in Alexandria that make this community a better place. Your gift could be matched and even help your favorite nonprofit win a prize. If you are new to giving, this is a great opportunity to find a new organization to support. Everyone can give – the minimum donation is $5.

Do you have five minutes to give $5? Every dollar makes a difference and that is the power of collective action. Last year’s funds supported service-learning opportunities for students, field trips for elementary schools, STEM programming, robotics competition scholarships, equitable access to dance classes, language access and coaching for multicultural families, re-entry support, historic preservation, health...
Bounty always receives part of its value from 
the manner in which it is bestowed.”
- Samuel Johnson

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care for uninsured patients, animal rescue and finding forever homes and families and more. Visit the Spring2ACTion site to learn more about how nonprofits have benefitted from this day of giving.

To whom should I give?
Visit Spring2ACTion.org to see a list of participating organizations. Don’t know where to give? You can also search by cause and find new organizations to support.

You can also give to the Alexandria Resilience Fund by adding a small optional donation of $5 or $10 or more at checkout. These funds will help nonprofits provide emergency financial assistance for food, rent relief and eviction prevention, medical expenses and other supports to help Alexandrians in crisis.

Where should I give?
You can give through your computer, tablet or via your smartphone at Spring2ACTion.org.

When should I give?
Now! While the official Spring2ACTion Day is April 26, early giving is going on now.

How can I help?
• Donate online at Spring2ACTion.org to your favorite nonprofit(s) and learn about new ones. A donation of any size will make a big difference.
• Support our local businesses and nonprofits by visiting the Events page at spring2action.org/info/events
  • Spread the word by texting a friend, sharing about Spring2ACTion via email or social media using #Spring2ACTion or by word-of-mouth.
  • Follow @ACTforAlexandria on Facebook, @ACTforAlex on Twitter and @ACTforAlexandria on Instagram for updates on the big day.

How are local businesses involved?
Every year the local business community plays a significant role in supporting Alexandria’s nonprofits. Dozens of businesses from across the city are participating as business fundraisers by

SEE SPRING2ACTION | 18

Mission
Great Futures Start Here at Dunbar Alexandria-Olympic Club. Keep the Boys & Girls Club in mind when considering your Spring2Action contributions. Our United Way giving number is 8047.

Sold in One Day!
Luxury Condo at Liberty Row in North Old Town at seller’s price target.

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Support the Oral History Center’s “Speakeasy Alexandria” via Spring2ACTion.

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The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

- Mahatma Gandhi

rallying their employees, clients and customers to give to causes they care about and discover new organizations to support. To learn more about business fundraisers, visit spring2action.org/business fundraisers. ACT anticipates more than 75 local businesses participating in the giving day by supporting the day as a sponsor, amplifying the day as a business fundraiser, or by donating back a percentage of proceeds to either ACT or a local nonprofit.

Many other local businesses will be supporting the day by offering promotions and donating a percentage of sales. Details can be found at spring2action.org/info/events.

Who is responsible for Spring2ACTion?

Spring2ACTion is hosted by ACT for Alexandria, the community foundation and home for philanthropy in Alexandria. This event would not be possible without the generous support of City of Alexandria, Amazon, The Patterson Group of TTR | Sotheby’s, King Street Wireless, Madigan Schuler, Seward Group of TTR | Sotheby’s, Wegmans, BASH Boxing, Washington Gas, Braemar Cabinetry, Burke & Herbert Bank, Clarke & Sampson, COVANTA, Giant, John Marshall Bank, Marks-Woods Construction Services, Monument Title Company, Betsey R. Rosenbaum and Jon H. Rosenbaum Fund, Speedwell Law PLLC and Virginia Tech. Media Sponsors include: Alexandria Gazette Packet, Alexandria Living Magazine, Alexandria Times, VIP Alexandria and The Zebra. ACT Annual Partners include: Alexandria Restaurant Partners, ALX Community, Citi Foundation Community Progress Makers, Colonial Parking, Reingold and Verdence Capital Advisors.

The writer is the Chief Program Officer for ACT for Alexandria.

For it is in giving that we receive.

- St. Francis of Assisi

To donate, scan the QR code or visit: www.spring2action.org/organizations/alexandria-harmonizers

We are grateful to all our supporters!
Harmonizers.org
"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more."

“I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back.”
- Maya Angelou

This year on Spring2ACTion Day, please join me in giving to Community Lodgings!

Community Lodgings supports over 45 families in its Transitional Housing and Affordable Housing, and over 120 children in its Youth Education Programs.

Every dollar makes a difference!

Donate April 26, 2023
(Early giving starts April 13, 2023.)
“Charity is a universal remedy against discord and a holy cement for mankind.”
- William Penn

"No one has ever become poor by giving.”
- Anne Frank

Neighborhood Health has been providing health care in Alexandria for 25 years to those who need it most, many of whom do not have insurance. Last year we provided care to over 11,000 City of Alexandria residents.

Our focus is always on equity: ensuring that everyone has access to health care, regardless of ability to pay.

Care for the Entire Family
We offer low-cost medical, dental, and behavioral health services for all ages—newborns to seniors. This includes free/low-cost medications, family planning, vision services, and cancer screenings.

Our Clinics in Alexandria
- 2 East Glebe Road
- Casey Health Center
- Martha Custis Drive
- “Del” Pepper Resource Center
  - Medical Clinic – Just Opened
  - Dental Clinic – Coming Soon!
- Wellness on Wheels (WOW) Bus – mobile dental for ACPS students

Please consider donating to support Neighborhood Health’s mission at the Spring2ACTion website between now and April 26th. THANK YOU!

www.spring2action.org/organizations/neighborhood-health

Neighborhood Health is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization; Federal ID# 54-1849891.

Heard. An arts program for silent stories. Because everyone deserves to be heard.

Acting * Art * Creative Writing * Dance * Etiquette * Improvisation * Poetry * Public Speaking * Singing * Spoken Word * Writing Contests

heardnova.org

spring2action.org/organizations/heard
On April 26, 2023, ACT will host Spring2ACTion, a 24-hour giving event encouraging charitable donations through our online giving platform, hosted by GiveGab. ACT will provide toolkits, training sessions, outreach support, mass media and extensive social media coverage to make it easy for all nonprofits to participate. Each participating organization will have an individualized web page to promote their cause. Individuals will be able to donate money to the nonprofit organizations of their choice on April 26, 2023 with early giving beginning on April 12, 2023. All donations are tax deductible and irrevocable. (Donations will not be refunded). Donors will receive a receipt for their gift. The nonprofit will receive contact information for each donor, unless the donor elects to remain anonymous. Leaderboards will add a sense of competition and excitement during the build-up and event day. Additional cash grants will be awarded to the top winners in each leaderboard category for the day:

- Nonprofits that have the Most Donors - we will award prizes based on operational budget size broken down into three categories - small - $0-$100K, medium - $100K-$500K, and large - $500K+
- Free Agent Fundraisers that have the Most Donors - these prizes will be awarded to the organization designated by the Free Agent Fundraiser

In addition to Leaderboard prizes, there will be additional prizes including power hours, ACTion Heroes, and others - some will be awarded based on number of dollars and donors and others will be randomly drawn.

Whether it is your first home purchase, or one of the many transactions in your real estate journey, you can rest easy knowing that we are here to support you every step of the way. As the market continues to evolve, so do we. We take pride in our current market knowledge to help our buyers and sellers make informed decisions about their real estate goals.

As you consider your real estate journey for 2023 and beyond, please give us a call. We would be honored to help you along the way.

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“What do we live for, if not to make life less difficult for each other?”

- George Eliot

“As the purse is emptied, the heart is filled.”

