



PART 3 OF A SERIES

Safety on the streets

Is the city's e-scooter program dangerous?

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Scooters first started rolling into Alexandria late last year, bringing with them a wave of anxiety over public safety.

The city is now five months into its nine-month long e-scooter pilot program, and the initial swell of public concern has somewhat died down as the city has attempted to adapt the program to Alexandria's streets. But the pilot is still a work in progress and safety remains a point of concern.

SEE **SCOOTERS**

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PHOTO/MISSY SCHROTT

Council considers zoning issues

Mayor suggests eliminating restaurant SUPs at legislative meeting

BY ARYA HODJAT AND MISSY SCHROTT

Alexandria City Council members discussed a number of issues related to zoning requirements, including the need for a comprehensive approach to concessions

from developers, at its May 28 legislative meeting.

During the discussion, Mayor Justin Wilson also stated his desire to eliminate the requirement for restaurants to obtain special use permits in areas that are zoned commercial.

The discussion took place during council's public hearing for the fiscal year

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Clerk of court election approaches

Ben Ortiz and Greg Parks face off in June 11 primary

BY CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Ben Ortiz and Greg Parks will compete for the Democratic nomination for Alexandria's clerk of court in the June 11 primary election.

The two candidates began campaigning for the office after Ed Semonian announced earlier this

year that after 40 years as clerk of court, he would not seek reelection for his sixth eight-year term.

No Republicans have announced their intent to run for the position, according to the Alexandria Office of Voter Registration.

Semonian will finish out his final term in the courthouse, and the candidate elected in the

SEE **CLERK**

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INSIDE

Sports

T.C. girls' soccer makes state semifinals.

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Finance

Save for college with a 529 plan.

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WEEKLY BRIEFING

PY Metro southern entrance returns to chopping block

The saga of the Potomac Yard Metro station's controversial southern entrance returns, and according to a city news release, the entrance is likely to be scaled back — again.

City Manager Mark Jinks announced in May 2018 that the planned southern entrance at East Glebe Road had been removed from the Metro station's design, sparking outrage from the community.

Residents' anger increased when emails obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request later showed city officials might have known about the entrance's elimination as early as summer 2017.

The incident created frustration in the community and a lack of trust around the project. Some faith was restored when, following Amazon's HQ2

announcement, the state announced it would provide \$50 million of funding for enhanced southwest access to the station.

However, a May 31 memo from City Manager Mark Jinks to the Potomac Yard Metrorail Implementation Work Group stated cost estimates for improved southwest access are too expensive, and an escalator will likely be struck from the design.

PYMIG, city staff and Metro staff put together three concept plans for southwest access on the station, according to the news release. The cost estimates the contractor provided the city earlier in May showed that all three concepts are more expensive than the available \$50 million in state funding: a pavilion with a bridge to the north entrance would

cost \$75 million, a ramp from East Glebe Road with a moving walkway to the north entrance would cost \$90 million and a southwest access pavilion with a small mezzanine would cost \$100 million, according to the news release.

In his memo to PYMIG, Jinks recommended further refining the first concept to keep the cost close to \$50 million. The only specific adjustment mentioned in the memo is the elimination of an escalator from the design.

City staff will further discuss potential changes at the June 10 PYMIG meeting, which will take place at the Charles Houston Recreation Center at 7 p.m. City council will hold a public hearing on PYMIG's recommendation on June 22, followed by a vote at its June 25 legislative meeting.

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Christ House undergoes \$83,000 renovation

The transitional homeless shelter Catholic Charities Christ House at 131 S. West St. recently underwent an \$83,000 renovation, according to a news release.

The renovation comes from a partnership with HomeAid Northern Virginia, a nonprofit organization that

builds and renovates housing and shelter facilities, according to the release.

The building dates back to 1810 and currently offers housing for 14 people, a food pantry, emergency assistance and a nightly soup kitchen. The renovations were extensive and

included upgrades to the kitchen, dining room, lobby, residents' rooms and bathrooms as well as new flooring, vents, thermostats, electrical and lighting throughout the building, according to the release.

