Poor air quality returns

Region experienced three days in the red ‘unhealthy’ zone in June

BY AARON KOPP

The poor air quality that dogged much of the northeast and parts of the midwest early in June made a return visit last week. The air quality problems were again caused by wildfires in Canada, with roughly 500 different blazes burning in various sections of the country. High altitude winds carried smoke from the fires to the south and east. Over the

THE JULY 4 NATIONAL FIREWORKS IN D.C. AS SEEN FROM THE WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE.
See page 17 for more July 4 photos.

Happy 4th of July

From asylum to assimilation

Local church community helps Congolese refugee put down Alexandria roots

BY LEXIE JORDAN

Michel Katula was a 35-year-old successful surgeon in the Democratic Republic of Congo with a wife and three children when he was forced to leave his home and family behind and come to America in search of asylum. This was in 2016, when Congo was roiled by intense fighting and jockeying for power, and two years before the country held its first peaceful post-colonial transfer of power.

Northern Virginia Family Service received Katula’s case and connected him with Alexandria Presbyterian Church. Katula landed in Leesburg, Virginia in December 2016 without knowing any English, only French. Rev. David Glade of Christ the King, an Anglican church in Alexandria, was

Pets
Protecting your dog’s paws in the summer heat.

Page 12
The Price Is Right!

Why IS Pricing So Important?

$ Underpriced
Decreases your future buying power
Loses Value
Deters skeptical buyers

$ Market Value
Attract more buyers
Higher Sale Price
Likely to sell quick

$$$ Overpriced
Price drops can send the wrong message to buyers
Sits on the market longer
Prices out potential buyers

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Fall results in death of three-year-old boy

A three-year-old child died after falling from an apartment window on June 28 according to Alexandria Police Department Information Officer Marcel Basset. The boy fell from an upper story of a building in the 200 block of Yoakum Pkwy. No further details were shared.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

Arrest made in June shooting

According to a release, the Alexandria Police Department arrested Alexandria resident Jovan Saunders, 45, in relation to a shooting on June 20 in the 300 block of East Raymond Avenue. Saunders has been charged with aggravated malicious wounding, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and use of a firearm during the commission of a felony. The 30-year-old female victim was treated with non-life-threatening injuries after sustaining a gunshot wound to the lower body.

Please contact Detective Matt Kramarik via phone at 703-746-6650 or email at matthew.kramarik@alexandriava.gov if you have any additional information regarding this incident.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

APD seeks information on homicide

The Alexandria Police Department is investigating a physical assault from November 2022 that resulted in the death of 38-year-old victim Maurio Bailey. On Nov. 28, 2022, Bailey suffered injuries after a physical assault in the 5400 block of North Morgan St. and died on Jan. 2. The Medical Examiner’s Office has now determined the cause of death as stemming from physical injuries sustained in the assault. The APD urges anyone who may have witnessed the assault or possesses any relevant information to contact Detective Matthew Kramarik via phone at 703-746-6650 or email at Matthew.Kramarik@alexandriava.gov. Tips can be anonymous.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

Friday night shooting

According to a release, Alexandria Police Department is investigating a shooting incident that occurred in the 1300 block of Madison Street. “On June 30 at approximately 11:30 p.m. a 48-year-old male was shot and taken to a local hospital. The victim suffered upper-body trauma and is currently in critical but stable condition,” per the APD. This incident remains an active investigation. Anyone who may have information related to this incident is asked to contact Detective Matthew Kramarik via phone at 703-746-6650 or via email at Matthew.Kramarik@alexandriava.gov.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

Correction: In the June 29 Alexandria Times, the story “Generations of sanctuary” incorrectly referred to the property at 1022 Pendleton St. as a Green Book property. Though it served a similar purpose, it was not officially in the Green Book. The Times regrets the error.
According to a release, “the Department of Community and Human Services reminds parents and caregivers to review child supervision guidelines and see ways to access opportunities for financial assistance as well as tips for finding childcare.

For many parents and caretakers, there may be a need to leave children home alone for a period of time during the summer. The City of Alexandria website provides information about what age ranges are considered to be adequate for unsupervised time at home, babysitting guidelines, what steps your family needs to take to prepare, and a family checklist. In particular, parents and caregivers should consider whether their child:

• Understands instructions and follows important rules.
• Knows how to ask for help from friends, neighbors and police.
• Makes good decisions when away from their parent or other caregivers.
• Knows when to contact their parent and 911 when needed.

• Feels comfortable and confident about staying home alone.

There are no laws in Virginia that say specifically at what age or for how long a child can be left alone. Parents are ultimately responsible for making decisions about their children’s safety. Every child is different, and must be assessed based on their maturity, skills and comfort level to be home alone.” For more information, visit www.alexandriava.gov/ChildAbuse#ChildSupervisionGuidelines.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

City summer childcare help

City-wide community food drive

Volunteer Alexandria is hosting the first ever city-wide food drive now through July 28. All items donated will be used to fund ALIVE!’s program to help members of the community who suffer from food insecurity. ALIVE! was founded in 1969 and serves thousands of individuals every month. For more information, visit www.volunteeralexandria.org/food.

-lgolden@alextimes.com

The food drive will be held through July 28.
course of hundreds of miles, smoke dropped out of the air-stream, leaving a trail of poor air quality.

The worst air quality day was June 8, when the metropolitan Washington D.C. area recorded an Air Quality Index reading of 198, while the day prior it reached 176. The bad air gradually dissipated, with the week from June 21 through 27 registering six out of seven days in the “good” category. Then last week the AQI surged again from June 28 to 30, with readings of 131, 170 and 126 respectively.

The City of Alexandria has already had to cancel events, close parks and issue air quality alerts. Professional baseball games were canceled in Washington, New York and Philadelphia and residents were
told to stay indoors on the worst days.

One way of measuring the impact this smoke has on our health and environment is through the Environmental Protection Agency’s AQI, which ranges from zero to 500, and is generated at more than 1,000 monitoring stations around the nation.

The components of AQI measurements are ozone, PM2.5 and PM10. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it’s the smaller particles that are the most dangerous.