- Victor Hugo

SUPPORT THE ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY

DONATE NOW APRIL 12-26

Help us keep our Library’s resources, programming, and spaces accessible to all by donating today.

Give now: spring2action.org/organizations/alexandria-library-foundation

Housing affordability is complicated. We are working on solutions.

We help over 2,100 Alexandrians find a place to call home that doesn’t break the bank. And with over 500 new homeownership and rental units on the way, we’re just getting started.

A Spring2ACTion donation helps us raise credit scores, make new homes, plant community gardens, and help families grow strong roots. Want to be a part? Donate today!
Classic Clapboard New England Colonial

$2,495,000 | 5 bedrooms | 4.5 baths | Located on one of Alexandria’s most sought-after streets, this classic clapboard New England colonial is perfect for gracious entertaining and comfortable family living. Among the many special features of this fabulous home are 9 ½ foot ceilings on the main level, detailed moldings, heart pine floors and huge kitchen/great room with vaulted ceiling & gas fireplace. A gorgeous keystone archway leads into the formal living room with built-in bookshelves with cabinetry below plus gas fireplace. The formal dining room with French doors opens onto year-round sunroom with brick floor & Anderson windows. The wonderful walnut library lined with bookshelves is the perfect quiet retreat or home office. A first floor bedroom and full bath complete the main level. Four additional bedrooms and three full baths are offered on the upper two levels. Three window seats & three dormers with lovely Palladian windows highlight the third floor bedroom. Easy parking in the oversized two car garage plus spacious driveway with handsome pavers. This truly outstanding home is perfect for the most discriminating purchaser desiring exceptional charm, detail and unsurpassed convenience!

921 VICAR LANE, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22302

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Named by Washingtonian as “The Face of Alexandria Real Estate”
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
Brooke Sydnor Curran

Every year, our Community Impact Report is our chance to share our proudest achievements for Alexandria public school students. And in 2022, we made tremendous progress in our efforts to transform learning through movement.

We made this happen by filling classrooms with our active seating packages and through our newly launched before-, during- and after-school clubs and expanded Social, Emotional and Academic Learning, or SEAL, lessons.

But none of this is possible without our supporters. It’s thanks to them that we’re able to apply solutions to drive change in Alexandria—to level the learning field for students, especially those most in need.

Using movement to wake up the brain, redirect energy, reduce stress and anxiety, increase focus and so much more, together we’re helping students reach their highest potential. Thanks for standing with us!

A NEW NAME, A FRESH LOOK

• Overhauled our brand from RunningBrooke to Move2Learn | Powered by RunningBrooke to truly reflect our vision & mission
• Launched a new website & programmatic materials that are translated to different languages

LEARN MORE AT bit.ly/M2LPrograms
10,000+ K-12 STUDENTS & hundreds of educators benefitted from our programming so all kids can feel and learn their best.

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL & ACADEMIC LEARNING
Expanded our SEAL programming & rolled it out to all ACPS teachers.

Developed 5 adaptable 30-minute lessons that help students understand their emotions & practice how to use movement to feel & learn their best.

ACTIVE SEATING
Distributed & installed 719 active seating pieces & 15 stationary bikes; 86% went to middle & high schools & 14% went to special ed classrooms.

OUT OF SCHOOL TIME
- Running/Walking
- Dancing
- Lacrosse
- Jump Rope
- Boxercise

Launched 14 before-, during- & after-school programs across 6 schools, mostly in middle & high schools.

The benefits of these programs follow kids back to the classroom.
“We should be rigorous in judging ourselves and gracious in judging others.”

- John Wesley

DONATE BY CAUSES

If you’re unsure which specific organization to give to, you can easily donate to a favorite cause instead.

Your gift will be made through ACT for Alexandria to support the causes you care about.

LIST OF CAUSES

- Animals
- Arts & Culture
- Community Advocacy
- Disability Services
- Disaster Relief
- Education
- Emergency Response
- Entrepreneurship
- Environment
- Ethnic/Immigrant Services
- Family Violence Shelters, Services
- Health & Wellness
- Homelessness & Housing
- International
- International Migration, Refugee Issues
- LGBTQ+
- Politics
- Poverty & Hunger
- Racial Equity
- Religion
- Seniors
- Social Justice
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Veterans
- Women’s Issues
- Youth

And if you’re still unsure, donate to ACT for Alexandria directly and your contribution will help ensure Alexandria is a vibrant community for all.

spring2action.org

How can you help save a life every day?

Give during the Spring2Action one-day, online fundraiser on April 26 and you will help Alexandria’s only no-kill, all-volunteer cat rescue facility save special needs cats and kittens like Pie.

Just a $10 donation from YOU will help King Street Cats rescue a cat from a shelter or the streets and provide it with a safe haven until it finds a forever home!

Mark your calendar for April 26th!

What: Give during the one-day Spring2Action fundraiser
When: Wednesday, April 26
Where: gvgb.co/KSCS2A

Can’t wait until April 26th?
You can donate now at gvgb.co/KSCS2A

Thank you to the kind supporter who provided the funds for this ad
Building strong foundations with families.

Donate to Casa Chirilagua on Spring2ACTion now through April 26th.
Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/spring2casa

We are a community of people “learning together to love our neighbors as ourselves.”

703-933-3688
casarchirilagua.org
4109 Mt Vernon Ave., 22305
“When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”

- Mary Angelou

“Charity should always be a constant.”

- Eva LaRue

WHO IS BEHIND IT?

Spring2ACTion is hosted by ACT for Alexandria, a community foundation that catalyzes change through strategic initiatives and smart philanthropy. Founded in 2004, ACT connects donors with causes they are passionate about and collaborates with nonprofits to optimize resources and impact. ACT strives to improve the lives of Alexandrians by turning ideas into action and resources into results. Learn more: www.actforalexandria.org.

DO I NEED AN ACCOUNT ON GIVEGAB?

No, donors do not need to create an account to make a donation. A donor account will, however, collect tax receipts in one location, enable tracking of donations, provide the ability to follow supported charities, and engage in future volunteering and donations. A tax receipt is emailed to the donor immediately after their donation is processed. To claim a donation as a deduction on U.S. Taxes, the donor should retain the email donation receipt as an official record.

YMCA Alexandria Needs Your Support!

The YMCA is focused on strengthening communities for kids, adults, seniors and families with programs that protect, teach, connect, heal, nourish and encourage. But we can’t do it alone.

Donate between 4/12 & 4/26 and help raise critical funds for our community!

SCAN HERE TO DONATE!

Any donation, no matter how big or small, helps make an impact.

Spring2ACTion
April 26
CHRIST CHURCH LAZARUS EMERGENCY FINANCIAL MINISTRY

Your donation will help stabilize the situation of members of our community by allowing us to offer financial assistance for eviction prevention, rent, medical/dental work, or emergency expenses; and provide other essential support.

www.historiccchristchurch.org
Old Town Shredding Event
sponsored by The Harvey Group
Benefiting ACT for Alexandria

Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 2 – 5 PM
Shredding truck will be in parking lot at 119 Oronoco St.

Documents will be professionally shredded on-site by Eco-Shred.

This is a complimentary event, but if you feel inclined, we will be collecting donations benefiting ACT for Alexandria in conjunction with Spring2ACTion, Alexandria’s Giving Day. Suggested donation is $5/box.
“We must give more in order to get more. It is the generous giving of ourselves that produces the generous harvest.”

- Orison Swett Marden

“The Fund for Alexandria’s Child Emergency Bed Fund

The Fund for Alexandria’s Child’s (The Fund) mission is to enhance the lives of foster and at-risk youth in our community. The Fund tackles that mission in a variety of ways each year by providing enrichment and basic needs to more than 100 foster children and hundreds of youth at risk of being placed in foster care.

