Taylor Run project approved

City Council unanimously approved a scaled-down restoration plan for Taylor Run, with an estimated cost of $2 million, during its legislative meeting Tuesday night.

The focus will be on repairing a sanitary sewer line that runs through the stream and surrounding wetlands, while minimizing disruption to the existing ecosystem.

The project has a multiyear, complicated and controversial history that dates back to 2019, when the Virginia

Policing fentanyl

Criminal justice efforts extend beyond Alexandria’s borders

Part 2 in a series

The opioid crisis continues to plague the City of Alexandria and fentanyl is the main current culprit. Illicit distribution has led to more overdoses not just here, but all over the Commonwealth and U.S. While there are efforts across jurisdictions to educate the public and cross-agency resources for treatment, police have not been able to stop the supply chain or sales of fentanyl.

Marcel Bassett, the Alexandria Police Department’s public information officer, said cross-jurisdictional efforts are ongoing.

“We work closely with our city partners, including the Department of Community and Human Services and other organizations, with a heavy focus on educating the community on the dangers of this drug.

Finalists emerge for ACHS principal

Search followed resignation of Peter Balas in early May

BY BRIANNE MCCONNELL

The search for a new executive principal at Alexandria City High School is down to two finalists, one a current employee and one from outside Alexandria.

Alexandria City Public Schools initiated the search following the announcement by Peter Balas on May 11 that he was leaving ACHS to take the helm of Wakefield High School in Arlington.

The first candidate, Alexander Duncan III, is currently the campus administrator at ACHS’ Minnie Howard campus. He’s been in that role since 2021. The second candidate, Marcie Rice, Ed.D., is currently the principal at Meadowbrook High School in Chesterfield, Virginia.

On Monday, ACPS held a webinar that introduced the two candidates to the ACPS community and was open to all interested city residents. Both candidates were given the chance to answer questions from parents, staff and community stakeholders during the Zoom meeting.
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**Correction:** In the June 8 Alexandria Times, the story “Encore! Encore!” incorrectly attributed a correction to the June 8 Alexandria Times, the story “Encore! Encore!” incorrectly attributed a correction to the June 8 Alexandria Times, the story “Encore! Encore!” incorrectly attributed a correction to the June 8 Alexandria Times, the story “Encore! Encore!” incorrectly attributed a correction to the June 8 Alexandria Times, the story “Encore! Encore!” incorrectly attributed a correction to the June 8 Alexandria Times, the story “Encore! Encore!” incorrectly attributed. The Times regrets the error.

Department of Environmental Quality awarded the city two grants from the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund for up to $2,255,000 for Taylor Run and $800,000 for Alexandria’s Strawberry Run, as part of efforts to clean pollutants from the Chesapeake Bay.

The controversy began in early 2020, when residents learned that the grant had been based on flawed methodology – estimating the levels of pollutants in the streams’ soil rather than actual on-site testing – and that Natural Channel Design was the chosen restoration method.

The projects were paused in 2021 and scientists and activists worked with Jesse Maines, Alexandria’s division chief for stormwater management, and other city staff to develop the scaled-down proposal that was approved Tuesday night.

The VDEQ grants for both Taylor Run and Strawberry Run expired in April, meaning that funds for the Taylor Run restoration will come from city coffers, with $1.5 million of the funds already budgeted for the project. The staff presentation on Tuesday night said the remaining $500,000 for Taylor run will come from use of sanitary funds.

Staff also presented a plan for a scaled-back restoration of Strawberry Run on Tuesday night. After extensive pushback from Mayor Justin Wilson, the Strawberry Run proposal was tabled, meaning a potential restoration of Strawberry Run can be considered at a later date.

Alexandria Times wins three SPJ awards

Alexandria Times columnist Rob Whittle won first place in the Weekly Newspaper Column category in the annual Society of Professional Journalists Date-line Awards contest. Times freelance writer Andrew Dunbar won first place for his musical review of Kendrick Lamar’s ‘Mr. Morale’ in the Weekly Newspaper Commentary & Criticism category, while Times Publisher Denise Dunbar won first place in the Weekly Newspaper Editorial/Opinion Writing category. The awards for excellence in local journalism were presented at the annual dinner and meeting of the SPJ D.C. Pro Chapter on Tuesday night.

ROB WHITTLE

**ADOPTABLE PET OF THE WEEK**

Meet Gunther!

Not your typical-looking retriever, Gunther is quite a talented player in the game of Fetch just the same. A 3-year-old, beautiful tricolored mix, Gunther is very social, enjoying company of people and other pets alike. Gunther is good on a leash, and his medium size makes him an easy companion. His sweet disposition is only one of Gunther’s assets, stop by soon for a greeting.

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**Adopt an Animal**

AlexandriaAnimals.org/Adopt-By-Appointment
703-684-1435
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Meet Gunther!
ACPS summer meal distribution

Alexandria City Public Schools will provide meals to children under the age of 18 for free Monday through Thursday beginning June 26 through July 20. There will be no meal distribution on July 4. For more information on distribution sites and times, visit acps.k12.va.us/summermeals.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

City Attorney announces retirement

According to a release from the City of Alexandria, City Attorney Joanna C. Anderson announced her plan to retire by the end of 2023 during the City Council at their legislative meeting on Tuesday.

“I want to thank the current and former Mayors, Members of City Council, City Managers and City staff who I have had the honor and privilege to work with, and for, during my years with the City. This work has been the highlight of my career and I am thankful for the opportunity I have had to do great work, with great people, for a great organization. I am leaving with both a sense of accomplishment and a sense of excitement for this next stage of my life,” Anderson said.

Joanna C. Anderson was unanimously appointed by the City Council as City Attorney on Oct. 23, 2018. Her replacement will be determined by City Council and a process and timeline will be released in the following weeks. Anderson will remain until her successor is announced.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

Pitch perfect performance

The Alexandria Harmonizers were recognized at City Council’s meeting on Tuesday. The group is celebrating their 75th year and received a mayoral proclamation. The Harmonizers and their new ensemble, Metro Voices, performed a song for city council and then continued the celebration in Market Square with more signing. The group recently announced a scholarship will help local qualified singers with any costs associated with membership such as wardrobe and travel expenses. For more information, visit harmonizers.org.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

Residents line up to sample fare at the 14th annual Taste of Del Ray on June 4 at the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center field.

On June 4, Spice Kraft Indian Bistro won the top prize at the sold out annual Taste of Del Ray at 2701 Commonwealth Ave.

Congratulations to the Commonwealth Academy Class of 2023 — a class that embodies excellence, community, service, and resilience. Casey, Cameron, Paul, and Billy, you have left an indelible impression on our entire community. May the life-changing learning you experienced at Commonwealth Academy continue to propel you to new heights. Go forth and continue to thrive!
We Are Proud to Welcome

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Browse and purchase Original Art, Posters and Cards by Local Artists

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5pm-7pm

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Open Sat and Sun | 1 - 3 p.m.
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DaveL.Smith@cbmove.com

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400 Madison Street, Alexandria, 22314
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Lib Willey 703.362.7206
Lib.Willey@cbmove.com

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Open Sat and Sun | 1 - 3 p.m.
$499,600 | 2 Beds | 1.5 Baths
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DaveL.Smith@cbmove.com

Alexandria Office 310 King Street | Alexandria, VA 22314 | 703.518.8300
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We have federal partners and coordinate with local jurisdictions to combat this nationwide issue," Bassett said.