“Breathing in particle pollution can be harmful to your health. Coarse (bigger) particles, called PM10, can irritate your eyes, nose, and throat. Dust from roads, farms, dry riverbeds, construction sites, and mines are types of PM10. Fine (smaller) particles, called PM2.5, are more dangerous because they can get into the deep parts of your lungs – or even into your blood,” according to the CDC website.

In a normal summer in the D.C. region, the air quality index rarely exceeds 50. Since June 1, there have been 18 days during which the air quality index exceeded 50, another four days when it was between 100 and 150 – and three days in which it was greater than 150.

Dr. Vivek Sinha, the chief medical officer at Belle View Medical Partners, talked about the danger posed by this smoke from faraway fires.

“I am seeing increased asthma and COPD aggravations,” Sinha said.

Unfortunately, the current air quality problems are likely to continue through
“Thanks to the ongoing wildfires in Canada, which show no sign of ending, smoky air is set to be a regular, periodic occurrence down here in the U.S. throughout the rest of the summer,” according to USA Today.

Sinha said people should self educate to help protect themselves from the effects of the smoke.

If possible, people particularly sensitive to poor air quality should stay indoors with the windows closed. When in a car, turn off features that bring new air in through the air conditioner to help keep unhealthy air out.

“Masks can help. The surgical masks and cloth masks won’t, it’s the N-95s that work. They’re not perfect, but if you have to be outside, wearing a tight fitting N-95 mask can help,” Sinha said.

More information about current air quality can be found at AirNow.gov.

“Masks can help. The surgical masks and cloth masks won’t, it’s the N-95s that work. They’re not perfect, but if you have to be outside, wearing a tight fitting N-95 mask can help.”

– Dr. Vivek Sinha, chief medical officer at Belle View Medical Partners

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<th>Today's forecast</th>
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given Michel’s case by Alexandria Presbyterian and knew he and his parishioners could help.

“Pastor David asked me to come to [Christ the King]. I came for three or four Sundays before he asked me to move here,” Katula said. “That was another big change for me, moving from Leesburg to Alexandria, I didn’t know anybody and that was very difficult.”

Glade asked several parishioners to help ease Katula’s transition into the CtK community. Glade began by introducing Katula to members of CtK that could speak French and members of the vestry.

That was where Michel met Barb Nelson and Suzanne Hellman.

“We went to lunch and he just cried because he didn’t know anybody. On top of that he didn’t speak our language,” Nelson said, remembering her first meeting with Katula in January 2017. “Hellman met Michel at a vestry meeting and was eager to help.

“I remember thinking I could use some help with French. Of course by him teaching me French, he was going to have to speak English because my French was quite limited,” Hellman laughed.

“Yes, [Suzanne] approached me before I even moved here and I started tutoring her. That was my first job,” Katula said. “She has been a big part of my life – my journey here. I can call anytime and she will be here for us.”

Katula lived in several CtK parishioners’ homes, where he was immersed in American culture. However, the adjustment was quite difficult for him.

For example, at his home in the DRC, Katula was able to get shaved for $.25, so that was something he never had to worry about. When he got to America, that became a problem. Nelson took Katula to several stores to get the proper materials for him to shave himself.

“I took Michel to CVS, Safeway and Rite Aid and would look for guys who would know what was going on with his type of hair, and it would just humor us because I couldn’t speak French and he couldn’t speak English,” Nelson said. “It’s the very basic stuff that was so hard.”

However, Katula said without a doubt his hardest struggle was adjusting to life without his family.

“The worst part was that my family was separated for such a long time,” Katula said. “For six years, Katula was without his wife Aline, his daughters Irene and Marie Therese, and his son Aaron – who was only six months when Katula came to America.

Aline assumed that she and
the rest of the Katula family would be able to follow Michel soon after his departure; however, the process took longer than expected and they sought asylum in Burundi a year after Michel Katula left.

Cathy Gwin, one of the parishioners who opened her home to Katula, said her daughters helped temporarily fill that hole in his life.

“I think it was special for him to be in a house with young kids. I think it really helped fill the void that he was feeling from being apart from his family and his children,” Gwin said. “He really took an interest in their activities. He would help my 6th grader with French, and he would go to my 4th grader’s soccer games.”

Katula was always very cognizant of the differences between American and Congolese life. However, he was a quick study and was considered to be the perfect guest.

“He’s so polite and thoughtful and you could tell he really did not want to be an imposition,” Gwin said. “The three words I would use to describe him are brave, wise and humble.”

Katula spent his first three years in America living in various CtK homes.

“He became like my son’s bigger, wiser brother,” Hellman laughed, reminiscing about when Katula stayed with them from September to November 2017.

During his first few years in Alexandria, Katula spent the majority of his time studying English and working as a cleaning technician at Inova Hospital. However, it was clear he was — and is — working well below his qualifications.

“He can more easily insert

For me, I ask why in a positive way. ‘Why is this happening to me?’ It’s a good wow!”

– Michel Katula, medical professional

COURTESY PHOTO
Suzanne Hellman’s daughter, Natalie, hugging the Katula children at the airport when they first landed in October 2022.
Congoleser FROM | 9

the IVs than many of the nurses, so when they have a difficult case, they call Michel and ask him to do it,” Nelson said. “He knows how to do that kind of stuff, he’s just gentle with people.”

In 2020, he began to live more independently. He moved into an apartment while working at the hospital, driving a car and speaking English with much more ease.

Another parishioner of CtK offered to pay for Katula to take classes in Arlington, where he learned advanced English and how to influence and talk to people.

However, Katula noted that the most confusing part was learning American customs.

“In America you’re not supposed to tell people they are gaining weight, but for us, gaining weight is a sign of health and wealth. In my mind I am trying to tell people they are gaining weight as a compliment,” Katula said with a laugh.

“Yes, he told someone that they had put on a few kilos, and the person was quite insulted,” Hellmann said finishing the story.

“Quickly I learned oop, don’t say that!” Katula laughed.

He was able to get the hang of it with due time and after asking a lot of questions.

“He is always so gracious, such a gentleman. Always wanting to learn more about American customs and not offend anyone,” Nelson said.

In October 2022, Katula was finally reunited with his family. It took six years, but after much help from an Anglican bishop in Burundi, the American ambassador in Burundi and “Team Michel” – the group of CtK parishioners that consisted of French speakers, doctors, lawyers and friends – the Katulas were all together again in Alexandria.