Over the last few years, we have seen an increase in the number of emergency needs particularly around beds.

Every child deserves a safe place to sleep.

Scan the QR Code to give a child a place to dream

“Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you.”

- Princess Diana

“We only have what we give.”

- Isabel Allende
“The best thing to do with the best things in life is to give them away.”

- Dorothy Day

WHAT IS THE GOAL?

Let’s raise $2.5M for our community! The vision of Spring2ACTion is a community where everyone contributes to our nonprofit organizations. There are three primary goals:

1. Grow philanthropy – Create a fun and engaging way to learn about the critical issues impacting our community and inspire people to give
2. Grow revenue – Bring new donors and develop a new funding stream to the organizations that make our community and its future strong
3. Grow supporters – Educate the community on the positive impact Alexandria’s nonprofit organizations have on their lives.

IS THERE A MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM DONATION?

The minimum donation for Spring2ACTion is $5. There is no maximum donation limit for Spring2ACTion.

A community of support and enrichment for our Alexandria neighbors ages 55+

At Home in Alexandria joins our fellow nonprofits in thanking you for supporting the nonprofit community during this Spring2ACTion fundraising campaign. At Home in Alexandria celebrates 12 years of helping to keep our older neighbors, safe, confident, informed and engaged.

To support, visit spring2action/organizations/at-home-in-alexandria or scan

www.AtHomeInAlexandria.org | 703.231.0824 aha@AtHomeInAlexandria.org
"To give without any reward, or any notice, has a special quality of its own."
- Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Senior Services thanks Alexandria for your support of local non-profits on Spring2ACTion Day!

Please donate to support critical programs that provide nutrition, companionship, transportation and education for older adults.

spring2action.org/organizations/senior-services-of-alexandria

HOW MUCH OF THE DONATION WILL GO TO THE NONPROFIT?

For each online donation, a 7% + $0.30 will be applied at checkout. This covers a small management fee of 2.5% for ACT for Alexandria to partially offset extensive staff support, marketing, training, planning and hosting Spring2ACTion; a GiveGab platform fee of 2% for building & maintaining a secure site and live support; and a standard credit card company fee of 2.5% + $0.30 on a per transaction basis will apply. If a donor uses the bank account withdrawal (ACH) payment option, there is a flat rate $3 charged instead of the credit card processing fee. ACH payments will be available for donations of $100 or more.

Donors have the option to cover these fees for the organization. In 2022, 75% of donors covered fees, meaning the nonprofit(s) received 100% of the intended gift.

100% of ACT management fee goes directly to support, build and improve Spring2ACTion year over year. Without the financial support generated through fees this event would not be possible.

The fees for Spring2ACTion are significantly less than other types of fundraisers. A 65%-75% net profit is standard for events such as galas, golf tournaments, luncheons, races/runs etc.

For Spring2ACTion, nonprofits are making 93%+ net profit on donations.
No matter where they go, their love follows
BY AMY WILL

The year was 1975. They had both already experienced much of the world and were living in Italy. Just two Americans immersed in the culture and their work, not expecting to find their perfect match in the hills of Naples. But, they did find one another – and fell in love – and the rest, well, is an incredible history.

Springfield residents Patricia and Samuel Boglio – Pat and Sam as they prefer to be called – have created a life rich with adventure, spontaneity and companionship. Their travels have taken them all over Europe, Africa, to little corners in Asia and even to Antarctica. They have circled the world four times.

“Since we left Italy, there’s been 2,966 days of travel. Four hundred days on cruise ships. And we have made ... oh, we’re up to 93 cruises,” Samuel recounted.

The Boglios’ story began in the United States. Pat, who grew up on a small farm in Windham, New Hampshire, said her passion for travel came from her father.

“My father was an armchair traveler. He was an old

Pat and Sam at a Greenspring Benevolent Care Fund event.
New Englander and wasn’t interested in going out. But, oh, did he read. And he instilled the travel bug in all of us,” Pat remembered.

Her first expedition only took her a few hours away from home. After graduating from the University of New Hampshire, Pat moved to upstate New York to start her teaching career.

“I always wanted to live overseas and I applied for and got a job as a teacher for the military,” Pat said. “And so, I went to the Philippines for a year and then Germany for three.”

Sam was born in Michigan, but moved to Florida when he was five. After graduating from the University of Florida, he joined the Peace Corps, also traveling to the Philippines. He said he was only there for two years before joining the Navy.

Sam eventually became a civilian architect for the Navy and was sent to Naples, Italy. Pat was already living there, having settled in the city after her assignment in Germany. When asked about how they came to meet, Pat deferred to Sam for that part of the story.

“There was a big party and both Pat and I got invited, not knowing each other. But we got invited and I was sitting talking to the wife of somebody that I had worked with and she says, “There’s a woman in the back I think you might enjoy talking to,’” Sam remembered.

They chatted that night, dated a bit and went back to the U.S. to get married in 1977. They returned to Italy immediately after and lived there for three years. It was not long before they both felt the tug to travel again and Pat, the expert planner of the two, arranged their first trip to London and Malta.

Pat has never used a travel agent and since retirement has enjoyed the challenge of carving out their excursions.

“If we’re going to go from here to here, we need to take this train and do this or we’ll patch together from this. I just work it through,” she said.

Exotic destinations required a little more legwork.

“There was a tour of Japan that was by rail by their wonderful train system. And then from there, we went on to China and we had booked a guided tour of not the nor-

Why are so many of your neighbors moving to Woodleigh Chase?

Woodleigh Chase®, coming to Fairfax, is a vibrant senior living community featuring a wealth of resort-style amenities and well-being services, plus a variety of stylish, maintenance-free apartment homes.

Call 1-888-216-5192 to receive your free brochure!

“I’m familiar with the Erickson communities. They do a good job of management and they’ve got a really spectacular reputation. It was a pretty easy decision.”

–Michael M., future resident moving from Springfield
mal places that people go to in China. I had listed all these beautiful places that I wanted to go to and I booked the whole thing for like a month or two months,” Pat recalled.

By land, air and sea they have traveled from one end of the globe to another. Sam described one of their four around-the-world trips; an experience almost too fantastic to believe.

“We had flown to Europe, did some sightseeing there, went to Uzbekistan. There was a month-long tour that took us to China. And we had two weeks in Korea. We flew to Australia for a week and then caught a ship back from Sydney, back to Los Angeles and flew home from there,” Sam shared.

Pat and Sam recalled fondly the friendships they have made along the way.

“One of the trips to Australia, we had met this couple and they got off in Australia and we circumnavigated Australia. But when we came to their town, they took us all around and then we invited them to come and see us and they did. They came for three weeks,” the couple remembered.

Sam described how those special connections led to a steady stream of correspondence.

“I’ve sent out what I call electronic postcards to various people, friends and family. And initially it was just to keep in touch with people that we worked with and it has evolved. I have sent out, I don’t know how many postcards now, but it’s been three to six a year,” Sam said.

Now in their 80s, the Boglios have embraced a slightly slower pace. They moved into Greenspring Senior Living Community about a year ago and are enjoying this next chapter of life.

“When we first came, you have a name tag that has a green ribbon on it and it indicates that you’re fairly new and people would stop us in the hall and say let’s get together. So yeah, it is so friendly,” Pat shared.

They will soon be on the move again. They embark on their next journey in just a few weeks.

“We’re going on a cruise in the beginning of May, seven days from Boston to Montreal and then come back to Boston. And then in September, we are going to Europe again,” Pat explained.

“Sometimes I just sit down and say, ‘What did I ever think of when I was this little girl in Nashua, New Hampshire?’ I didn’t even expect to go to college,” she said.

Sam interrupted quickly, “And look, you got me.”

Pat added tenderly, “And, I got you.”