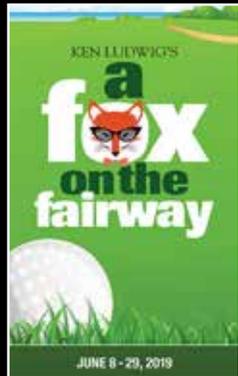
-cmelloklein@alextimes.com

CLARIFICATION:

In the May 30 edition of the Times, it was not clear in the article "Concrete field of dreams" that the roller hockey rink behind Francis C. Hammond Middle School was renovated through a partnership between Alexandria City Public Schools, the Washington Capitals, D.C. Street Hockey and FH Paschen Construction. The partnership and renovation were designed to provide space, equipment, training, programs and after-school sessions for students interested in hockey.



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- JUN 28-30** | **JUL 5-7** Waterfront Beer Garden by Port City Brewing Company
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WEEKLY BRIEFING

Old Town co-working space expands

ALX Community, a shared office co-working space, is expanding from its location on North Lee Street and opening a second location at 201 N. Union St, ALX Community announced in a news release.

The 106,000-square-foot office building on North

Union Street was purchased by Boundary Companies, a Chevy Chase, Maryland-based private investment management firm that has three other acquisitions in Alexandria, according to the release.

ALX Community's second location will feature

private offices, dedicated desks and flex seating along with a 5,000 square foot conference center for training, offsite meetings, lectures and board meetings. The space is set to open in October 2019, according to the release.

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PHOTO/HAL HARDAWAY

Remembering D-Day

Residents honored the 75th anniversary of D-Day – the Allied invasion of France during WWII in 1944 – with a commemoration festival at Waterfront Park on June 1. The event,

hosted by the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee and the Office of Historic Alexandria, featured WWII re-enactors, children's activities, food and a wine garden.

CRIME

Sheriff's office warns of phone scam

Residents have reported scam phone calls from someone claiming to be from the Alexandria Sheriff's Office and telling them to pay outstanding fees or face arrest, according to a May 31 news release from the sheriff's office.

The caller claims that the victim has overdue fines and must pay specific fees to

avoid an arrest warrant, according to the release. The caller has also tried to obtain personal information, like credit card or bank account information. The calls have been targeting Virginia residents, according to the release.

The sheriff's office said that it does not make calls of this kind and that if residents

receive a similar call, they should hang up immediately.

Call the Alexandria Sheriff's Office with any concerns at 703-746-4114. Victims of the scam are encouraged to report the incident to the Alexandria Police Department at 703-746-4444, or to their local law enforcement agency.

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ZONING

FROM | 1

2020 Long Range Planning Interdepartmental Work Program. The program is a plan approved by council annually that examines the city's current and future developments, according to the city website.

One major discussion point was open space requirements in developments. When considering the requirements, several councilors said open space in residential developments was related to the amount of affordable housing developers can be asked to provide.

"A change in open space development will have a direct trade-off with affordability," Wilson said. "We ask for more open space, we potentially drive up the cost for housing."

Wilson said this was because construction costs for developers have increased in recent years, and there's a limit on what developers will agree to provide and still build

projects in the city.

Alexandria's goal is 7.3 acres of open space per 1,000 residents, as stated in the 2002 Open Space Master Plan that was updated in 2017. The city continues to meet this goal, but as Alexandria has become more densely populated in recent years, maintaining that ratio has become difficult. The 2017 plan revision acknowledges this difficulty and states that a new metric may be necessary by 2025.

Councilors said the desire to maintain open space at previous levels is increasingly colliding with efforts to replenish the city's stock of affordable housing units, which have declined precipitously in the past 20 years.

As for whether the city should prioritize open space or affordability, Wilson, as well as Councilor Mo Seifeldein, appeared to favor loosening the city's open-space code.