Katula noted that the transition was eased because, starting in 2021, Hellman had been on the phone with Aline Katula and the family teaching them English, while they tutored her in French, so they already knew each other.

Katula’s oldest daughter Irene is now 19, his middle daughter Marie Therese is nine and his son Aaron is seven.

Though the family mainly speaks French, they are fully immersed in American culture. They play Alexandria soccer, attend Alexandria schools and go to church at Christ the King.

Katula said the first goal for the family is to all become fluent in English. However, he noted that Aaron is well ahead of the rest.

“Aaron told me the other day that it’s not MACDonalds, it’s MICKDonalds,” Katula said laughing about how his son, who has only been practicing English for a few months, is correcting him.

Katula passed the TOEFL exam for medical professionals this past May, which is an English exam that out-of-country doctors have to take instead of going to medical school again. By passing this test, he is able to take other medical exams that can qualify him as a doctor in America. He is now waiting to take another exam before becoming a surgical assistant at the Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington.

Katula gives a lot of the credit for his success in America to the CtK community; however, all the praise goes to God.

“When I would ask Michel ‘how are you doing’ when we would get some bad news he would go ‘We continue to thank God,’” Hellman said.

As much as Katula has learned from the CtK community, Hellman noted that the feeling has been mutual.

“It’s amazing to hear about the experience in their culture,” Hellman said. “It truly was one of the richest experiences.”

While reminiscing on his time so far in America, Katula emphasized the need for a hopeful attitude.

“People say ‘why’ in the negative way: ‘Why is this happening to me?’ and so on. For me, I ask why in a positive way. ‘Why is this happening to me?’ It’s a good wow!”
Glorious greenery

Reflections on the importance of gardens
BY KIM DAVIS

“A garden is a sort of sanctuary, a chamber roofed by heaven ...to wander in, to cherish, to dream through undisturbed.”
— Sir Robert Lorimer, 1864–1929

Our gardens offer a uniquely personal space to decompress from life’s everyday pressures, reconnect with the beauty of nature and find a sense of calm and peacefulness. If we are thoughtful in what we plant, our gardens will delight and surprise, drawing a variety of hard-working pollinators and birds to our private patch of earth.

A well-designed garden contains a variety of natural elements. Plants, trees, light, water and fragrance thrive when placed in the proper location creating harmony and balance in a landscape.

A powerful ingredient in the recipe for relaxation and tranquility is water. The sound of gurgling water produced by a birdbath, fountain or pond soothes our brains with non-threatening signals that benefit our psychological state of being. Gentle breezes and the soft melodies of wind chimes add to the relaxing atmosphere of calming sounds.

The fragrance of roses, peonies or lavender can prompt memories of youth or of time spent with a beloved grandmother. Lilies, sweet peas, tuberose, sweet alyssum, Judd viburnum and honeysuckle also emit delightful scents that range from clove and vanilla to lemon, orange and almond.

The benefits of a busy day in the garden are manifold. While tending a garden, we perform functional movements that mimic whole-body exercise. We perform squats and lunges while weeding. Moving about bags of mulch and other supplies work large muscle groups. Digging, raking and pushing a mower provides physically intense activity. In short, we can burn as many calories as a workout in the gym while improving our balance, strength and flexibility.

Spending time outdoors has been shown to reduce heart rate and muscle tension. Sunlight lowers blood pressure and increases vitamin D levels. Studies show we tend to breathe deeper when outside. This helps to refresh our lungs, improve digestion, immune response and increases oxygen levels in the blood. The simple act of being in the garden has also been shown to lighten mood and lower levels of stress and anxiety.

A study by the Journal of Health Psychology tested the effect of gardening on stress relief by exposing participants to a stressful task, then assigning them to 30 minutes of outdoor gardening or indoor reading. While both resulted in decreased stress levels, gardening showed a more significant decrease and “positive mood was fully restored after gardening.”

Another study found that people who spend at least two hours a week in nature, including gardening, were significantly more likely to report good health and higher psychological well-being.

In John Lubbock’s 1894 title “The Use of Life” he wrote: “Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer’s day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.”

If we are lucky enough to have a view of the sunrise or sunset, taking the time to marvel at the beautiful colors quickly changing from gold to red, orange, and brilliant magenta is a sight to behold. Nature’s beauty is often fleeting but provides insight into many awe-inspiring moments.

The garden can provide a therapeutic setting for yoga and meditation. By creating a sense of self-awareness, it opens us to nature and broadens our search for spiritual connection not just to where we live, but to how we live – including how we interact with others on a higher plane.

Another hypothesis on nature’s healthful effects, known as attention restoration theory, posits that being in nature improves concentration and decreases the mental fatigue associated with living in stressful urban environments.

Birdsong is also restorative. Researchers have found a significant positive association between seeing and hearing songbirds as well as the presence of greenery and water with improved well-being.

Smartphone applications such as Merlin Bird ID and BirdNet, can help identify bird song within a radius of our yards. The app eBird helps identify birds through size, color and location.

As we live with the threat of habitat loss and climate change, the narrative is shifting from a planet of a vast, uncharted world of wondrous beasts to a small planet under existential threat from humans.

Our gardens continually evolve due to ever changing weather patterns. It is imperative that we garden with an eye toward the future. It is also important to recognize the role each of us play in protecting and ensuring nature’s gifts for our children.

The writer is a member of the Hunting Creek Garden Club and formerly served as both president and vice president of the club.
Protecting your dog’s paws in the summer heat

BY KIM GILLIAM

Hot summer days bring scorching temperatures that affect not only us but also our four-legged companions. Your dog’s paws may be able to take on the toughest terrains, but they’re surprisingly vulnerable to burns, particularly in the summer months when asphalt and concrete sidewalks become overheated.

Last month, the National Weather Service office in Sioux Falls, South Dakota did an experiment looking at temperatures of different surfaces throughout the day as the high crept above 90 degrees. At 9 a.m. temperatures were around 90 degrees on all surfaces, but by noon, the blacktop had reached 123, and at 3 p.m., it was a whopping 135. It only takes 60 seconds for paws to burn on pavement at 125 degrees. That means that soon after 9 a.m. that day, it would have been too hot to walk your pup.

But how can you know for sure without an infrared thermometer in hand? Dr. Jerry Klein, DVM, Chief Veterinary Officer for the American Kennel Club said owners need to make sure the coast is clear for their pets.