APD wants the community to know that this drug is dangerous and often deadly – and that they are doing their best to catch and prosecute dealers. From January through the end of last month, there were 12 incidents in which someone was charged with narcotics distribution and possible intent to distribute other drugs, multiple drugs and/or synthetic drugs in Alexandria.

Bassett said making a fentanyl-specific arrest is difficult and complicated.

"Fentanyl is everywhere, and unfortunately, there is no way to separate or declare a fentanyl arrest from other drug arrests unless the substance has been drug tested by a lab," Bassett said. "One of the dangers of fentanyl is that it can be packaged and masked to look like legal prescription narcotics or be added to other drugs like marijuana."

Last month regional law enforcement scored a significant success when a major fentanyl distributor was sentenced. In a May 10 press release from the Eastern District of Virginia U.S. Attorney’s Office, headlines announced “Alexandria Man Sentenced for Fatal Fentanyl Trafficking Conspiracy.”

Reza Hashemi, 34, was sentenced to 15 years in prison on charges of conspiracy to distribute 400 or more grams of fentanyl which resulted in the death of a young woman on May 28, 2021.

“Hashemi was identified following the October 24, 2020, overdose death of a 22-year-old male, J.V., in Vienna. Hashemi admitted to distributing pressed counterfeit pills containing fentanyl to J.V. During the course of the investigation into J.V.’s death, law enforcement approached Hashemi and informed him of the death, but he did not agree to speak with them. Instead, Hashemi continued to distribute fentanyl.

On May 28, 2021, in Alexandria, Hashemi distributed an approximate 1-gram quantity of powder fentanyl to J.F., which caused J.F.’s death by accidental fentanyl poisoning. J.F. was 26 years old at the time.


Assistant U.S. Attorneys Heather Call and Bibeane Metsch prosecuted the case.

A copy of this press release is located on the website of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Virginia. Related court documents and information are located on the website of the District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia or on PACER by searching for Case No. 1:23-cr-1.
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ALX Community rooftop terrace - 277 S Washington St.

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One of the dangers of fentanyl is that it can be packaged and masked to look like legal prescription narcotics or be added to other drugs like marijuana.”

– Marcel Bassett, APD public information officer

Fentanyl, a powerful synthetic opioid, can be extremely dangerous and deadly when misused. In the case of J.V., law enforcement approached Hashmi and informed him of the death, but he did not agree to speak with them. Instead, Hashemi continued to distribute fentanyl.

This case highlights the reality that the distribution is wide-reaching across the region. Prosecuting these crimes is complex as many jurisdictions get involved due to the nature of porous borders. In Virginia, law enforcement agencies are independent of the prosecutor’s office in most drug cases. Police will investigate locally and bring charges on their own without working with the prosecutor. Then, once the arrests are made, the prosecutor gets involved and contacts the detective to get evidence, discuss the case and decide the next appropriate steps.

Factors such as prior criminal records, the quantity of alleged drugs in possession, or an associated ill effect like an overdose, lead to further collaboration with the police and other narcotics units in the region. If there is a multi-jurisdictional case with fentanyl charges, communications between agencies will determine if federal involvement and outreach to the U.S. Attorney’s office might be required.

“If a federal office is appropriate to prosecute, more resources can be allocated to addressing all the criminal activity in their case. We are definitely partners and definitely speaking with our federal counterparts to combat the fentanyl crisis,” Commonwealth’s Attorney Bryan Porter explained.

To highlight the increasing severity of fentanyl, there are ongoing efforts to update laws within the criminal code.

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Congratulations Grace Graduates

We are extremely proud of the fifth grade graduating class of 2023! These bright students will attend the following schools in the fall:

Burgundy Farm Country Day School • Francis C. Hammond Middle School
Holton-Arms School • Holy Trinity School
Immanuel Lutheran School • St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School

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in Virginia. Porter outlined the changes in Virginia law.

“The fentanyl crisis is a real and present public health and criminal justice issue right now. It is a huge issue not contained to the city but to the state and the nation,” Porter said.

Virginia’s General Assembly passed a bill during the 2023 session that increases the penalty for selling or distributing fentanyl.

“The punishment for any person who knowingly sells, gives, or distributes at least 2 mg of fentanyl to another person without the knowledge of the receiver shall be guilty of attempted murder in the Second Degree,” the bill reads. “Any substance containing a detectable amount of fentanyl would be classified as a weapon of terrorism, and any person who intentionally manufactures or distributes it would be guilty of a Class 4 felony, punishable by two to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to $100,000.”

Porter praised the changes, saying it will help him prosecute fentanyl cases.

“The Assembly understands this is a real issue facing Virginia and the way to combat that is to increase charges. The law is another tool in fighting the epidemic and the amendment to the law states that anyone who distributes fentanyl is guilty of a terrorism offense,” Porter said.

Porter added that the bill also increases penalties if weapons are also used in dealing fentanyl.

“Firearms in fentanyl trafficking leads to a significant sentence. Firearm aggravate the charge,” he said.

Tracing the source of fentanyl is extremely difficult for law enforcement, Porter said.

“Very little fentanyl is manufactured in Virginia and probably most of it is from outside of the U.S. A complex network takes the fentanyl from the lab and distributes it across the county, making it challenging to get all the way back to the source,” Porter said.

Attorney General Jason Miyares successfully advocated to designate fentanyl as a weapon of terrorism in HB 1682/SB 1188. Miyares took his fight against fentanyl to the national level, calling on the U.S. Senate to ensure that all fentanyl analogs are classified as a federal substance for harsher charges. Miyares co-wrote a coalition letter urging U.S. Senate leadership to pass the HALT Fentanyl Act.

This legislation would permanently schedule all current

FENTANYL

in Virginia. From 2007-2022, the number of fatal fentanyl overdoses has sharply increased.

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Total number of fatal fentanyl overdoses by quarter and year of death (2007-2022).
CONGRATULATIONS
Alexandria City High School Class of 2023!

Alexandria City High School graduates have diverse postsecondary plans. We wish them luck in their future endeavors!

As of June 5, Alexandria City High School graduates are heading off to the following colleges and military institutions:

- Academy of Art University
- Alderson Broaddus University
- American University
- Anglo-American University
- Appalachian State University
- Berklee College of Music
- Boston College
- Bridgewater College
- Brigham Young University
- Brigham Young University-Idaho
- Brown University
- Bryn Mawr College
- California State University Maritime Academy
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Christopher Newport University
- Columbia University in the City of New York
- Columbus State University
- Concordia University
- Cornell University
- DePaul University
- Drexel University
- Duquesne University
- Durham University
- Eastern Mennonite University
- Elon University
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- Daytona Beach
- Emory University
- Empire Beauty School - Springfield
- Flagler College
- Florida Atlantic University
- Fordham University
- George Mason University
- Georgetown University
- Hamilton College
- Hampton University
- Hollins University
- Hood College
- Howard University
- Ithaca College
- J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
- James Madison University
- Johnson & Wales University
- Johnson & Wales University Charlotte Campus
- Longwood University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Loyola University Maryland
- Marist College
- Mary Baldwin University
- Maryland Institute College of Art
- Marymount University
- Michigan State University
- Middle Tennessee State University
- Middlebury College
- Millersville University of Pennsylvania
- Montgomery Community College
- Morgan State University
- New York University
- Norfolk State University
- North Dakota State University
- Northern Virginia Community College - Alexandria Campus
- Northern Virginia Community College - Medical Education Campus
- Nova School of Business & Economics
- Old Dominion University
- Penn State Harrisburg
- Plymouth State University
- Prairie View A&M University
- Radford University
- Radford University Carilion
- Rhode Island School of Design
- Roanoke College
- San Diego State University
- Savannah College of Art & Design
- Scripps College
- Spelman College
- St. Bonaventure University
- St. John's College
- Stevenson University
- Temple University
- Texas Christian University
- The American University of Paris
- The Citadel
- The College of Charleston
- The College of William & Mary
- The Fashion Institute of Technology
- The George Washington University
- The Georgia Institute of Technology
- The New School
- The Oberlin Conservatory of Music
- The Ohio State University
- The Pennsylvania State University
- The State University of New York at Purchase
- The United States Air Force Academy
- The United States Military Academy
- The United States Naval Academy
- The University at Albany, SUNY
- The University of California, Los Angeles
- The University of California, Santa Barbara
- The University of California, Santa Cruz
- The University of Colorado Boulder
- The University of Denver
- The University of Georgia
- The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- The University of Iowa
- The University of Leeds
- The University of Louisville
- The University of Lynchburg
- The University of Mary Washington
- The University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- The University of Maryland School of Nursing
- The University of Maryland, College Park
- The University of Miami
- The University of Mississippi
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- The University of Pittsburgh
- The University of Rochester
- The University of Richmond
- The University of San Diego
- The University of Tennessee-Knoxville
- The University of Texas at Austin
- The University of the District of Columbia
- The University of Utah
- The University of Vermont
- The University of Virginia
- The University of Virginia's College at Wise
- The University of Washington
- The University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Tricot University of Beauty Culture – Normal
- Tufts University
- Universal Technical Institute
- University College Dublin
- University of the Pacific
- Utah State University
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Virginia Military Institute
- Virginia State University
- Virginia Tech
- Virginia Union University
- Washington and Lee University
- West Virginia University
- West Virginia Wesleyan College
- Wheaton College
- William Paterson, University of New Jersey
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Xavier University of Louisiana
and future fentanyl analogs as Schedule I drugs. Analog or analogue drugs are chemically similar to other illegal or narcotics or substances, such as fentanyl, although not chemically identical. Miyares also sent a letter signed by 18 other state attorneys general demanding that fentanyl be declared a Weapon of Mass Destruction. This classification would allow the federal government to coordinate responses with multiple agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Defense and the Drug Enforcement Agency.

On June 1, headlines announced Miyares’ letter urging the U.S. Senate leadership to pass the HALT Fentanyl Act immediately. In the letter, Miyares underscores the need for immediate action in combating fentanyl crimes.

"The threat of fentanyl in all its forms cannot be overstated. We’ve already seen its devastating effect on families and communities in every corner of the Commonwealth, and it has the potential to be much worse. Congress must make every current and future fentanyl analogue a Schedule I drug, as soon as possible," the letter states.

Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody and the Miyares coalition were joined in support by Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, West Virginia and Wyoming in their petition to Senate leadership.

The Office of the Attorney General Miyares’ office also announced that it relaunched the Virginia Rules Program, a statewide school curriculum about good citizenship and updated it to cover the “One Pill Can Kill” initiative.

It was previously reported in the Times that Alexandria City High School teamed up with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Division Program and the Office of Student Support Teams on April 19 for a community event addressing rampant substance abuse. This workshop focused on the “One Pill Can Kill” information, with more than 400 people in attendance.

"The continued goal is to get the word out and give families and the community a forum to ask questions and to know what types of questions are important to ask," Alexandria City Public Schools Chief of Student Services and Equity Marcia Jackson, who oversees substance abuse prevention programs at ACPS, explained.

-MARCIA JACKSON

Similarly, Miyares led a 21-state coalition calling on President Joe Biden and Secretary of State Anthony Blinken to designate drug cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations under federal law to free up resources to confront this epidemic with the seriousness it deserves.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, both the Sinaloa Cartel and the CJNG are actively smuggling fentanyl over the border and into Virginia. Designating the cartels as Foreign Terrorist Organizations would provide state and federal law enforcement agencies increased powers to freeze cartel assets, deny entry to cartel members and allow prosecutors to pursue tougher punishments against those who provide material support to the cartels.

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– HALT Fentanyl Act
CONGRATULATIONS

Class of 2023! We are so proud of you!

Burgundy's Class of 2023 will attend the following high schools:

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burgundyfarm.org
ALEXANDRIA TIMES

Congratulates the Class of 2023!

Back Row L-R: Zackary Foster, Cooper Kalan, Christopher Duffield, Liz Joyner, Olivia Barr, Emma Jones, Sydney Hartman, Andreas Askjaer-Thomas, Henry Wegner, Charlie Konrad

Second Row L-R: Lia Noriega, Ellory Gray, Zoe Schlise, Eliza Spivey, Abby Stump, Londyn Tucker, Reagan Lady, Lucy Kidd, Sabrina Dunton, Wallie Komnik

Front Row L-R: Brenden Mahoney, Chloe Campbell, Kathryn Easton, Kaia Corens, Ambika Varma, Amirah Jackson, Maddy Campbell, Mary Caroline Ingols, Abigail Hailu, Bennett Goeas

Members of the Class of 2023 have been offered admission to and/or will be attending the following high schools:
Alexandria City High School STEM Academy, Asheville School (NC), Bishop Ireton High School, Bishop McNamara High School, Bishop O’Connell High School, The Calverton School, Commonwealth Academy, Edmund Burke School, Episcopal High School, The Field School, Flint Hill School, Gonzaga College High School, The Hotchkiss School (CT), The Howard Gardner School, McCallie School (TN), McLean High School, Middlesex School (MA), National Cathedral School, The Potomac School, St. John’s College High School, and St. Stephen’s & St. Agnes School

Alexandria Country Day School is a leading K-8, coed, independent school in the Del Ray community of Alexandria. We provide a challenging academic program; numerous arts and athletics offerings; a robust and integrated approach to social-emotional learning; a school-wide service learning program; and an innovative public speaking curriculum. To learn more, visit www.acdsnet.org or call 703-837-1303.

Photo courtesy of Mua Visual Media
“The Nacirema Society Requests the Honor of Your Presence at a Celebration of Their First One Hundred Years” transports the audience to the site of an important turning point in American history: Montgomery, Alabama. The year is 1964 and figures like Martin Luther King, Jr. are alluded to in the background, but the play centers on one family: the Dunbars. The family has a unique relationship with the civil rights movement. They are a pillar of the Nacirema Society, an association of high-class Black Montgomeryites. The traditionalist matriarch of the family, Grace Dubose Dunbar is played by Lisa Hill-Corley. Grace clashes with the progressive worldview of her granddaughter, the debutante for the Nacirema’s centennial ball, and the ever-changing world that threatens the society’s traditionalist ethics.

“Everyone was scrambling to get their maids to work on time,” Grace scoffed while discussing the Montgomery bus boycott.

Though the play first debuted at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in 2013, the production still feels relevant. Comments on the nature of progress, and the people who feel the world changing around them, feel particularly pointed in today’s climate. In addition to being relevant, the play is just a good time.

Director Elenore Tapscott keeps these themes in the foreground, while not losing the comedy in the process.

The show switches seamlessly between drama and romantic comedy and the cast absolutely keeps up. The chemistry among the cast made the show a pleasure to watch.