’avill@alextimes.com

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!
Commit to improving your quality of life by finding help
BY PAMELA AUSTIN

Fully 80% of older adults have at least one chronic disease, such as diabetes, arthritis or high blood pressure. And more than 60% suffer from two or more of these conditions. Many seniors struggle to manage these chronic diseases. Finding joy and meaning in each day becomes harder when an individual is struggling with a chronic condition. Dealing with symptoms like pain, fatigue, stress and limited mobility can make day-to-day activities – grocery shopping, walking the dog or playing with the grandkids – harder.

April is Stress Awareness Month and offers a chance to look ahead and commit to adopting lifestyle choices that support health, especially for those living with and managing chronic health conditions.

ACL funds Chronic Disease Self-Management Education programs through the aging network in communities across the country. CDSME programs have been proven to help older adults gain control of their chronic disease symptoms so they can better maintain their independence and quality of life.

The programs address problem solving, goal setting, effective communication, healthy behaviors like physical activity, healthy eating, medication management and stress management. While these programs focus on older adults, anyone over the age of 18 can participate, including younger adults with disabilities.

Research has shown that when older adults and adults with disabilities learn how to successfully manage chronic conditions, they experience better overall health. They also experience less depression and fewer lifestyle limitations.

If you have been putting off addressing a chronic condition or are just not sure where to start, consider talking with your physician or medical insurance provider about literature or programs offered in our community. Living with and managing chronic conditions doesn’t have to mean limiting the things that bring joy to life. Commit now to improving your health and happiness!

-The Administration for Community Living contributed to this article.

The writer is the resource coordinator for the City of Alexandria’s Division on Aging and Adult Services.

Managing chronic disease

PAMELA AUSTIN

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Call 1-800-746-1459 for your free brochure, or visit RetirementVirginia.com.
Seniors Helping Seniors is hiring senior caregivers to aid care receivers.

New business franchise will hire active seniors to help their less active peers
BY LESLIE GOLDEN

During his nearly three decades as the director of driver education and training at AAA Club Alliance, Kurt Gray met many seniors during retraining and updates to driving guidelines.

“I oversaw instructor certification workshops, driver safety presentations and driver skills assessments...particularly for older drivers whose families had concerns about their ability to drive safely. I spent a lot of time working with aging drivers and their families to help identify and manage the physical changes that come with aging,” Gray said.

During his time working with seniors, Gray realized there was a greater need for additional services – for companionship, attention and driving to appointments to just staying in their homes, who don’t want to be in an assisted living space,” Gray shared.

Gray was looking for a way to marry his wealth of professional expertise with his own personal background to help seniors in Alexandria and the surrounding areas. That is where his new venture, Seniors Helping Seniors, began.

“If you can stay safely in your home, we want to give you the care and support that you need. Thinking about people like my parents who want to stay in their homes, who may have some mobility issues, who are aging...it’s all in the name, right? We always say it’s all in the name: seniors helping seniors,” he laughed.

Gray and his team act a bit like matchmakers. They have interviews via phone, in person and in the homes of potential clients. Then Gray and his team conduct similar interviews, reference checks and background checks on potential caregivers. During the interviewing process, some in the caregiver role are surprised to find they will be compensated for their work.

Gray explained, “We’re looking for younger seniors, retired folks who have time, who want to stay active and who want to give back to help less active older persons. Our ideal caregiver is someone who’s retired or semi-retired. They want something to keep them busy. I can’t tell you how many times we’ve hired people and they say, ‘Wait, you are going to pay me? I thought I was volunteering!’ We’re really looking for people with a volunteer spirit. To give back and help other people, but we don’t expect you to do that for free.”

When asked what types of services clients and caregivers can expect, Gray said, “We’re a senior focused in-home care agency that provides the non-medical services designed to help seniors who have difficulties with daily activities.”

SHS offers everything from trips to the grocery store to some light housekeeping to driving to appointments to just sharing an afternoon together.

See SHS
Gray offered insight into one of his client’s situations. “I have a client and he’s physically fit. He’s 84. He’s in great shape. He has mild dementia. It’s not significant. But he wants to get out of the house during the week. And his wife wants to do her own thing.”

While his client’s wife attends choir practice or travels to her weekly knitting class, a caregiver from SHS will visit his client and spend the day with him.

“He wants to go to Starbucks. He wants to go to Wegman’s. He likes to go to a pastry shop. He may want to travel to a store to buy some new handkerchiefs,” Gray shared.

This client doesn’t require a great deal of care, but Gray’s company enables him to have the freedom and ability to socialize, shop and dine without the help of his wife. Gray’s team members can also help with reminders for important tasks, like taking prescription medication.

“Though we do not administer medication, we do issue reminders. For example, one client likes to go out and spend the day away from home. He needs a reminder to take his medicine at a certain time of day. Otherwise, he’ll forget. We watch and we make sure that that happens,” Gray said.

Seniors who are interested in receiving help or working to bring help to their fellow seniors, can call, email or visit Gray’s website where they can put in requests for services or employment.

“The good part about SHS is we’re matching that particular client with a caregiver with similar interests. That is key,” Gray said.

During the initial interviewing process, Gray begins to think about potential matches for caregivers and clients.

“When I’m talking with a client and I’m starting to learn more about them, what they like to do, where they like to go, I’m thinking and I’m going through my Rolodex of caregivers in my mind,” Gray shared.

Flexibility is key to Gray’s model. Arrangements can be made regularly or for only a finite amount of time. Depending on the circumstances and needs of his clients, Gray adjusts the level and duration of commitment.

Gray added, “For example, we have a client who’s having knee surgery. She doesn’t need consistent care for months and months. She probably just needs four to six weeks of help. For other clients, we have a built-in schedule. We’re going to see you three or four times a week, at whatever times are determined and arranged and that can go on for as long as they need.”

Gray’s new business will help offer support and care to seniors in the area. By hiring senior caregivers, Gray is enabling individuals to enjoy a flexible schedule, extra income and lend a hand to a fellow senior.

“We monitor progress throughout the day. I call and check on my client and see how the service is going. Then later, I talk to the caregiver. Often, they both give me the same updates and when those updates align, I know we had a good day,” Gray said.

For more information on Seniors Helping Seniors, visit shsmetrospringfield.com.

-lgolden@alextimes.com
African American community. The Alexandria Library welcomes all African American families to bring documents and images to be scanned and added to a Special Collections archive. Music, games, food trucks and more. All are welcome to attend.

Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: 717 Queen St.
Information: alexlibraryva.org/event/8297828

MAY 7
FREE MATINEE PERFORMANCE Tickets for this event are not required, but a donation to the Alexandria Choral Concert are appreciated. Listen to composers from all over the world. There will be a premier of a new work entitled You Birth the Seeds by esteemed Australian-American composer Melissa Dunphy and Alexandria's Poet Laureate, Zeina Azzam.
Time: 4 p.m.
Location: 4653 Taney Ave.
Information: alexandriachoralsociety.org/on-the-other-side-of-change

MAY 21
FESTIVAL OF SPEED & STYLE The Old Town Festival of Speed & Style returns to Alexandria. The 4th year of the festival will stretch across the lower blocks of King St. and showcases rare and exotic cars. This rain or shine event is free and open to all. The festival will nonprofits ALIVE! and the Campagna Center.
Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: 200 to 400 blocks of King St.
Information: festivalspeedstylealex.com/

APRIL 22
DOODLE WORKSHOP Join picture book author and illustrator Zarra González Hoang as she leads everyone in silly drawing exercises. Make interesting marks. Embrace mistakes. For children aged five through ten.
Time: 11 a.m. to noon
Location: 4701 Seminary Road
Information: alexlibraryva.org/events

 UNDER THE SAME ROOF Learn about enslaved and free African Americans who lived and worked before and after the Civil War. Hear stories about their experiences. Learn about their contributions to the Lee-Fendall House. Tickets required. Tour is limited to 12 participants.
Time: 2 p.m.
Location: 614 Oronoco St.
Information: eventbrite.com/e/under-the-same-roof-enslaved-and-free-workers-at-lee-fendall-house-55389499387

Time: 6 p.m.
Location: 5000 Seminary Road
Information: alexscholarshipfund.org/fordonors/gala

APRIL 23
REMEMBERING JOSEPH MCCOY All are invited to remember the 126th year of the brutal lynching of Joseph McCoy. A procession will begin at the doors of the Police Station House where he was kidnapped by a white mob to the corner of Cameron and Lee Streets where he was lynched. A wreath will be laid at the foot of the light post in this spot.