“To find out if the ground is too hot for your dog to walk on, place your hand comfortably on the pavement for ten seconds. If it’s too hot for your hand, it’s too hot for your dog’s paws,” Klein said.

Best to take your pup on longer walks in the early morning hours when the ground is cooler or late in the evening when temps are coming down a bit. Carefully consider what surfaces you choose for your walk. Blacktop absorbs and retains heat intensely, so can reach scorching temperatures that can cause burns and blisters on a dog’s paws.

Cement can also become uncomfortably warm and potentially injure a dog’s paws. In contrast, sticking to shaded areas and grass provides a cooler surface, offering your dog a reprieve from the heat.

If a dog stumbles or limps when walking, is reluctant to walk or let you touch its feet, licks its paws or has blisters, redness, peeling or a darker tone on their pads, it could have burned its paws. If you suspect this, there are a few things you can do for immediate treatment before taking your dog to the vet:

1. Run the pads under cool water for around 10 minutes. This is the best way to cool the area. Never use ice or iced water. Do not apply any ointments or creams yourself.
2. Place plastic wrap loosely over the affected paws. Be very gentle. You can keep this in place with a loose bandage or sock. Avoid letting your dog walk as much as possible.
3. Bring your pup to the vet so that they can assess the wounds, determine the necessary prescriptions and apply specialist dressings. Burns are very painful, so your dog will need prescribed pain relief. Burns are also prone to infection, so your vet may give antibiotics if needed. They may then ask you to apply creams or change dressings at home and will give your instructions on how to do so.

Remember, we wear shoes and don’t notice how hot different walking surfaces get in the summer. It is our job as loving dog owners to make smart decisions that protect them in the heat.

The writer co-owns Frolick Dogs, an indoor dog gym in Alexandria, with her husband, Kevin Gilliam.
What’s new?
Check out the below for fresh ideas.
BY BRANDPOINT

If you love home renovation and design, you’ll be excited to discover up-and-coming trends. Home design is continually evolving. Homeowners and design professionals are innovating and reimagining how you can live in and feel about your home. Transform the look and functionality of your home. Here are design trends to explore this year.

Embrace sustainability
Concern for the environment and consumer demand is spurring many companies to create more sustainable processes and materials while ensuring that they don’t sacrifice design or durability.

Choose sustainable surfaces. Find products that are made by using recycled materials and renewable energy during production. New technology is being used to create lasting products that don’t harm the environment.

Colorful kitchens
Today’s kitchens provide the focal point for entertaining, inspiring homeowners to express themselves through design, surfacing and materials. Choose custom cabinetry colors. Use unique backsplash designs. Dramatic countertops are a subtle way to express your personal style through kitchen design.

Dive into wet rooms
Dreaming of a spa-like atmosphere? The European-style wet room might be your next great bathroom reno. Creating a cohesive

HOME OF THE WEEK

Perfect blend of original and new

Classic features with top quality updates. Enclosed in a privately gated tree-lined lot minutes from Del Ray and Old Town.

Built in 1925. Expanded and renovated by custom home builder Greg Sutton in 1997. Additional renovations were made to every bathroom during the last two years.

Enter into a large foyer, adorned with historically-sourced hardwood floors and a quaint reading corner featuring built-in window seats. The first floor is naturally lit. An open floor plan connects the formal sitting room with gas fireplace to an elegant and spa-like dining room also with gas fireplace. A gourmet kitchen and living room follow.

The home boasts approximately 6,000 square feet of living space on 4 levels.

On the second floor, an inviting hallway leads to two bedrooms with spacious closets, an updated hallway bathroom, and a primary bedroom suite with wood-burning fireplace and two en suite bathrooms.

The adjoining room can be customized as a private study, but the additional en suite bathroom makes it perfect as a nursery or additional bedroom.

The gourmet kitchen features an island with an array of storage, Viking, SubZero and Bosch appliances, a neutral backsplash and custom countertops.

Overlook the stone patio in front of the French doors flanked by custom built-in shelving. The kitchen and breakfast nook leads into the living room surrounded by windows and includes a wood-burning fireplace. Perfect for holiday gatherings.

There is a private study/library with an adjoining half bath. A second entrance leads to the deck overlooking the yard. The deck circles to the stone patio with views of a serene koi pond with fountain and a secluded, professionally landscaped garden. Perfect for entertaining.

Another entrance connects to a mud room off the kitchen with an optional connection for a second washer and dryer. In addition, the fully finished walk-out basement includes a wood-burning fireplace, large bedroom and en suite bathroom and an abundance of storage space.

Don’t miss the opportunity to live in a meticulous and thoughtfully-designed home offering both indoor and outdoor entertaining.
space for your shower and bath is a great solution to enhance design and functionality, especially in smaller bathrooms.

Durable surfacing that can be utilized for flooring and shower walls – as well as built-in seating and storage to optimize the space – can leave your bathroom feeling luxurious and worry free. Make sure your contractor is experienced in creating a well-designed wet room, including proper drainage, lighting and non-slip flooring to ensure safety.

Rediscover industrials

Renewed interest in urban materials like unfinished concrete is largely driven by the desire for clean lines and calm spaces. However, today’s industrials are softened by combining concrete with natural elements like wood, stone and plants.

Explore mixed metals

Using metallic accents in a variety of materials and colors provides visual interest and elevates any room. Thoughtfully choose mixed metals for hardware, lighting fixtures, mirrors or picture frames. Even metallic accessories like vases, trays or artwork can enhance your space. Just a few touches of mixed metals go a long way.

Don’t match metals, but stick with the same family. For the most pleasing effect, choose only from the cool family like brushed nickel or chrome. Or opt for the warm family like bronze, polished nickel, brass. Black which can go with either family.

Ready, set, go. Explore the possibilities.
‘The Bear’ Season Two

Ten new episodes now available on Hulu
BY RICHARD ROEPER

It’s time to Bear Down.