The rapport between Grace Dubose Dunbar and Catherine Adams Green, played by Lisa Hill-Corley and Robin...
NACIREMA

Lynn Reaves, respectively is impressive.

As the eldest living members of their respective families, Grace and Catherine represent an old guard of Nacirema Society. The actors play their conservatism and wit well. Hill-Corley particularly drives the plot forward with her impeccable timing, both comedic and dramatic.

Jacquel Tomlin, playing Alpha Campbell Jackson, also brings a forceful performance to the stage. Alpha acts as foil to the elder Dunbars. As an outsider to the wealthy world the Nacirema society represents, Alpha impressively disrupts the comfortable lives of the high class characters.

The majority of the play is set in the lavish Dunbar home. Leather clad books and portraits of family members make clear the high status of the Dunbars by the time the curtains rise.

Set designers Ken Brown and Peter Mumford, along with a large team of painters, decorators and constructors, create a world that looks shockingly lived in.

“Nacirema” is produced by Stacy Becker, Ira Forstater and with the assistance of Mariana Aza Renée. Aracely Ode serves as the assistant director. Costumes were designed by Jean Schlichting and Kit Sibley. Props were designed by Sabrina McAllister.

Additional cast members include Selina Tom-Johnson as Gracie Dunbar and Tiffany Morina, Kellie Santos-DeJesus as Marie Dunbar, Evin Howell as Bobby Green, Jummy Lash as Lillie Campbell Jackson, Kamilah Lawson as Janet Logan and Juanisha Brooks, and Barbara Cooper as Jessie Roberts.

Funny and topical, all should accept an invitation to attend the celebration of the first one hundred years of the Nacirema Society.

-akopp@alextimes.com

IF YOU’RE GOING

Where: Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe St., Alexandria, 22307
When: Through June 24
Tickets: Online at thelittletheatre.com or by calling the box office at 703-683-0496.

PHOTOS/MATT LIPTAK

(L to R): Selina Tom-Johnson and Lisa Hill-Corley.

(L to R): Kamilah Lawson and Kellie Santos-DeJesus.

(L to R): Jummy Lash, Jacquel Tomlin and Evin Howell.

(L to R): Jacquel Tomlin and Robin Lynn Reaves.
City of Alexandria presents Farmer’s Market Fresh for seniors

BY FOZIYA MOHAMMED

There are many reasons to support local agriculture and food producers. Reasons vary depending on one’s situation. We all have a choice. With any decision, even the smallest one, we are building the community we want to see and experience. Our choices and decisions matter. By supporting local food and farming, we solidify farming as an integral part of local history, landscape and culture. And the ultimate goal is to advance the health and wellbeing of individuals.

Virginia’s Farm Market Fresh, also known as the Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program, helps eligible older adults get fresh produce and supports local farmers and farmers’ markets.

The program offers coupons to need-based residents aged 60 or older. These coupons can be exchanged with authorized farmers for fresh, locally grown fruits, vegetables and fresh-cut herbs at approved farmers’ markets and roadside stands. Eligible participants receive $50 worth of coupons to use between June 1 and September 30.

### Who is eligible?

- If all of the statements shown below are true, then you may be eligible to participate.
  - You are 60 years of age or older.
  - You are a resident of a locality that participates in the program.
  - You do not live in the same household and you are not an immediate family member of the farmer who grows the produce.
  - You meet the program’s income requirements. You must certify your household income.

### How does it work?

- You must complete an application each year through your local Area Agency on Aging to determine if you are eligible to participate in the program.
- Participation is limited and applications are accepted on a first come-first served basis.
- Not all localities within the area served by your local Area Agency on Aging may be eligible to participate in the program.
- You will receive $50 worth of checks per eligible senior for that growing season.
  - Each check is worth $5 and may be used to purchase fresh, locally grown fruit, vegetables, and cut herbs from participating certified retail farmers market vendors. *Please note: change cannot be given if the entire $5 is not used.
  - Certified retail farmers market vendors will accept checks for fresh, locally grown fruit and vegetables in-season, depending on the produce items available.

### About the Farm Market Fresh Program

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**Items not eligible**

Items that you may NOT purchase with the SFMNP checks include:
- produce that is not locally grown such as oranges, bananas, and pineapples
- processed foods such as honey, maple syrup, cider, nuts, meat, bread, and cheese
- non-food items such as flowers and plants are NOT eligible
- dried herbs and teas

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**SENIORS**

Eligibility for Independent Living at Falcons Landing is open to any officer that has served, senior level federal employees GS14 and above, spouses or surviving spouses. If you are looking for short-term rehab, long-term care, assisted living or memory care, no military or government background is required.

**MORNING PT**

(no alarm necessary)

A Non-Profit Life Plan Community | Independent Senior Living | Potomac Falls, VA

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FALCONS LANDING

Common Bonds. Extraordinary Living.

Your years of service taught you the importance of physical fitness and keeping your body ready for action. At Falcons Landing this idea lives on, but we replaced the obstacle course with walking trails, drill sergeants with personal trainers and PT in the dirt with a state-of-the-art fitness center, including a Junior Olympic indoor swimming pool. You’ll still break a sweat, but now it will be with a smile on your face.

CALL 703-260-8504 TO SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!
Income eligibility was raised in 2023 from the current 150% of the federal poverty level to 185%. This has the potential to reach 70,000 more eligible individuals. This equates to a monthly income at or below $2,248 for one person or $3,040 for two people.

To foster healthy activities and encourage seniors to choose healthy produce we have introduced an engaging BINGO game that ignites their competitive spirits. The BINGO cards will be given out with vouchers. The rules and rewards for completing can be found on the back of the card.

Eligible older adults can complete an application at The Del Pepper Resource Center located at 4850 Mark Center Drive on the 9th floor every Wednesday. Please call 703-746-5999 for more information. Participation is limited and applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information on the Senior Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program, visit FarmMarketFresh.org.

The writer holds a bachelor’s of science in psychology and is currently serving as an intern for the City of Alexandria’s Division on Aging and Adult Services.
When you’re seeking ways to optimize your home, it’s easy to overlook the humble laundry room. But there are ways to improve this room, making it more functional and attractive. A beautifully appointed laundry room can help transform ordinary tasks into enjoyable routines.

If you’re ready to turn your laundry room into a space you love, consider these upgrades.

Shed some light
Is your laundry room too dark? Improving the room’s lighting will make daily chores easier to do while also making the room feel more bright and cheerful. You may need to add several recessed lights, especially if there’s no window. Cooler-colored LED lights can help you sort colors better.

Get organized
Increasing shelving or cupboard space is always smart for a laundry room upgrade. If you select open shelving, use matching baskets, boxes or trays to create a unified look. Make sure to include a large drying rack to hang delicates and other items that need to be air dried.

Consider adding a window if possible. Enlarge an existing window to boost natural light. Applying a fresh coat of light-colored or white paint can also make any space feel open and airy.

Working multi-purpose
Every laundry room needs a utility sink deep enough to soak soiled clothing. How about a sink you can also use to bathe your dog? To make it easier to use your new sink for washing your pet or anything else, choose a hand shower or faucet.

Elevate the situation
One way to truly elevate your laundry room is to put your machines up on pedestals.

Another idea is to combine the laundry area with the mudroom, which helps contain the mess coming in from outside. When designing your mudroom/laundry room, make sure to provide sturdy benches for sitting and removing boots.

Not just for kitchens anymore, installing an island in your laundry room is a great way to provide the perfect folding space. And an island is another opportunity to add more storage underneath. If you’re limited on space, consider using a rolling kitchen cart.