"When we have an advocate [who] comes in, and

they're advocating for open space only, they may not realize the totality of the circumstances, what they're giving up," Seifeldein said.

As the city further develops, council's debate will likely center around what to do with the city's dwindling supply of undeveloped property, and what factors – including open space and affordability – will have to be prioritized, Seifeldein said.

"The pie is now getting to the point where's there's not much slices left ... they're not getting bigger," Karl Moritz, director of the Department of Planning and Zoning, said.

Councilor Del Pepper was less sympathetic to the plight of developers or the notion that they were being unduly squeezed by the twin requirements for open space and affordable housing units. She argued that the city needs to take more of an authoritative approach on the development process.

"We are getting this puny

amount of one or two [affordable housing] units in a new development, and we're supposed to be very happy about that for 40 years?" Pepper asked Moritz. "Is that what you're talking about? They are going to dictate what we get in affordable housing?"

Wilson and Councilor John Chapman argued that a city-wide discussion about which is a higher priority, open space or affordable housing, is needed. From that discussion, a set construct needs to emerge to guide negotiations with developers, they said. They argued this would be preferable to the current case-by-case status.

"I think part of the challenge I'm having is that we're having some of these conversations in isolation," Wilson said. "I still feel like we haven't yet taken a look at the overall payload of what we ask for from the development community and that it's appropriately rationalized."

"Developers have a num-

ber of things that they're paying for, and that they have to do," Chapman said. "I think that's the disconnect that comes from having things in a certain silo."

In the discussion about restaurant SUPs, Wilson suggested eliminating the requirement that restaurants obtain a special use permit in a commercial zone, noting that Arlington County does not require SUPs for similarly situated restaurants.

City code currently requires restaurants, among other types of establishments, such as apartments, hotels and private schools, to receive an SUP in order to build in the city. These SUPs must be approved by the council.

"There's no reason why a restaurant in a commercial zone should require an SUP," Wilson said. "When was the last time we rejected a restaurant in a commercial zone?"

Council did not vote on either topic.

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SCOOTERS

FROM | 1

Rider behavior, as well as state laws that require only those under the age of 14 to wear helmets, have left residents expecting the worst — and there is data that indicates concerns about scooter safety have merit.

“It’s a tragedy waiting to happen with the way these scooters are being handled by people that are oblivious to road safety rules, that blow through stop signs,” Mike Doyle, founder of Alexandria Families for Safe Streets, said.

Residents have reported riders operating on sidewalks, which is prohibited, according to the city’s permits with the seven scooter companies. Various residents have also reported seeing users riding scooters through stop signs and stoplights and going down the center of the street, the latter of which creates traffic congestion.

Improperly parked scooters have created problems for some of Alexandria’s se-



Two riders share one scooter near the waterfront. Traveling with more than one rider on a scooter is explicitly against many of the companies’ rules and regulations.

PHOTO/HAL HARDAWAY

nior residents.

“I came out of my house — I live in the Torpedo Factory apartments on North Union Street — to find two

scooters blocking the sidewalk,” Diana Banat, an 83-year-old resident, said in an email. “They were too heavy and entangled for me

to pick up and as I passed them, I tripped and almost fell.”

The Inova Alexandria Hospital emergency department has not seen a flood of scooter-related injuries this year, according to Dr. Jeremy Graf, chair of the department.

However, residents have reported some close calls.

“Our neighbors in the 100 block of Prince [Street] shared that their teenage son had been hit by a scooter last week,” Greg Wilson, an Old Town resident who started a petition against the scooter program, said in an email. “Fortunately, he was fine, but scared by the experience.”

“Another signatory to our letter shared that she nearly hit a young child who had darted into the street on a scooter,” he said in an email. “Fortunately, for her, she was able to stop the car in time, but it was frightening for all involved.”

Many of the concerns

around scooters are a symptom of how new the technology is, Graf said. Pedestrians, drivers and even police are still uncertain how to interact with the devices on the street.