Just about every major character in Season Two of the Chicago-strong, darkly funny, beautifully written and at times deeply moving “The Bear” is leaning into the next chapter of their lives with energy and passion – and in some cases, more than a little trepidation:

• Chef/restaurant operator Jeremy Allen White’s Carmen “Carmy” Berzatto tells Ayo Edebiri’s Sydney, a talented chef in her own right: “You’re going to have to care about everything, more than anything” in order to make it in the restaurant business, but Carmen is also at least considering the possibility of some kind of life outside the kitchen. As for Sydney, she’s committed to being Carmen’s partner and protege, but also to finding her own voice, her own path.

• Richie aka “Cuz” (the intense and fiery Ebon Moss-Bachrach), best friend of Carmen’s late brother, Michael, is trying to control his fits of rage, even as he wonders if there’s a place for him in this world.

• Pastry chef Marcus (Lionel Boyce, doing beautifully layered work) and veteran line cooks Tina and Ebraheim (Liza Colon-Zayas and Edwin Lee Gibson, both subtly powerful) have been given the opportunity to expand their respective horizons.

• Carmen’s sister Natalie aka “Sugar” (the wondrous Abby Elliott) has a lot going on in her life, but she finds it increasingly difficult to stay away from the restaurant. This motley crew might drown without her.

• As for Fak (Matty Matheson), what can I say, he’s still the funniest, warmest, most likable guy you’d ever want to hang around with – even though he might drive you crazy from time to time.

“The Bear” creator Christopher Storer and co-showrunner Joanna Calo once again make great use of the city; even the obligatory interstitial shots of CTA trains whizzing along are framed in a unique and fresh way. And while the subject matter here is much more grounded and grittier than “Ted Lasso,” the one thing these series have in common is a second season in which we get to know more about the lives of a myriad of fascinating and well-rounded supporting characters.

The electric White is still front and center – there’s a reason he won all those awards – with the brilliant Edebiri essentially a co-lead, but a number of other players have their own story arcs, their own moments to shine. The gifted ensemble cast is more than up to the task. It’s a joy to watch them at work.

(Note: I’ve seen the entire 10-episode run of Season Two, but per the guidelines issued by FX, this review is concentrating on the first four episodes. Even with that, we are going to tread lightly and withhold any detailed discussion about major plot developments or new additions to the cast.)

As you’ll recall from the finale of Season One, Carmy has made the decision to close The Original Beef of Chicagoland and reboot with a restaurant called The Bear.

Spoiler alert: Not all will go smoothly.

Even before the facelift begins, Carmy notices that Richie’s shirt says “Original Berf,” to which Richie deadpans: “It’s a printing mistake. Collectors’ item.” Anyone who has ever owned or operated a new restaurant will no doubt nod in recognition at all the discussions about permits and taxes and certifications and inspections – not to mention the name-drop of Bar Keepers Friend, an essential cleaning product.

Carmy is still dealing with grief, anxiety and an almost paralyzing inability to enjoy life. He actually Googles “fun” at one point. Yet, there’s still hope. When he makes a possible connection that actually could have a meaningful impact on his heart, we hear the perfectly placed soundtrack selection of “Strange Currencies” by R.E.M.:

I need a chance, a second chance, a third chance
A fourth chance, a word, a signal
A nod, a little breath
Just to fool myself, to catch myself
As was the case with Season One, the musical choices are great, from “The Show Goes On” by Bruce Hornsby & the Range to “You Are Not Alone” by Mavis Staples to “Handshake Drugs” by Wilco. Even when “The Bear” indulges in the obligatory karaoke scene because it’s practically TV Law that every series must at one point have a karaoke scene, it will knock you out.

Chicago remains a primary character in this series, from the location shots to the mentions of real Chicago eateries to guest cameos by some prominent local culinary figures. We even get a dessert scene in Margie’s Candies.

In Season One, “The Bear” showed the promise of greatness. In Season Two, that promise is delivered.

‘The Bear’ is back.
Wham!

Netflix presents a documentary directed by Chris Smith

BY RICHARD ROOPER

In one of those ubiquitous, look-at-our-cool-tech-features car commercials that will charm the socks off you until it drives you crazy, a father plays a form of peekaboo with his daughter by repeatedly playing the first few notes of “Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go” by Wham!, with the little girl giggling every time she hears that “jitterbug ... jitterbug” beginning.

By the time the spot is over, you might not remember the exact feature on the car they’re pitching, but you’ll likely have “Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go” stuck in your head for the immediate future. That might be happening right now as well.

Such is the enduring power of the English pop duo of George Michael and Andrew Ridgeley, who might not have left the heaviest and most impactful footprint on the pop culture landscape during their brief but blazing five-year run in the 1980s – but it’s a footprint that resonates to this day. Come on, who doesn’t love “Careless Whisper” and “Everything She Wants”? Who doesn’t want to hear “Last Christmas” every Christmas?

In the breezy and engaging documentary “Wham!” on Netflix, the acclaimed director Chris Smith (“American Movie,” “Fyre,” “Tiger King”) strikes just the right notes, if you will, by telling the story of Wham! respectfully and without irony. There’s no overreaching attempt to paint the band as anything more than they were, no roster of professors and music experts and somber social commentators weighing in.

Relying on extensive audio of interviews with Ridgeley and Michael, director Smith essentially places the lads in the position of narrating their own story, which is augmented by a dazzling array of home movies and videos, TV appearances, concert footage and behind-the-scenes material. The end result is a feel-good documentary about a feel-good band who were never destined for a decades-long run but had one hell of a good time dancing the top of the pop charts for a few crazy years.

If you’re a longtime Wham! aficionado, there’s probably little here that you didn’t already know; if you have only a passing knowledge of the band and its music, this is the only documentary about them you’ll ever need to see.

“Wham!” for the most part follows a simple chronological path, starting with George and Andrew in voice-over, separate interviews recalling how they met in North London. Andrew was 12 when George was an 11-year-old newcomer to Andrew’s school.

Andrew: “There was a new boy with ... these big window-frame glasses ...”

George: “I was very awkward, slightly porky, very strange-looking bloke, and quite shy.”

Andrew: “Our teacher introduced him as Georgios Panayiotou [and said], ‘Who’s going to look after the new boy?’”

George: “Andrew put up his hand. I genuinely believed there was something predisposed about it.”