APRIL 27
POEM IN YOUR POCKET Join Poet Laureate Zeina Azzam will lead a “Poem in Your Pocket” celebration. She will be joined by winning poets from the 2023 DASHing Words in Motion program. Limited seating is available. Registration required.
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: 201 Prince St.
Information: Email poet@alexandriava.gov

APRIL 29
WHO LET THE DOGS OUT? Calling all dogs and dog lovers. Walk in and around Oronoco Bay Park. Registration required. Event promotes a environmental efforts. Fun for you and your furry friends and family.
Time: 7 to 11 a.m.
Location: 100 Madison St.
Information: alxdogwalk.com

BLACK FAMILY REUNION The event aims to bring neighborhoods together to document Alexandria's

MAY 6
RECFEST! The City presents RecFest! Attendees of all ages are invited to attend this free event. Representatives from the City’s fitness, sports, enrichment, arts, nature, afterschool and summer camp programs will be on hand. Enjoy demonstrations, meet instructors and register for programs. Location may change subject to weather.
Time: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Location: 520 Cameron Station
Information: alexandriava.gov/rpca/recfest-2023

ALEXANDRIA CHORAL CONCERT On the Other Side of Change features a diverse set of women composers from all over the world. Among them: Latvian composer Laura Jekabsons (Ilus Hääl), Canadian composer Eleanor Daley (Gloria in Excelsis Deo), German composer Fanny Hensel (Schöne Fremde), and American composers Faith Zimmer (Laus Trinitati), Undine Smith Moore (We Shall Walk Through the Valley), and Rosephanye Powell (To Sit and Dream).
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: 2701 Cameron Mills Road
Information: alexandriachoralsociety.org/on-the-other-side-of-change

APRIL 22
DOODLE WORKSHOP Join picture book author and illustrator Zarra González Hoang as she leads everyone in silly drawing exercises. Make interesting marks. Embrace mistakes. For children aged five through ten.
Time: 2 to 2:30 p.m.
Location: Fairfax Side of Market Square
Information: alexandriava.gov/cultural-history/alexandria-community-remembrance-project-public-programs#UpcomingEvents

PARKWAY CLASSIC The Parkway Classic returns. Road closures and parking changes will be in effect. Runners will participate in the 5K, 10-mile race and a 600-meter dash for kids. Registration is required and a fee applies.
Time: 8 a.m.
Location: Mount Vernon to Old Town
Information: parkwayclassic.com

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Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Location: 200 to 400 blocks of King St.
Information: festivalspeedstylealex.com/

Drug TAKE BACK Day
Disposal of Unused or Expired Medications
April 22, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 
Alexandria Take Back Day Drop-Off Locations
Alexandria Police Headquarters 3600 Wheeler Ave. 
The Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray 2320 Mt. Vernon Ave. 
Alexandria Fire Station 210 5255 Eisenhower Ave. 
Woodbine Rehab. & Health Center 2729 King St. 
*NEEDLES ACCEPTED AT THESE SITES:
Can’t make it to Drug Take Back Day? Dispose of medications year-round at one of these permanent drug drop box locations!
The Neighborhood Pharmacy 2204 Mount Vernon Ave. 
Monday - Friday | 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. 
Saturday | 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. 
Sunday | 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 
Inova Alexandria Hospital Needle Disposal Box also available at this location
4320 Seminary Rd. 
Visitor’s Lobby 
Next to the cashier’s window 
Daily | 8 a.m. - 11 p.m. 
Alexandria Police Headquarters 3600 Wheeler Ave. 
Just inside the entrance available 24/7
Innovative ways to incorporate unexpected design into your bathroom
BY BRANDPOINT

Bathrooms are frequently used spaces in a home that are brimming with design potential. These smaller rooms are ideal to experiment with new aesthetics and unique features. Incorporating unexpected elements in your bathroom’s design can add character and interest, while still creating a functional space you’ll love.

Consider these tips to help you incorporate unexpected design into your own bathroom:

**Experimental color**

Rather than traditional white or neutral color schemes, try incorporating rich colors or patterns. Colorful tiles, a bold accent wall or brightly hued towels are just a few examples. Wallpaper is another way to add color and pattern, with modern options available for the more humid bathroom environment. Not only will pops of color make the space more visually interesting, but it will also create a joyful atmosphere.

**Mixed materials**

Blending complementary textures and materials adds depth to a space in a subtle yet unexpected way. For example, pairing a sleek and modern shower with a vintage claw-foot tub can create a unique and eclectic feel. Adding natural elements such as wood or stone can also add interest to the room, creating a relaxing, spa-like atmosphere.

**Modern metals**

The right metals elevate and define a faucet and bathroom accessories, refining its overall look. Matte black, brushed modern brass, French gold, vibrant titanium are just a few finishes you can choose to use that will resist corrosion and tarnishing to ensure enduring beauty for years to come.

**Curated décor**

A great way to create design in your bathroom is by curating interesting decorations. Look for pieces that show off your style, but be sure not to go overboard with the clutter. One or two pieces of art or sculpture are plenty for the average bathroom space. Use walls and vertical spaces for art rather than taking up valuable countertop space.

**Elevated lighting**

Instead of relying only on harsh overhead lighting, consider incorporating more ambient lighting throughout the bathroom space. Add new lighting elements or install dimmer switches. Flexible lighting options in visually appealing fixtures create an envi-
The right metals elevate and define a faucet and bathroom accessories.

BATHROOMS

Environment that is as fashionable as it is functional. Whether you want soft light for a long soak or bright light to prep for the day, you will have options. When it comes to home design, bathrooms are just as important as any other room. By incorporating unexpected design in these frequently used rooms, you’ll create spaces that reflect your style and intrigue visitors. With a little creativity and effort, the bathroom can become a stunning space in your home.

Consider adding ambient lighting options to create a more fashionable environment.

HOME OF THE WEEK

A spacious Falls Church craftsman home

Spacious craftsman home in a convenient location in Falls Church. This beautiful home features 9’ ceilings, dark hardwood floors, neutral paint colors and an open concept with lots of natural light. The first floor has an office, open kitchen, dining room, living room and family room. The gourmet kitchen will be your favorite with granite counters, a tile backsplash and a large island for easy entertaining. In addition, you will find KitchenAid appliances and a separate walk-in pantry. The living room is special with its coffered ceiling and a beautiful floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace. French doors lead to a spacious backyard/patio. The upper level features 3 large bedrooms and 3 baths as well as the primary suite. A seating area, walk-in closet and bath with a double sink, separate tub and shower comprise the primary suite. The finished lower level has space for all your needs including a rec room, an office/family room with access to the outside, a bedroom with a full bath and sufficient storage areas. A 2-car garage and driveway parking makes this home too good to pass up.

ADDRESS:
2412 Hurst St.,
Falls Church, 22043

PRICE: $1,750,000

SQUARE FEET: 3,842

BEDROOMS: 5

BATHROOMS: 5.5

YEAR BUILT: 2017

OPEN HOUSE:
Open Sunday, 1 - 3 p.m.