Unlocking hidden potential

Old Town charm
Classic Old Town living in historic townhome located a stone’s throw from Windmill Hill Park. Prime south east quadrant location less than 2 blocks to the waterfront, dog park and biking/walking trail. More than 2,500 finished square feet. Includes a 2-level addition with huge family room overlooking a deep, landscaped garden. The addition includes a sunny second level primary bedroom suite with newer bath and sitting/office area. Plenty of room for everyone with four bedrooms.

Great lifestyle opportunity. Enjoy gardening, strolling along the river and shopping at the Saturday Farmer’s Market. Dine in one of dozens of restaurants within a few blocks of home. Less than a mile to public transportation. Four miles to Amazon’s HQ, five miles to Reagan National Airport, 8 miles to Capitol Hill and 9 miles to the White House. World-class living in the shadow of the nation’s capital.
LITTLE MERMAID JR. 
Alexandria Children’s Theatre is casting 8 to 18 year old actors in the summer production of The Little Mermaid Jr. Award winning director Emily “EJ” Jonas and veteran musical theatre director Cathy Manley are heading the production. Rehearsals start June 20. Performances start July 20. Parent volunteers needed. Participation fee. 
Time: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. 
Location: 3700 Burgundy Road 
Information: actheatre.com

DOUGLASS REMEMBRANCE 
Join supporters and volunteers. Place purple ribbons. Attend a short ceremony in honor of those buried in Douglass Cemetery and the Juneteenth holiday. 
Time: 10 to 11:30 a.m. 
Location: 1421 Wilkes St. 
Information: alexandriava.gov/historic-sites/douglass-memorial-cemetery

COOL YOGA 
Cool Yoga celebrates its 10th summer. Free outdoor yoga. Suitable for all levels. Bring a mat. 
Time: 6:30 p.m. 
Location: 1900 Mt. Vernon Ave. 
Information: alextimes.com/events/cool-yoga-free-outdoor-yoga/

HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR 
Come to the Lyceum for a free and family friendly event. More than 20 representatives will be on hand to offer health and wellness resources, free health screenings and entertainment. Kids can enjoy yoga story time and a magician’s performance around 11 a.m. Reservations are not required. 
Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 
Location: 201 S. Washington St. 
Information: mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ogbl#inbox/ FMfcgzGsn8XfCpcmJTVBphFZnvCcglamK

SUNDAY SOUNDS 
Time: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 
Location: 7 Pioneer Mill Way 
Information: robinsonlanding.com/waterfrontevents

This option not only makes maintenance and cleaning a lot easier, but is also much gentler on your back. You’ll do a lot less leaning and bending over every laundry day.

Flaunt your style
There’s no reason your laundry room can’t also be pretty. Consider bright paint colors or whimsical wallpaper when you’re giving the room a makeover. Fun art accents and even a whiteboard or chalkboard for laundry instructions, or playful notes, may encourage more family members to join the laundry routine.

Even achieving a few of these upgrades can make a difference in how you use and perceive the humble laundry room. Following through with all of them might just make it your favorite room in the house.
BALAS
FROM | 1

Topics included school community, diversity, drugs in schools, safety and security, absenteeism and special education.

Both finalists are expected to interview with interim Superintendent Melanie Kay-Wyatt on Friday, and the School Board is expected to vote on Balas’ replacement at a special meeting on June 22.

The selection of the two finalists follows a month-long process that started with an ACPS online public survey that asked about the strengths of the school, the challenges facing the school and the qualities and attributes desired in a new leader.

The survey enlisted comments from about 100 people including parents, staff, students and community members.

The diverse student population, a strong school culture and dedicated and passionate staff were among the strengths noted in the survey. Respondents to the survey said some of the challenges facing ACCHS included size of student population, staff turnover and academic issues related to recovery from the pandemic.

Duncan joined ACPS in 2007 as an English teacher and has worked at the middle and high school level within the division.

“I think ultimately in order to lead a school successfully, you won’t be able to do it without a positive relationship with family and the community. I carry an inherent belief that it takes a village. It takes a village to raise children and make a school function and operate,” Duncan said during the Zoom meet and greet.

Rice has been principal of Meadowbrook with approximately 2,000 students since 2019. Rice has been an educator with Chesterfield County Schools since 2011, where she started as a science teacher.

HIRING TIMELINE

- May 16, 2023 – Post online survey for staff, parents, students and community members.
- May 22, 2023 – Online survey closes.
- May 24, 2023 – Post Leadership Profile based on survey results.
- May 26, 2023 – Application review to select five to seven candidates for first round panel interviews.
- June 6 & 7, 2023 – First Round Panel Interviews. The goal is to narrow the field of candidates for second round interviews.
- June 9, 2023 – Second Round Panel Interviews. The goal is to narrow the field to 2 finalists.
- June 12, 2023 – Finalists Meet and Greet Staff and PTA/Community. Two separate virtual webinars are held. The community webinar is posted online for three days.
- June 13-15, 2023 – Staff and parents/community provide feedback on finalists from virtual meet and greet sessions.
- June 16, 2023 – Individual interviews of two finalists with the Superintendent of Schools.
- June 22, 2023 – ACPS Special Called School Board Meeting.

“I believe there are a lot of great things that are currently occurring at ACCHS. I think it requires a lot to bring people together in a cohesive fashion to reach a goal. And I think I’ve been able to do just that in a variety of settings, especially in a setting where we are serving a diverse population of students,” Rice said during the Zoom meet and greet.

Last month, Balas shocked many in the community by announcing his departure.

“There’s a big hole now that ACPS has to fill next year,” Katy Matthews, ACHS Parent Teacher Student Association president, said.

The Alexandria City Public Schools Communications Office declined to make Balas available for comment for this story citing his departure as a “personnel matter.”

Principal since 2017, Balas is the leader for more than 4,500 students and 400 staff across four campuses at ACCHS, which has been beset with an array of issues during his six-year tenure in the top leadership spot at the school.

Balas had to shepherd the community through the COVID-19 pandemic, the renaming of the school, concerns over safety and violence, concerns over fentanyl and the killing of a student in May 2022 during school hours at Bradlee Shopping Center.

In addition to his role as executive principal, Balas has overseen the graduation task force that monitors completion statuses and drop-out interventions. He is credited with leading the school as it achieved its highest levels of student graduation and lowest levels of drop-out in the school’s history.

In a letter sent to the ACHS community on May 11 announcing his departure, Balas wrote that this change comes with a heavy heart and mixed emotions.

“I am honored to have had the last 22 years with the most amazing students, staff, families and community. I cannot even begin to thank you for all of your support and guidance,” Balas said in the letter.

Prior to his time at the high school, Balas served as principal at Mount Vernon Community School.

Balas is expected to stay with the school system through the end of the month before beginning his new position in Arlington on July 1. The new leader will come on board for the 2023-24 school year, during which the under-construction, expanded Minnie Howard campus is slated to open in 2024.

Maureen McNulty, who is a parent of two ACHS students, participated in the school survey last month.

“I want to have someone at the helm who is pretty defined and comfortable with the expanded capacity. We just don’t know very much what that’s going to look like. So this leader has to bring to the table all of those qualities to make that a successful opening,” McNulty said.

McNulty is hopeful whoever is named will be a bridge-builder.

“I think because of the pandemic and the reopening of school after the pandemic, I think we need someone who is going to rebuild a sense of community with parents. I do feel we’ve missed some of that. The parents need to be re-engaged,” McNulty said.