Sweet and genuine – just like the friendship that quickly developed between the two boys, who shared a passion for pop music and were recording crude demos by the time they were in their late teens. For those of us who remember the cotton-candy confectiions such as “Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go,” it comes as a bit of surprise to learn the duo’s early efforts were relatively cutting-edge mixes of rap, disco and pop, with social commentary reflecting the troubled times in the England of the early 1980s. On “Wham! Rap (Social Mix),” they sang:

Hey everybody take a look at me
I’ve got street credibility
Wham! Bam!
I am a man!
Job or no job, you can’t tell me that I’m not ...
Okay, so they weren’t U2 or the Beatles. Soon, however, Wham! was embracing a lighter, bouncier, pure pop sound and look, with thousands of adolescent and teenage girls screaming madly as the boys paraded around stage in their colorful and quite silly outfits and played the hits.

We learn how Michael came out to Andrew, who kept the secret for his dear friend until George publicly announced he was gay in 1998, long after the band had broken up. We follow the duo’s ascendance to superstardom in Great Britain and later in the United States – and witness their global impact when they made an historic 10-day visit to China in 1985.

By the time Michael appeared solo in the video for “Careless Whisper” in 1984, it was already clear that George was on a path to join the likes of Madonna and Michael Jackson as a worldwide pop superstar, while Andrew was ... not. When Elton John introduced George to sing “Don’t Let the Sun Go Down on Me” at Live Aid in 1985, George and Andrew took the stage, arm in arm. George then took center stage, while Andrew joined the background singers.

This is a documentary about Wham! and Wham! only, so it ends with the duo performing a farewell concert in front of 72,000 at London’s Wembley Stadium on June 28, 1986, along with a few more audio snippets from George and Andrew about their legacy. We know that George went on to massive success as a solo artist, selling more than 120 million records, before his death at just 53 in 2016. Andrew has been out of the spotlight for much of the last many decades – but for a handful of years in the 1980s, nobody burned brighter than Wham!

Running time: 92 minutes. No MPAA rating. Available now on Netflix.
Members of Belle Haven Country Club celebrated 4th of July with fireworks and fun on July 3.

**Celebrating the 4th in Alexandria**

Red, white and blue abounded in Alexandria for the holiday. Revelers of all ages gathered to watch fireworks, enjoy BBQs and toast our nation’s independence. The fun continues this weekend as Alexandria celebrates its 274th birthday on Saturday. The free event kicks off at 6:30 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park and includes a performance by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and a fireworks display at 9:30 p.m.

Flags adorned Commonwealth Ave. in Rosemont ahead of the 4th of July.
Editorial

‘Just breathe’

It’s beginning to feel like the 2020s is the decade of plagues. Not two full months into 2020 the world was rocked by the COVID-19 pandemic. Disruptive and destructive, the pandemic impacted our lives in ways that are still being discovered. Now, it’s foul air from Canadian wildfires that has twice in the last month for days at a time made outside activity dangerous for many.

What’s next? Swarms of locusts?

As our page 1 story, “Poor air quality returns,” alarmingly shows, during roughly a fourth of June the D.C. metropolitan area had an air quality index of 100 or more – meaning it was dangerous for people with lung or heart issues, children and the elderly. Three of those days the air was smoky enough to be dangerous for everyone, regardless of age or health condition.

Worse news is that, both for 2023 and the future, these wildfires may be here to stay. The season for wildfires in Canada is May to October, with the peak normally occurring in July and August, according to CNN.com. The 2023 fires started and intensified earlier than normal and as of last week more than 500 separate Canadian fires were burning.

Extreme heat and excessive drying, and many of the world’s largest undeveloped forests, created conditions ripe for the catastrophic fires. The condition is exacerbated, ABC news reported, because of Canada’s decentralized system of government, meaning there’s not a coordinated national response like there would be in the U.S.

On Saturday, a wildland fire ecologist based in British Columbia told ABC news that the fires are so widespread that only major rainfall, and in some areas snowfall, will completely douse the flames. Meaning it’s likely to be a long, hot, smoky summer.

The key is vigilance, both short and long-term. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “wildfire smoke is a mix of gasses and fine particles from burning trees and plants, buildings, and other material.” The CDC website says people with asthma, COPD, who have heart disease, children, pregnant women and those fighting the fires are at greatest risk.

If you fall in one of those categories, be careful. If you know someone who meets any of those criteria, please keep a watchful eye on them, particularly elderly neighbors or anyone without air conditioning.

The long-term element has several factors.

At a macro level, it means continuing to take steps to fight global warming, from lowering carbon levels to cutting the amount of plastic used and dumped in the Earth’s oceans. At a regional level, it means stepping up cooperation between the U.S. and Canada to take as many preventative measures as possible and to more effectively combat wildfires when they occur.

And locally, it means saving every healthy mature tree in Alexandria possible. It means making sure the wetlands “rebuild” – that’s one of many items on WMATA’s punch list for the new Potomac Yards Metro station – actually happens effectively and soon.

And it means prioritizing the environment over development when there’s a conflict every single time. Let’s be an Eco City in reality and not just for show or grant money.

Opinion

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

Photo of the Week

Construction on the new Douglas MacArthur Elementary School continues.

Letters

More thoughts on the Racial Equity Toolkit

To the editor:

Gerald B. File’s “Racial Equity Toolkit” letter in the June 22 Alexandria Times shows how far we’ve strayed from the original thinking behind our civil rights laws, which were designed to require “color blind” approaches in employment, education and other areas. The idea of using statistics to prove discrimination crept in later, but always had generous escape valves if an alternative explanation could be made.

Today’s avant garde “diversity, equity, and inclusion” arise from a narrow exception to “color blind” college admissions, technically justified as a business exception, but which have grown to an extent that they eclipse our civil rights laws’ original intent.

Although popular, particularly with urban governments and large corporations, “diversity, equity, and inclusion” sit on a shaky legal foundation because our civil rights laws were designed as “color blind.” Alexandria’s city hall recently learned this the hard way in a federal lawsuit against one of its diversity initiatives. Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court reminded higher education that diversity had been allowed as a consideration for only a limited time and its time was up.

File’s concern about marginalized Hispanic communities, whose self-esteem, he claims, would benefit from seeing a member of their heritage in a leadership position, suffers from the irony that, under school segregation, minority students saw members of their heritage routinely in leadership positions. The only tweak needed would have been to open up the superintendent’s position to all segregated schools’ principals so that superintendents were not always white. Our civil rights laws require, instead, making personnel decisions based only on candidates’ credentials.