CONTACT:
Sue Goodhart
info@thegoodhartgroup.com

AT A GLANCE
Our View
Setting an example

The relationship between a large minority of Alexandria's residents on one hand and city staff and elected officials on the other has been increasingly strained in recent years.

The cause of this disaffection is debatable. A trickle down effect from political nastiness at the national level – just across the Potomac River – is surely a factor. Growing discord is also a predictable consequence of one-party rule in Alexandria, making compromise optional rather than necessary.

Neither of those explanations entirely hit the mark, however, as many of those most at odds with city leaders are also Democrats, and our issues are mostly local rather than national in scope. A more accurate description of the two points of view is that city leadership is increasingly committed to a path of rapid population growth, while those opposed want a slower, less disruptive influx of new residents.

Thankfully, not all issues fall within the parameters of the fast/slow growth debate.

One such outlier is the Taylor Run/Strawberry run issue, which is mainly environmental and budgetary in nature. And the collaboration between city staff and local environmentalists is extremely encouraging to those of us who are weary of the constant strife surrounding development-related decisions.

Today's page 1 story, "Inside the Taylor Run restoration," provides a comprehensive update on the current status of the project. For those unfamiliar with the history, it's a good primer on how we got to today.

The backstory on this issue reads like something from The Onion – or Shallott: A grant was awarded from the state to fund a project that was based on the removal of virtually non-existent phosphorus to check the box on a Chesapeake Bay cleanup mandate that wasn't actually going to reduce pollutants in the Bay because the formula was based on phosphorus-laden Pennsylvania farmland rather than actual soil testing at the site.

Got that? And the method chosen to achieve this fictional pollution cleanup – natural channel design – was going to destroy many dozens of mature trees in Alexandria's largest forested tract and the existing contiguous wetlands.

Yes, the streambed is in need of some TLC. And fortunately, city staff and concerned residents have collaboratively charted a path forward that seems to be amenable to all sides.

We eagerly await the release of the report next month detailing the proposal. Kudos to both residents and city staff for truly listening and engaging on this important issue. We hope it's a template for how to deal with other difficult issues.

As we head into warmer weather, let's lower the temperature a bit.

Houston, we have a problem

Today's briefing pages in the Times read like a crime report from Los Angeles or Chicago, not historic Alexandria. Residents from all over the city are rightly concerned by the spate of increasing gun-related violence that has exploded in the last week.

Why not declare a state of emergency and throw every resource we have into getting more police on the streets and pushing for the maximum sentences allowed for those who commit gun violence?

While we are all endangered by the lawlessness that seems to have descended on Alexandria, it's the law-abiding residents in parts of the West End where much of this gun violence is happening who are the most in harm's way.

Our elected officials need to step forward and vocally lead on this issue.

Opinion

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

Photo of the Week

Mr. and Mrs. Bunny helped enliven Historic Garden Week in Alexandria.

Your Views

Keep the current School Board election process

To the editor:
Alexandria City School Board members have been discussing possible changes to their election process and all residents should be asking questions.

One change would reduce the number of board members. How does this benefit the stakeholders? How are fewer representatives going to represent our more than 16,000 school population that is constantly growing?

Another proposal is staggering the terms of school board members and increasing their length of terms on the board. Again, how does this benefit the stakeholders? This will keep ineffective board members in office longer.

With our only city high school being only partially accredited, do we need to extend anyone's term at this time? Run for re-election if you think your constituents are happy with you staying on board.

And the biggest concern is changing the School Board from a district voting system to an at-large voting system. This would ensure that voices and schools and parents from the West End of Alexandria would never be heard. If we had an at-large voting system for School Board, as we do for City Council, we would most likely have no representatives from the West End.

We would have no Abdel Elnoubi speaking up for his constituents and going on the record saying that "weapons screening pilot – can't get it soon enough," while other board members are silent. At-large voting has been deemed illegal by a federal court in Virginia Beach, because it dilutes the voting power of the minority.

I urge all residents to contact the School Board and complete the survey opposing any changes to the current School Board election procedures. Tell our current School Board if they want to "ensure retention of institutional knowledge as a continuing body," then they better stop sending out surveys and get to work on educating all students and providing safe learning spaces for all students and staff.

-Molly Kaiman, ACPS parent
A trustworthy process

To the editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to city staff – particularly Jesse Maines, Camille Liebitzky and City Manager Jim Parajon – for their fair-minded community engagement process regarding Strawberry Run’s stream restoration. Not as well-known as Taylor Run’s effort, Strawberry took a “just the facts, ma’am” approach.

During this process we learned from staff. For example, Liebitzky explained the best way to slow the stream’s erosive velocity is by using “stepped” efforts like a series of log jams. Additionally, staff gained our respect by considering wood – rather than boulders – for a more ecological mitigation of Strawberry’s erosion which affects the Chesapeake Bay.

The staff conducted a serious community engagement process by not limiting citizen statements to one to two minutes, without offering a reply; rather, they engaged us in respectful back-and-forth discussions on the community’s concerns. Consequently, regardless of the final staff recommendations, it will do so with the confidence of many involved that their proposals were sincerely discussed and considered.

I’d therefore like to add balance to Mayor Justin Wilson’s recent council comments about a “happenstance” decision to return $3 million dollars of state grants to the Commonwealth. His concern was that “we’re going to be coming back to them [Alexandria’s citizens] to seek to deal with this, not just for $3 million dollars, but potentially many, many millions more.”

The deadline to use the grants – $800,000 for Strawberry; $2.2 million for Taylor – did run out during the long engagement process. However, for Strawberry, it resulted in saving the taxpayers many times the $800,000 precisely because the city took time to engage the community.

After city staff agreed to measure the amount of Strawberry’s pollutants flowing into Chesapeake Bay, it concluded that its plan to spend $1.6 million – the $800,000 state grant and $800,000 from Alexandria – would buy three-fourths fewer pollution credits than it had estimated by using Natural Channel Design. Staff judiciously identified other means to achieve the mandated pollution credits.

The staff earlier agreed to also re-examine the only NCD done by the city – in 2010, in Strawberry – and informed council it had failed. Staff located a 2015 city presentation explaining how the NCD had begun failing after one month and completely so within three years. It raised the question: would another Strawberry NCD avoid the same fate, risking $1.6 million taxpayer dollars?

During the reexamination, staff assessed a head cut, or small waterfall, the community warned was in the southern portion of Strawberry. The staff informed council, “This head cut must be stopped from advancing upstream ... and [eroding away] whatever is placed there” – a definite savings of $1.6 million.

The community also pointed out NCD’s engineering design was based on a stream velocity of 9 feet per second from a 100-year storm, but that a city study calculated Strawberry’s velocity was 22 feet per second for a 10-year storm where NCD’s construction would begin – potentially jeopardizing the taxpayers’ $1.6 million investment.

Subsequently, staff decided to forgo NCD and pursue a minimal intervention approach for Strawberry, estimating its two alternatives are a few hundred thousand dollars – not “many millions” – more than NCD’s original $1.6 million cost. Inflation is largely responsible for the additional cost, but the presentations, particularly using wood, showed significant ways to reduce that price for taxpayers.

But I write most to underscore the staff’s professionalism, start-

City Hall Watch with Bill Rossello

What’s the rush?

BY BILL ROSSELLO

At a recent city meeting, a fellow civic advocate was approached by a long-time city employee. It was an unusual conversation between someone charged with enforcing city policies and someone who often is working on the other side on behalf of uninsured residents.