-bmcconnell@alextimes.com
Opinion

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

Photo of the Week

PHOTO/LEE MOODY


Your Views

Duke Street in Motion is ill-considered

To the editor:

Everyone should be able to see Alexandria’s “Duke Street In Motion” for what it really is: a looming train wreck. The question is whether any city leader has the courage to hit pause on this ill-considered project before the crash.

The plan ostensibly seeks to relieve congestion on Duke Street. Except the solution the city has arrived at is to take away one traffic lane and designate it for buses or bicycles. You got that right: not add a lane – take one away.

So, the most likely outcome is that congestion will get worse. If you need any evidence that this is a poor idea, you need only as far as the city’s earlier handiwork on Route 1 near Potomac Yard where they constructed a bus-only middle lane.

Except anyone who has ever spent a moment on that often-congested road will attest it remains heavily congested at rush hour, except now it features a deserted lane in the middle where normally empty buses roar by infrequently.

The proposed solution for Duke Street, however, is much worse: rather than construct a new lane, the city proposes to take one of the already congested traffic lanes away. The city obviously believes that if they can make Duke Street even more of a traffic hellscape than it already is, perhaps then more residents will be forced to take their now often empty Dash buses.

Here’s an idea: Sit outside Alexandria City Hall one evening when the City Council has a meeting. See how many council members arrive by DASH bus. My guess is that the number is approximately zero.

Why? It’s inconvenient. But it is not so inconvenient that city planners and leaders feel any compunction about forcing residents onto the buses.

You get the sense that because the city solicited and obtained a grant of $75 million for the project from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, they now feel compelled to spend it, even though for the vast majority of Alexandria residents, the project will make their lives harder, not easier.

To their credit, some are speaking up. Former DASH Director Sandy Modell pointed out the biggest problem on Duke is around Teleport. Everyone should be able to see Alexandria’s “Duke Street In Motion” for what it really is: a looming train wreck. The question is whether any city leader has the courage to hit pause on this ill-considered project before the crash.

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To their credit, some are speaking up. Former DASH Director Sandy Modell pointed out the biggest problem on Duke is around Telegraph Road, which this project does nothing to fix. Vice Mayor Amy Jackson has also expressed concerns. Will enough people be willing to stand up for the citizens of Alexandria before this concept goes too far? We will soon see.

-Thomas Spoehr, Alexandria

A template for success

City Council’s unanimous vote on Tuesday night to proceed with a scaled-down version of stream restoration at Taylor Run is a huge win for the City of Alexandria and all who live or visit here.

In a textbook collaborative effort between city staff, led by Stormwater Division Chief Jesse Maines, and local scientists and environmentalists, an excellent compromise plan was developed and adopted.

Instead of using flawed science to push through a grant-driven initiative that would have caused great destruction in one of Alexandria’s largest remaining forested tracts, common sense prevailed.

The initiative was paused in 2021, and true teamwork between the city and residents – not the usual check-the-box variety – took place. As a result, a main sewer line that runs through the stream and surrounding wetlands will be repaired in the least environmentally destructive manner possible.

This very model should now be used on the Duke Street in Motion proposal, which is slated for consideration at City Council’s next legislative session, on June 27.

Just as Alexandria is blessed to have so many scientists and environmentally aware residents, we are fortunate to have a leading transportation expert, Sandy Modell – who developed the city’s DASH bus system then ran it for decades – in Alexandria.

Modell is saying loudly, clearly and repeatedly that Duke Street in Motion should be paused while less destructive alternatives are considered.

Just like with Taylor Run, grant money doesn’t justify doing the wrong thing.

Modell, in a letter, “Duke Street in Motion needs re-evaluation,” that ran in the June 1 Alexandria Times, laid out four steps that should be tried first, before embarking on such a massive, expensive endeavor:

1) Construct a new Telegraph Road access point.

2) Implement Adaptive Traffic Signal Control and modernize the city’s traffic controllers to improve signal timing and traffic flow, which can move cars and buses more effectively and efficiently along the corridor.

3) Implement Transit Signal Priority on all DASH buses, already slated for completion by 2025. Transit signal priority allows for extended green or shortened red time to improve the on-time performance of buses and increase service reliability.

4) Implement a “Don’t Block the Box” initiative at Duke and Quaker and Duke and Roth to reduce the gridlock at these intersections. The city could accomplish this quickly and at the cost of some paint, signs and an information campaign.

If these initiatives are enacted while the new Inova campus is built at the old Landmark Mall site, we would have clear data to determine whether these changes netted the three minutes per bus ride that Duke Street in Motion is supposed to generate.

What if a $100 million project – which would undoubtedly have cost overruns well beyond that initial number – wasn’t necessary? That $87 million in grant money would have come out of paychecks of taxpayers somewhere. A tax dollar saved can either be returned to workers or spent on something more vital.

Just like with Taylor Run, a pause is needed for Duke Street in Motion.
Your Views

Press pause on ‘Duke in Motion’

To the editor:

Landmark Mall’s redevelopment will be an incredible addition to Duke Street’s west end. And the vast majority of visitors from around the region will arrive there by car – even if the proposed $100 million center running bus lanes realize their full potential of ushering buses along this segment of Duke Street two minutes faster than they move today. The city should better understand how these two major projects will affect one another by taking them in sequence rather than simultaneously.

It’s not clear to residents where the urgency is coming from. We appear to be rushing to erect permanent barricades down the middle of Duke Street, remove vehicle lanes, create a new network of destinations only accessible by u-turn and force thousands more pedestrians into crosswalks to access bus stops – all in the same area where we can soon expect a mass influx of new cars.

The good news is that there is little downside to thoughtfully postponing this project. The work that has already been completed can be revisited after the ribbon is cut for WestEnd Alexandria. Let’s take a breath and wait for actual, rather than estimated, data on the needs of the corridor so that we don’t make Duke Street worse than it already is.

-Jason Muller,
Alexandria

The power of type O blood

To the editor:

Medical traumas can quickly deplete hospital blood banks. Once patients are stabilized and their blood type is determined, they will receive a matching blood type, so it’s important donors of all types give now and help save lives by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-733-2767.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities may be found by entering your zip code at RedCrossBlood.org. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states – 16 with parental consent where allowed by state law – weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

-Ashley Henyan,
Regional communications director, American Red Cross

City Hall Watch

Last stop on Duke Street

BY BILL ROsselLO

The more we see of city policy-making these days, the clearer it is that nearly every major initiative ties directly to development. The emerging proposal for the Duke Street bus rapid transit project, with the marketing tag “Duke Street in Motion,” is a perfect example. Your chance to stop it ends at the June 27 City Council public hearing.

The project was touted as an effort to bring “transit equity” to the corridor by saving a few minutes at peak hours for a diverse group of some 1,500 bus riders. However, those in the city’s inner circle have slowly been revealing the truth with comments regarding a redevelopment of Alexandria Commons – home of our local Giant food store – complete with high-rise apartments.

Other comments have alluded to redevelopment of some Duke Street neighborhoods, perhaps including the diverse Strawberry Hill and Wakefield-Tarleton residential communities lying between Jordan Street and Wheeler Avenue.

And it’s likely curtains for businesses across Duke Street from Alexandria Commons. They would be replaced by dense housing stock. The convenient restaurants, carry outs, bakery, doggy day cares and auto repair shops will all likely be displaced.