There is nothing nefarious in Black staff’s slight overrepresentation relative to student body at Alexandria’s high school campuses because Blacks should be expected to comprise a disproportionate share of the applicant pool, owing to lower drop-out rates than Hispanics, higher percentages of U.S. citizenship – government employers often require citizenship and cannot hire applicants lacking legal work authorization – and above-average naturalization rates.

-Dino Drudi,
Alexandria

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

T&EES is making a mess of Polk Avenue

To the editor:

We all look forward to fireworks displays as an annual Alexandria event along the waterfront. But, this year, it seems we will have our own version of figurative fireworks on the waterfront.

On July 10, Alexandria’s Transportation and Environmental Services department is preparing to rip up a major thoroughfare street, a one-block area of Polk Avenue. This effort is to create a sidewalk, rejected by 155 residents, who petitioned City Council to revise and rethink the T&EES effort.

But neighbors of this $100,000, taxpayer-funded project have received little outreach in T&EES written materials – from the September 2022 public hearing until a June 20, 2023 flier – when a vaguely worded missive appeared in their mailboxes, but without the promised “Maintenance Plan of Traffic” included. The devil is in the [missing] details.

The flier says “no parking on the block of Polk Avenue, between Pelham Street and Palmer Place, during construction.” This is of great concern to the 22 KMS townhouse owners on Pelham, who need to enter the one-way street to reach their homes. They have no driveways and instead use this private access road for parking one car per house.

The flier says nothing on how this logistically will be accomplished, given the construction at their entry point of Polk and Pelham. And the T&EES plan will be removing nine public parking spots, in an already highly congested and competitive parking area. Where will all the displaced cars go?

This site also happens to be the location of 5325 Polk Open Space Park, which was created on Dec. 4, 2012, when the federal government provided mitigation funds for taking nine acres from the Winkler Preserve in order to construct the BRAC Building off of interstate 595. And Alexandria added $400,000 from its Open Space Fund to purchase the site.

The city welcomed the $1.5 million in federal funds for the new park. But, in the 10 years since, the city has been unable to find any money for a Polk Park sign at the entrance – within a $849 million budget for FY 2023. Nor is there any money for a new coat of paint on the park’s two beat-up benches.

This pristine tract of forest land has been facing controversy since the year 2000, when developers focused on plans for building multi-family units on that site. Four West End civic associations battled for 13 years to save the urban oasis. Among the arguments against development was that the site has a 49% slope, on a marine clay soil base, within a Watershed Protection Zone. Removal of trees there could lead to erosion and possible landslides of the soil on to the street below. Those 2012 arguments are still valid today in 2023.

T&EES continues to ignore three major safety concerns voiced by residents:

• There are no written T&EES plans to include drainage grids and gutters for storm and wastewater within the new curbs.

See Burns

About Alexandria

Congratulations, Mr. Duncan!

BY MARK EATON

In an event requiring congratulations, farewell wishes and reflections, Alexander Duncan III has become the new executive principal of Alexandria City High School’s multiple campuses.

First, congratulations to Duncan, who has been with ACPS since 2007. He rose from being a high school English teacher to being the leader of Virginia’s largest public high school.

Second, many thanks and all best wishes to departing Executive Principal Pete Balas, who concluded a more than 20-year ACPS career and became the principal of Arlington County’s Wakefield High School.

Alexandria’s public employees perform vital functions but the principal of the city’s only public high school plays a special role. Measured in terms of lives directly touched, the ACHS principal may be the most important public employee in the city. The ACHS principal regularly makes decisions, particularly hiring choices, that affect the formative experiences of 4,000 of the city’s young people.

In 14 years at the then T.C. Williams High School I worked with Principals Mel Riddle, Bill Clendaniel, Suzanne Maxey, Jesse Dingle, Balas and an interim principal or two. Of these, only Maxey and Balas served for five years or more. This may be about the minimum duration – and number of staff hiring cycles – to make a real difference in the composition of the staff and the culture of the school.

What accounts for the turnover in ACHS principals? The job is extremely demanding, as a high school principal has many constituents. Many stakeholders approach the principal with problems, not solutions. There were probably multiple unique factors in the departure of each principal. Of course, personnel matters deserve privacy and career decisions belong to the people who make them.

Even so, Balas’ move to Wakefield, the nearest public high school to ACHS and at 2,150 students a little over half ACHS’ size, is disconcerting. Moreso when viewed in tandem with the departure last month of 2023 Washington Post Principal of the Year Liza Burrell-Aldana from Mount Vernon Community School for Arlington County’s Claremont Immersion Elementary School.

In a meet-the-candidates Zoom webinar, Duncan said that in his former role as an administrator at ACHS’ Minnie Howard campus he dealt “mostly with adults.” He made an intentional effort to interact with students by being present in the halls at passing time and at lunch and by trying to form mentor-mentee relationships with students who might need them. These are admirable efforts, but they reveal important consequences of the large enrollments at ACHS’ King Street and Minnie Howard campuses.

The communications challenges for administrators driven by the sheer number of students may be one of the results of allowing ACHS to grow to its current size. It is essential to hire principals who care about students and are “great with kids,” but ACHS’ size seems to promote student-administrator interactions that are either brief and incidental or driven by crises.

ACHS’ size provides an opportunity for an idea that would benefit principals and students. What if ACPS administrators were offered the opportunity to teach a single class, even a semester course, every year? Teaching a class would be a change from the daily whirlwind of issues that administrators encounter. It would also allow administrators to get to know students in different and meaningful ways and to maintain their classroom instruction and engagement skills.

Administrators teaching, on an optional basis, seems to be more prevalent at the college level where deans and college presidents often teach a class. ACHS’ enrollment is larger than many colleges and it may be time to think differently about what we ask of, or offer, our high school administrators.

As a high school teacher, I was always grateful for administrators. They generally dealt with more difficult problems than I did and I tried to cooperate with them. I felt privileged and excited each day when I closed the door to Room A202 to explore literature, language and journalism with TC’s, now ACHS’, terrific students.

The venerable cliche and truism is that the teacher learns more than anyone in the classroom. Maybe it is time to share the fun.