The employee admitted that city staff were exhausted from both the volume of initiatives and the City Council’s schedule for enacting them. While a remarkably candid statement, it is not all that surprising given all the new transformational initiatives under way.

Perhaps most prominent among them is City Council’s “Zoning for Housing” initiative. There is no successful precedent anywhere in the United States for what the mayor has called “the most ambitious housing reform in our history.”

Few in the city seem to like the idea except local developers and a few activists. Yet, it’s full speed ahead on overhauling the entire city zoning code. That will include raising the limitations on building height across the city and allowing for construction of apartment buildings in single-family neighborhoods. Council plans to vote on the code changes by December, right around the holidays.

Then there is “Duke Street in Motion,” a cute name for the initiative that will fundamentally transform the city’s major east-west corridor. Staff have been distracted for the past year on this seemingly unneeded $87-million project. It aims to reduce peak-hour bus travel time by several minutes for some 1,500 regular riders.

The city’s preferred design calls for bus lanes down the center of Duke Street, reducing left-hand turn options and increasing travel time for tens of thousands of drivers. It’s a huge project that will disrupt the corridor seemingly to accommodate much denser development. The vote is scheduled for the week of July 4.

Just behind that will come the transformation of the Duke Street small area plans. The city intends to allow developers to build much taller apartment buildings to replace older commercial and residential properties. Meanwhile, the city is driving changes to the Beauregard small area plan, promising a similar transformation to that corridor.

There’s even more. The city’s mortgage banking and real estate company – er, housing department – is driving a number of new projects, including the 474-unit affordable housing complex at West Glebe Road and Mt. Vernon Avenue. And then there’s the massive Landmark redevelopment project, the Virginia Tech campus and several major Old Town development projects. Also in Old Town, there’s the city-supported effort to reprise the Business Improvement District concept that was soundly rejected by the community just a few years ago.

All of this is happening during yet another busy budget season. No wonder city staff are feeling stressed. While empathy for them may be in order, the question is this: If they can’t keep up with council’s transformation of the city, how can civic leaders, much less residents? It’s a lot to digest all at once and it doesn’t help that City Council schedules votes on some of the most controversial issues around holiday weeks.

So, what’s the rush?

Burning out staff while driving an ever-increasing credibility gap with residents does not seem to be a recipe for success. We know there’s an election next year, but major policy initiatives have a greater potential for success when residents have sufficient time to digest them and participate meaningfully in the process. Reflecting the growing city-wide unease with the accelerated pace of change, the Del Ray Civic Association voted last week to ask City Council to delay its Zoning for Housing decisions.

Hey, city hall: For everyone’s sake, slow down!

The writer is a civic advocate, management consultant and longtime Alexandria resident.
The lynching of Joseph McCoy

On a mild April evening in 1897, Joseph McCoy, 18, a native Black Alexandrian, was brought to the station house on N. Fairfax Street by a police officer who did not tell McCoy he was under arrest until he had him in custody.

Unbeknown to McCoy, his white employer Richard Lacy had accused him of sexually assaulting his eight-year-old daughter. News of the arrest and rumors of the reason for it ignited a racist fury that brought more than 150 men to the police station just after 11 p.m. Using a battering ram lifted from a nearby lumber yard, they broke through the doors eager to find McCoy. Lacy was said to be among them. The police managed to repel the lynching mob and secure the entrance with the same timber used to break in.

Around 12:15 a.m., the police sent word of the attempted lynching to Mayor Luther Thompson. It was within Thompson’s power to summon the largest military company in the state to defend the rule of law. He also could have moved McCoy to a new location or added more police to protect him. Instead, the mayor went back to bed.

At 1 a.m., by all accounts, at least 500 people were outside the station house. Within the throngs were leading citizens and members of the militia. The white mob surged forward, hacking at the building with axes, sledges, crow bars and picks. They dragged McCoy into the street where he begged for his life. They forcibly marched him to the intersection of Cameron and Lee Streets and hanged him on the southeast corner. They beat him with fists, clubs and cobblestones. They shot him three times.

Although the Commonwealth Attorney Leonard Marbury was in the building when McCoy was abducted by the lynching mob, he did not identify the perpetrators. Instead of pursuing justice, he participated with the mayor, the police and other officials in a cover-up to protect the lynchers.

No one was ever held accountable for McCoy’s death or for the days of triumphalism and nights of terror that followed.

Please join the Alexandria Community Remembrance Project as we hold the past accountable by recognizing and remembering what happened to Joseph McCoy in April 1897 with a conversation about restorative, or transformational justice with Bilqis Wilkerson, an expert in racial reconciliation, at the Charles Houston Recreation Center Gymnasium at 11 a.m. on Saturday; and then at 2 p.m. on Sunday on Fairfax Street, outside city hall, for a wreath-laying ceremony in honor of Joseph McCoy. For more information about the Alexandria Community Remembrance Project, please visit Alexandria va.gov/historic.

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

Weekly Poll

Last Week
This week is opening day for Alexandria Little League. Has your family participated in baseball or other spring sports?
39% My child currently or previously played a different spring sport.
28% I don’t like sports.
22% My child currently plays Little League.
11% My child used to play Little League.

This Week
Have you or someone you know been a victim of crime in Alexandria?
A) Yes, I’ve personally been a victim of crime in Alexandria.
B) Someone I know has been a victim of crime in Alexandria.
C) No, but I fear I will be a victim of crime in Alexandria.
D) No and I do not worry about crime in Alexandria.

Take the poll at alextimes.com
Weekly Words

DEATH NOTICES

MICHAEL CASSIDY (75), of Alexandria, April 8, 2023

PAULETTE KORNS (76), of Alexandria, April 7, 2023

JOAN NEUSES (90), of Alexandria, April 3, 2023

HAROLD NOVICK (80), of Alexandria, April 14, 2023

NEXT-LEVEL THINKING by Rich Katz and Jeff Chen, edited by Jeff Chen

ACROSS
1 Broadcaster of the 2022 Earthshot Prize awards
4 "___ girl!"
8 ___ Moines
11 Warhead carrier (Abbr.)
15 A peeling place?
18 Of lower quality
20 Mork's home planet
21 "Gladiator" venue
23 *Figure eights?
26 Kvetches and moans
27 Grassy Spanish plain
28 Botox target
29 It might go off with a bang (Abbr.)
30 *Grand old times?
33 "OMG, stop already!"
35 Sounds of satiation
37 Fashionable
38 Imp's year-end comeuppance
39 *Perfect score in Vegas?
43 *Woman with a six-pack?
47 ___ studies (discipline championed by Du Bois)
48 To the ___ degree
51 December decor, for some
52 *Fiver, famously?
57 Canadian brew
59 Like some old houses
63 "Famous" cookie producer
65 Bengals, on scoreboards
67 End of a college's address
69 Fabric that might make you look FA-BU-LOUS!
70 Punchline to the "Interrupting Cow" knock-knock joke
71 *A penny for your thoughts?
73 Lament
79 Fall for, in a way
81 Ref, named for a British university
83 "Our God Is Marching On" orator (Abbr.)
85 Some tea and juice blends
86 Goads into bungee jumping, say
88 Jumping, say
90 *Eleventh hour happening
92 ___ Paolo, Brazil
93 Ceramic worker
94 Jumping, say
98 Like some uphill climbs
99 Like some uphill climbs
100 Like some uphill climbs
101 Letter preceding Q
102 Former Labor Secretary Robert
103 Ceramic worker
104 Ceramic worker
106 End of a college's address
107 Producer of shear fabric?
108 *Four corners monument?
109 Fall for, in a way
110 Ref, named for a British university
111 Ref, named for a British university
112 Like some uphill climbs
113 *Caught you!*
114 *Double-header?
117 Whopper, e.g.
118 Certain additional partygoers ... and a hint to the adjustments needed