Perhaps the same will happen to the businesses between South Pickett and Jordan streets. And who knows the fate of the Clover-College Park, Taylor Run or Seminary Hill neighborhoods at peak hours without even greater difficulty than today. Of course, the city will include bike lanes, even though Eisenhower Avenue already provides a safe, serviceable east-west bike route.

The design could cause greater challenges for the far West End, where Duke Street is busiest. There, a lane of traffic in each direction would be removed. The Landmark flyover, which reduced Duke Street congestion in the mall’s heyday, is already being torn down. It will be replaced by several intersections with traffic signals. These changes will affect residents living between Watergate and Cameron Station.

So, if you think Seminary Road is slower, more confusing and less safe after the road diet of a few years ago, this redesign of Duke promises to be that project on steroids.

What can save us from gridlock and the displacement of homes and businesses along Duke Street? First is cost.

Some officials and transit experts know that the $87 million in grant funding won’t cover the full cost of BRT. The rest will be on us. But large overruns on the Potomac Yard Metro station, and already on the Landmark redevelopment, add to a strained city capital budget replete with stormwater and school projects.

At what point do developer-friendly projects offering little benefit to residents begin stressing the city’s borrowing capacity?

The other thing that may help is residents writing to City Council and showing up at that public hearing on June 27 to voice opposition. Do one, the other or both, or forever hold your peace.

The writer is a civic advocate, management consultant and longtime Alexandria resident.
Juneteenth in Alexandria

On June 19, we celebrate Juneteenth which commemorates the end of slavery in the United States.

Join the Juneteenth celebration at the Alexandria Black History Museum with “Story-telling for Young Historians” at 10 a.m. Children ages 5 to 8 will enjoy a Juneteenth-themed story and craft. This is a repeat of the session held at Alexandria Library last Saturday.

Make a difference this Juneteenth. Families are invited from 9 to 11 a.m. to help clean up the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Penny Hill Cemetery. Established in 1895 as a non-denominational African American cemetery, the Frederick Douglass Memorial Cemetery is the final resting place for 2,256 people. It is the largest African American Cemetery in Alexandria. In use through 1975, historical documents reveal that fewer than 700 grave markers are visible today. Cleaning the cemeteries will honor those who endured the many years of slavery while celebrating the freedom they fought for.

Meet at Frederick Douglass Memorial Cemetery, 1567-1473, Wilkes St., and walk to Penny Hill Cemetery. Come as you are or wear red, black and/or green to represent the Pan African Flag. The Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities will provide grabber tools and trash bags.

At a pre-Juneteenth remembrance ceremony slated for this Saturday from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Douglass Cemetery, supporters and volunteers are invited to place purple ribbons of remembrance on the gravestones and honor those buried. The event is in partnership with the Social Responsibility Group and the Friends of Douglass Cemetery.

Visit the Project Web Page at alexandriava.gov/historic-sites/douglass-memorial-cemetery for more information.

Market Square will be filled with song from 2 to 3 p.m. on Juneteenth as the Washington Revels Jubilee Voices ensemble perform a free concert, weather permitting. Committed to the preservation of African American history and traditions, the audience will experience songs and stories of struggle and perseverance, trials, and triumphs, as expressed through a cappella music, dance, and drama.

The Alexandria Black History Museum and the Freedom House Museum will have special Juneteenth hours from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Stop by and see the new Black Lives Remembered exhibition and the re-worked Before the Spirits are Swept Away exhibition featuring paintings by Sherry Sanabria at the Alexandria Black History Museum.

Learn about the tragedy of the domestic slave trade and see the second half of the Sanabria exhibition at the Freedom House Museum.

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

Weekly Poll

Last Week
What do you think of the recent ACPS decision to share Encore teachers – including art, music and PE staff – among schools?
50% All schools need their own dedicated Encore staff.
18% I don’t mind, but teachers should have been involved in the decision.
18% What’s Encore?
15% It’s needed given uneven enrollment between schools.

This Week
Do you think the new principal of Alexandria City High School should be someone from inside ACPS or an outside hire?
A) Inside for continuity.
B) Outside for a fresh perspective.
C) Just hire the best person.
D) I’m not sure.
Weekly Words

ACROSS
1. Just a bit
2. Bruins of the Pac-12
3. Accords
4. Taylor with the album "Midnights"
5. Returned to earth
6. Prepare to fly
7. King-like?
8. Pearl River gambling mecca
9. Signature song for Aladdin?
10. Make a choice
11. Set of keys for Keys
12. Senator Collins of Maine
13. PR handouts
14. Deer's playmate in song
15. Twice-told or tall story
16. Caiman cousin, for short
17. Early web portal
18. ... for Mr. Magoo?
19. Veggie burger bean
20. ___ free (words on a bottle)
21. Fourth mo., alphabetically
22. Research support
23. In favor of
24. Not so hardy
25. Sally of "80 for Brady"
26. Memo words
27. Idris of "Luther"
28. Charming snake?
29. Make available, as a time slot
30. Make a choice
31. Set of keys for Keys
32. ... for Dorothy Gale?
33. Fire engine warning
34. Cassini of fashion
35. "___ Miz"
36. For a night
37. Consumed, as savings
38. "Eww"-inducing
39. Window shade option
40. Arranged the curtains
41. Glass house? (Abbr.)
42. "Fantasy Island" host
43. Closest pal (Abbr.)
44. Explorer Erikson
45. Lift option that's not Lyft
46. Take a night to consider
47. Kid-friendly taters
48. Some 35mm cameras (Abbr.)
49. Body once known as the Lake of Sodom
50. Caribou cousin
51. FedEx alternative
52. ISP watchdog
53. Gives the once-over
54. Potts of "Young Sheldon"
55. Not as many
56. Networking center

DOWN
1. Bucs' bay
2. Chef Ducasse with more than 20 Michelin stars
3. Pick on persistently
4. Vegas
5. Div. with Chargers
6. "Pronto!" on a memo
7. For Thor?
8. No-bake black-and-white treats
9. Year, in Toledo
10. Watch day cycle
11. Spoonful of sugar
12. Lash of cowboy films
14. For Jessica Fletcher?
15. Winter gliders
16. Front line for Al Roker
17. Window shade option
18. Decorative bedding accessory
19. Big Apple neighborhood
20. Big Apple neighborhood
21. Many a trade secret
22. Fireplace
23. Like a walrus or warthog
24. Many a robocall
25. New York state (Abbr.)
26. Like many a good date
27. Little rock
28. Spectacle
29. "It's true!"
30. Poison ivy
31. "Firefly Lane"
32. Number
33. "Who cares?"
34. "Pronto!" on a memo
35. Animal slant
36. High point of a skyline?
37. Chaps in the pub
38. One in a truck stop lineup
39. "I'm home!"
40. "Who cares?" gesture
41. "I'm home!"
42. Many a robocall
43. Many a robocall
44. "Who cares?"
45. Many a robocall
46. Many a robocall
47. "Who cares?"
48. Many a robocall
49. "Who cares?"
50. Many a robocall
51. "Who cares?"
52. Many a robocall
53. "Who cares?"
54. Many a robocall
55. "Who cares?"
56. Many a robocall
57. "Who cares?"
58. Many a robocall
59. "Who cares?"
60. Many a robocall

DEATH NOTICES

DOROTHY BARRETT (87), formerly of Alexandria, June 5, 2023
MARIA BOOKER (35), of Alexandria, June 4, 2023
THOMAS BURTON “BURT” BOONE, JR. (93), of Alexandria, June 2, 2023
VERNON CARTY (80), of Alexandria, June 2, 2023
HERBERT COLENDA (94), of Alexandria, May 24, 2023
MARJORIE KEHLER (70), of Alexandria, June 6, 2023
JEAN LINDSEY (99), of Alexandria, May 29, 2023
PEGGY “JANN” MASTERS (72), formerly of Alexandria, May 31, 2023
WILLIAM POWELL (92), of Alexandria, May 24, 2023
RONALD “GREG” VANN (56), of Alexandria, May 23, 2023
Legal Notice

PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia at City Hall, 301 King Street, Council Chamber and on Zoom webinar on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at 9:30 a.m., or as soon as may be heard on the hereinafter described items.