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

Before the start of their hotel empire, J. Willard and Alice Sheets Marriott started out owning A&W Root Beer franchises in the Washington, D.C. area. The Marriotts opened their first stand on 14th Street in Washington in 1927. Soon, the family expanded their business, renaming their restaurants Hot Shoppes, as they sought to attract customers in non-summer months. After adding hot beverages and southwestern food to their offerings, the Marriotts soon experienced success, including here in Alexandria.

The Marriotts’ local expansion utilized the slogan: “A square meal at a fair price.” That expansion included a location at 905 N. Washington St. The restaurant’s location highlighted the chain’s focus on vehicular customers on their way in or out of Alexandria. This third Hot Shoppe location in the Washington D.C. region was the first drive-in restaurant on the East Coast.

By 1942, the date of this photograph, the convenience of a restaurant for motorized customers was a key component of the Hot Shoppe chain’s success. The restaurant brand’s distinctive features included rooftop neon signs to attract motorists and signature menu items such as the Orange Freeze, the Mighty Mo burger and chicken noodle soup. The polar bear seen in this photo was not a Hot Shoppe marketing tool. Instead, it belonged to the Beck’s Frozen Custard stand located next door, at 1027 Pelham, or hospital.

T&ES has no written plans for the city to maintain and to shovel this sidewalk during winter storms, nor to provide additional overhead lighting for pedestrians.

- Houses at 5324 Polk and at 901 N. Washington St. from 1939 to 1963.

The Marriotts expanded their business into airline catering and cafeteria management at U.S. government buildings during the late 1930s and throughout World War II. J. Willard didn’t buy his first lodging business, the Twin Bridges Motor Hotel in Arlington, until 1957. Even with the success as a hotel chain, the Marriott family continued to run the Hot Shoppes, though they soon experienced strong competition from the rise of fast-food chain restaurants. The last Hot Shoppe did not close until 1999.

In 2014, the Marriott Marquis Hotel opened in Washington. Its restaurant’s menu included the Mighty Mo burger, named after the USS Missouri after the conclusion of World War II, and as a homage to the Hot Shoppe restaurants, the start of the Marriott hospitality empire.
**Weekly Words**

**ACROSS**

1. Recedes
2. Safe spot from which to watch sharks
3. Opposite of barefoot
4. Golden ratio symbol
5. "Born a Crime" author Trevor ___
6. Fictional Kazakh journalist
7. Noir or blanc grape
8. Tract
10. Sci-fi visitors
11. Opens the door to
12. Carrie Fisher's iconic role
13. But really?
14. RISD deg.
15. Inspiration for stick figure drawings?
16. QVC alternative
17. Word before "secret" or "plan"
18. High-minded sort?
19. Get ___ of
20. "Quiet, now!"
21. Deceive
22. Musical Merman
23. Asparagus unit
24. Made oneself scarce
25. **DOWN**
26. Punctuation similar to a hyphen
27. Supplements
28. Park for an easy departure
29. "Quiet, now!"
30. Scream
31. TV group with Mr. T
32. Shuffleboard
33. Monotonous pattern
34. Spicy Girls song about feeling overworked
35. "Dexter" channel
36. Fete at the end of Ramadan
37. Sunburn soother
38. Tough H.S. courses
39. 20th-century weekly known for its photography
40. Recipe amounts
41. To no ___ (in vain)
42. Return on an investment
43. Classic sandwich (Abbr.)
44. Jazzy singing style
45. City home to the Musee d’Orsay
46. "Star Trek" character played by Nichelle Nichols
47. Many a good conductor
48. "Orpheus in the Underworld," for one
49. Sunburn soother
50.___ of the game
51. ___-garde
52. ___ Whale (Moby Dick's species)
53. ___ whale (Moby Dick's species)
54. ___ whale (Moby Dick's species)
55. ___ Kleine Nachtmusik
56. ___ 3 fatty acids
57. ___ of the game
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**Solutions from last week**

**DEATH NOTICES**

**JANICE AYRES** (85), of Alexandria, June 17, 2023
**DOROTHY BARRETT** (87), formerly of Alexandria, June 5, 2023
**LOREEN BELLAMY** (71), of Alexandria, June 18, 2023
**MARY FOWLKES** (97), of Alexandria, June 21, 2023
**GRADY “JERRY” NORRIS** (85), formerly of Alexandria, June 14, 2023
**ANTOINETTE ROLPH** (84), of Alexandria, June 21, 2023
**LOUISA SMUCKER** (98), of Alexandria, June 16, 2023
**JAMES “JIM” WALLACE** (85), of Alexandria, June 24, 2023
**NATHANIEL WILSON** (81), of Alexandria, June 15, 2023
LEGAL NOTICE

Board of Architectural Review
LEGAL NOTICE OF
A PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held by the Board of Architectural Review on Wednesday, July 13, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, room 2400, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 on the following applications:

BAR#2023-00163 OHAD Request for sign age at 108 N Fairfax Street Applicant: Sheila McGraw
BAR#2023-00185 OHAD Request for sign age at 111 S Pitt Street Applicant: Sheila McGraw
BAR#2023-00229 OHAD Request for alterations and sign age at 425 S Washington Street Applicant: Bloom Tea
BAR#2023-00264 OHAD Request for alterations at 1115 Prince Street, LLC Applicant: 1115 Prince Street, LLC
BAR#2023-00268 OHAD Request for alterations at 1315 Duke Street Applicant: Gretchen M. Bulova, Director, Office of Historic Alexandria
BAR#2023-00282 Request for partial demolition/encapsulation at 1315 Duke Street Applicant: Gretchen M. Bulova, Director, Office of Historic Alexandria
BAR#2023-00269 OHAD Request for reapproval of a previously approved application for alterations and addition at 1113 Prince Street Applicant: Robert B & Jane J Wallace
BAR#2023-00270 OHAD

Objections should be registered within 30 days at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Objections should be registered within 30 days at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.
or Landon Clark at Virginia Press Services 804-521-7576, landonc@vpa.net

TECHNICAL WRITER OPPORTUNITY

Optical Solutions, Inc. seeks F/T Technical Writer to org/material & complete p/work & doc on behalf of clients Ind. standards & business to analyze & determine subject material be included within the doc. in clients’ industries—bachelor in Business Adm. 6575 Eads Rd Springfield VA 22151.

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