DOWN
1 Dell offerings (Abbr.)
2 Opaque brew
3 So
4 Big brand in appliances
5 Ceramic worker
6 Actress Thompson of "Creed III"
7 Sum to
8 People making delivery orders?
9 Stay
10 Lowdown, in slang
11 Like the Arctic Ocean
12 Shellfish often cooked into fritters
13 Spout
14 Silent types?
15 Takes care of business
16 "Good Will Hunting" breakfast times (Abbr.)
17 Avatars for some
18 Nintendo accessories
19 A penny for your thoughts?
20 Federal loan agcy.
21 *A penny for your thoughts?
22 Federal loan agcy.
23 *Figure eights?
24 Sound often made by flutes
25 Labors
26 Andy who wrote "Project Hail Mary"
27 D.C. pro
28 "Shaq" airer
29 Celebrity gossip source
30 Celebrity gossip source
31 Brand for lighting and writing
32 ___ Alpha
33 ___ de la Cite
34 Certain vowel sounds
35 Sounds of satiation
36 Big name in high fashion
37 Fashionable
38 Imp's year-end comeuppance
39 *Perfect score in Vegas?
40 Be a blue-collar worker?
41 Dump
42 Play part ... or play a part
43 Who says?
44 Subway option
45 Andy who wrote "Project Hail Mary"
46 D.C. pro
47 Celebrity gossip source
48 "Shaq" airer
49 Celebrity gossip source
50 "Shaq" airer
51 Sheet music
52 People making delivery orders?
53 Perilous place
54 Resonates with
55 Celebrity gossip source
56 Take a mulligan
57 Mild-mannered folks, metaphorically
58 ___ X, in math
59 "In yo' face!"
60 ___ Alpha
61 ___ Alpha
62 ___ Alpha
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119 ___ Alpha
120 ___ Alpha

Solutions from last week

MICHAEL CASSIDY (75), of Alexandria, April 8, 2023

PAULETTE KORNS (76), of Alexandria, April 7, 2023

JOAN NEUSES (90), of Alexandria, April 3, 2023

HAROLD NOVICK (80), of Alexandria, April 14, 2023
Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, May 13, 2023, 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

**CASE BAR#2023-00054 and BAR#2023-00069**

Public Hearing and consideration of an appeal of the Board of Architectural Review’s March 2, 2023 decision to approve a Permit to Demolish & Encapsulate and a Certificate of Appropriateness at 114 N Payne Street, Old and Historic Alexandria District. Applicant: Larry and Sue Barkell Appellant: Stephen Milone on behalf of petitioners

**ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL MAY 2023**

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.alexandriavi.gov/dockets.

**ALEXANDRIA PLANNING COMMISSION TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 7:00 PM, CITY HALL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER 301 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314**

ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL. SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023 9:30 AM, CITY HALL CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER 301 KING STREET ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL Public Hearing and the May 13, 2023 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):
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.


City Council
(Public Hearing Webinar):

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_chZSVm69xenjI9d0Z2T8jw Zoom Audio Conference: Dial in: 301-715-8592 Webinar ID: 986 1121 8896 Password: 649531

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.

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

For reasonable disability accommodation for the Planning Commission Hearing, contact Lisa Chase at lisa.chase@alexandriavi.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.

In accordance with Virginia State Code Section 15.2-2006, the following is the second publication of notice of a request for a Vacation of public right-of-way. The item described below was previously advertised on April 13, 2023 in the “Classified Legal Ad” section of the Alexandria Times:

**Vacation #2023-00003**

5165 and 5173 Seminary Road, 5118 and 5129 Fairbanks Avenue, 2641, 2648, and 2658 Foster Avenue – Upland Park Foster Avenue Public Hearing and consideration of a request to vacate a portion of public right of way abutting multiple addresses in order to construct improvements shown pursuant to approved Development Special Use Permit #2019-00017; zoned: CDD #21/Coordinated Development District #21 (Beau regards). Applicant: Alexandria Development Associates, LLC, represented by Kenneth W. Wire, attorney

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

**Discussion Item: Text Amendment to Article IX of the Zoning Ordinance regarding regulations for signs.**

Staff: City of Alexandria, Department of Planning & Zoning

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Alexandria City School Board will hold a public hearing on School Board Staggered Election Terms during the School Board Meeting on April 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the School Board Meeting Room located at 1340 Maryland Avenue.
Braddock Place in Alexandria.

Public comments regarding School Board staggered election terms may be submitted in the following ways:

- Sign up to speak or submit written comments for the April 20 public hearing at https://acpsweb.wufoo.com/forms/p62avm1g5byjy/
- Email comments to boardclerk@acps.k12.va.us
- U.S. Mail: Clerk of the Board Alexandria City School Board 1340. Braddock Place, Suite 610 Alexandria, VA 22314

Only comments related to the topic of School Board Staggered Election Terms will be heard at the public hearing. Requests to speak or to submit written comments must be submitted by Noon on April 19, 2023.

For more information, please contact the Clerk of the Board at 703-619-8316.

PRACTICE CLOSURE

ACCESS NEUROLOGY
CONSULTANTS, the medical practice of DAVID ALWAY MD and JASWINDE KHOSLA MD is closing effective May 31st, 2023. Contact the office (phone: 703-751-3500 or via mail 4660 Kenmore Ave, Suite 419, Alexandria, VA 22304) if you would like to make arrangements to obtain your medical records. After the closing date, if you need to contact us about your records, then please do so through our website at ACCESSNEUROLOGY.NET.

TWO-BEDROOM
WAITLIST NOW OPEN

Spacious Subsidized 2-Bedroom Apts. now accepting applications. Conveniently located near Metro, walking distance to downtown, shops and restaurants. Applicants can apply M-F from 9am-4pm at 1301 7th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001, or call 202-797-7007 for more information.

Classifieds

POTOMAC WINDOW CLEANING

Residential window cleaning inside 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.

CHEVY CHASE FLOOR WAXING SERVICE

Wood floor polishing, buffing, waxing, old floor specialists. Servicing local area 30 years. Licensed, bonded & insured (301) 656-1810 We do not repair damaged floors

CUSTOM STORAGE SHEDS

Keith's custom built storage sheds built to your specifications. No permit required anything under 15 x 20 10 ft. tall. Rough to finish carpentry and painting. 703-863-7567.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Now Offering Financing! Ronnie Jenkins II Windows, Siding, Roofing and Gutters! FREE Estimates! Call 804-739-8207 for More Details! American Made Products!

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-614-6667

GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty ($695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-636-0738

The Generac PWReel, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. $0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-833-688-1378

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - $500 Discount + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders). Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-902-4611


The bathroom of your dreams for as little as $149/month! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now and SAVE 15%! Call Today! 1-844-945-1631


Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-608-4974


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APRIL 21, 22 & 23
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4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly, VA 20151
FRI: 3-8 | SAT: 9-5 | SUN: 10-5
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$1 Off One Adult Admission

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SENIORS’ REAL ESTATE TALK & SHRED SERIES:

The Seven Types of Senior Communities

FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH | BEATLEY LIBRARY

12 PM - 3 PM: TIME TO SHRED!

Bring your floppy discs, old credit cards, and documents for safe and secure shredding. (You can leave in the staples and paperclips!)

1 PM: DISCUSSION – “THE 7 TYPES OF SENIOR COMMUNITIES”

Join us with At Home in Alexandria and Crouch Realty Group. Learn about “Senior Villages” all the way through Continuing Care/Life Plan Communities! Come with questions!

Peter Crouch & Katie Crouch

Peter 703.244.4024 | Katie 703.447.1345 | CrouchRealtyGroup.com
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“National Outstanding Service Award” Recipient, NAR Seniors Council