Public Hearing of an Ordinance to amend and reorganize Section 11-704 (APPLICATION OF TMP PROGRAM TO DEVELOPMENT; REQUIRED PARTICIPATION) and add and ordinance Section 11-715 (ADMINISTRATIVE AMENDMENT OF TMP SUP) of the City of Alexandria Zoning Ordinance, in accordance with the text amendment herefore approved by city council as Text Amendment No. 2022-00012 (Implementation Ordinance for Text Amendment No. 2022-00012 associated with Transportation Management Plans approved by City Council on May 23, 2023).

Public Hearing of an Ordinance to vacate a portion of the public rights-of-way abutting 5165 Seminary Road, 5118 Fairbanks Avenue, and 2641, 2648, and 2668 Foster Avenue (Vac No. 2023-00003) (Implementation Ordinance for Vacation No. 2023-00003 associated with Upland Park Foster Avenue approved by City Council on May 13, 2023."

PUBLIC HEARING of a Lease Agreement Renewal with Alexandria Soccer Association for Office Space Located at the Lee Center.

PUBLIC HEARING of a Three (3) year License Agreement Renewal with The Alexandria Boxing Club for the Boxing Facility at Charles Houston Recreation Center.

PUBLIC HEARING of a Three (3) Year Lease Agreement Renewal with Child and Family Network Center at Leonard “Chick” Armstrong Recreation Center Located At 25 West Reed Avenue.

PUBLIC HEARING of an Ordinance to make Supplemental Appropriations for the Support of the City Government for Fiscal Year 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING of an Ordinance of the City Council Naming Committee to Change the Name of Braddock Interim Park to Judy Guse-Norton Park.

PUBLIC HEARING of an Ordinance of the City Council to make Supplemental Appropriations for the Support of the City Government for Fiscal Year 2024.

PUBLIC HEARING of an Ordinance Authorizing and Empowering the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of General Obligation Bonds to Finance City and Schools Capital Projects and to Refund Certain Outstanding Bonds of the City.

PUBLIC HEARING of an Ordinance to adopt a reduced Real Estate tax rate as tax relief by establishing a new class of property for the surviving spouse of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who died in the line of duty, based on a determination from the U.S. Department of Defense.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE ORDINANCES OBTAIN FREE FULL-TEXT COPIES FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL (LIMITED COPIES AVAILABLE). If the mayor finds and declares that weather or other conditions are such that it is hazardous for members to attend the meeting, this meeting will be continued to the following Saturday.

Special Use Permit #2023-00049
424 South Pickett Street
Administrative Special Use Permit request for a New Use for a Restaurant; zoned: CDD #17a/Coordinated Development District #17a
Applicant: Khalil and Hamoudi VA-157 LLC
Business Name: Tropical Smoothie Planner: Mavis Stanfield – mavis.stanfield@alexandriava.gov

In accordance with Section 11-500 of the Zoning Ordinance, the above listed request may be approved administratively by the Director of Planning & Zoning. If you have any comments regarding the proposal above, please contact Planning & Zoning staff at 703.746.4666 or email the planner listed no later than July 6, 2023.

Public Notice

Truist Bank, located at 301 Duke St, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, is in possession of assets owned by the following decedent, Laurence Schlegel, who at the time of his death was domiciled outside of Virginia. In accordance with Va. Code Ann. § 64.2-609(A), Truist Bank hereby gives public notice of its intention to deliver the decedent’s assets to the Administrator of decedent’s estate, Mark A. Cooper, who has qualified as Personal Representative in accordance with the law of the decedent’s domicile. Delivery is to be made after the lapse of thirty (30) days from the completion of due publication of this notice, pursuant to the Code, once a week for four successive weeks. Inquiries, including any notice of the appointment of a personal representative for decedent in Virginia or legal notice of any lien or encumbrance upon decedent’s assets, should be directed to Truist Bank at the above address.

LEGAL NOTICE
ALEXANDRIA CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION JOINT WORK SESSION JUNE 26, 2023

The City of Alexandria City Council and Planning Commission will hold a Joint Work Session on the date and time listed below. At this Joint Work Session, the Alexandria City Council, the Alexandria Planning Commission and Alexandria Housing Affordability Advisory Committee will receive an update from staff on the City’s proposed Zoning for Housing/Housing for All Initiative. This meeting is open to the public, however, public testimony or comment will not be received.

DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023
TIME: 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM
LOCATION: DR. OSWALD DURANT RECREATION CENTER 1605 CAMERON STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22311

PARKING: Fee limited parking on-site

For further information, contact the Department of Planning & Zoning at 703.746.4666.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Lisa Chase at alicia.chase@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.4666, Virginia Relay 711.

AXELANDIA TIMES

Classifieds

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

Alexandria Planning & Zoning Department Notice of Administrative Review

The following request has been received for administrative review and approval.

LEGAL NOTICE

ALEXANDRIA PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

The request for review has been received for the following application:

- Business Name: Tropical Smoothie
- Application: Special Use Permit
- Address: 424 South Pickett Street
- Date Requested: June 15, 2023

For additional information, contact Mavis Stanfield at 703.746.4666 or mavis.stanfield@alexandriava.gov.

Legal Notice

Pro Bono Services

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Wood floor polishing, buffing, waxing, old floor specialists Servicing local area 30 years Licensed, bonded & insured

26 | JUNE 15, 2023

ALEXANDRIA TIMES
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**3 FARMS & 2 COMMERCIAL TRACTS**

**COURT ORDERED TO SETTLE THE ESTATE OF RUBY WELLS DOOLEY BEDFORD VA**

**Real Estate Auction**

**JUNE 24 @ 10AM**
OFF-SITE AUCTION LOCATION
1059 TURNING POINT RD (FALLING CREEK RD) BEDFORD, VA 24523

3 FARMS & 2 COMMERCIAL TRACTS

2 COMMERCIAL TRACTS - RT 460
Little Apple Market + Undeveloped Lot
FARM 1: WELLS RD
117 Acres, Offered in 10 Tracts
FARM 2: MCDAHILE RD
89.5 Acres, Offered in 5 Tracts
FARM 3: WHEATLAND RD
287 Acres, Offered in 3 Tracts

**COUNTS AUCTION GROUP**
828 Main St | Lynchburg VA 24544 434-522-2991
Summer is officially here!

Skip through the Sprinkler!
Try a game of Corn Hole!
Fire up the Grill!
Crank up the Tunes!
Savor an Ice Cream Cone!

It’s Backyard Time!

Time to relish all those great Summer things! And if you are dreaming about a new backyard, now is a great time to start exploring possibilities.

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

mason bavin

Mason Montague Bavin
M. 703.338.6007 | Licensed in VA
mbavin@mcenearney.com
www.masonbavin.com