“When someone’s on a walking path and there’s a bicyclist that decides to use that path instead of the road, people can predict the speed, predict the maneuverability,” Graf said. “Scooters can be a little more difficult.”

The unpredictability presents a problem for the Alexandria Police Department. Officers can only do so much to enforce traffic laws with vehicles that quickly scoot in and out of traffic, Chief Michael Brown said.

“Our traffic safety section is aware of it. Our patrol units are aware of it,” Brown said. “We briefed them on what’s required by the operators of those scooters when the scooters were first deployed.”

To compound enforcement challenges, there is no category for scooters under Virginia law, which makes tracking and reporting scooter traffic stops or citations difficult. Brown said officers have stopped riders, but that it is difficult to determine how many, given these reporting issues.

“We’re also looking at trying to get a sense or a tempo of how often or what the frequency of use is,” Brown said. “That will allow us to do some extra deployment in [high traffic] areas.”

Police can enforce the laws, but rider education and awareness largely fall under the purview of the seven e-scooter companies currently permitted to operate in Alexandria. Making sure each company is regulating its riders has been a

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challenge for city officials.

“There are challenges with the quantity, there’s challenges with where they’re being left; and challenges with the companies’ ability to keep up with regulating the impact of their users’ actions and behaviors,” Mayor Justin Wilson said.

While corporate responsiveness has been an ongoing issue throughout the pilot program, some companies have taken steps of their own to ensure the safety of their riders.

One company, Bird, has given away more than 65,000 helmets to its users worldwide and has put in place measures it claims will increase the safety of riders.

“We strive to improve and enhance the well-being of our riders and communities through concrete action, including: requiring riders to confirm they are 18 or older, providing an in-app tutorial on how to



There are challenges with the quantity, there’s challenges with where they’re being left and challenges with the companies’ ability to keep up with regulating the impact of their users’ actions and behaviors.”

– Mayor Justin Wilson

ride a Bird and how to park it and posting clear safety instructions on each Bird,” a Bird spokesperson said in a statement.

“The scooter doesn’t drive itself,” Maggie Gendron, director of strategic development and government affairs for Lime in the D.C. area, said. “It is driven by the rider and there are

certainly behavioral tactics that we expect from our riders.”

Lime orchestrates in-person educational events for the public throughout the region based around rules of the road and proper use of its devices, Gendron said.

Other scooter companies, including Skip and Jump, have also started giving away or selling helmets to their users. Jump is partnering with VeloCity Bike Cooperative in Del Ray to give out free helmets to its riders.

Whether riders take advantage of these opportunities is another matter, and it remains unclear whether e-scooter companies will be able to enforce or ensure the safety of their riders.

Two recent studies from the Centers for Disease Control and the University of California, Los Angeles outlined that the concerns around scooter safety are well-founded.

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CLERK FROM | 1

November general election will take over in early 2020. The race for the position is in full swing, as Ortiz and Parks offer contrasting perspectives of what they want to bring to the office.

Ben Ortiz

From the beginning of his campaign, Ortiz has emphasized his 15 years of experience in the clerk's office and the legacy that Semonian, his mentor, has left behind.

"The tradition, the legacy that Mr. Semonian has established there, I wouldn't change for the world," Ortiz said.

Born in Manhattan, Ortiz and his family moved to Puerto Rico, his father's home, when he was young. After completing his computer engineering degree at University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez, Ortiz moved



PHOTO/CODY MELLO-KLEIN

Ben Ortiz has worked at the Alexandria Circuit Court for 15 years.

back to the states to work at the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Alexandria.

The job wasn't for him, Ortiz said, but it was educational, nonetheless.

"Being at the Patent Office, I loved the experience, but it really showed that I wanted to do something

with people," Ortiz said.

Ortiz saw a vague advertisement for a data entry clerk position at the Alexandria Circuit Court and, throwing caution to the wind, applied for the position. Ortiz got the job, and spent the next 15 years working his way through the office's ranks. He held

the positions of courtroom clerk and supervisor for the office's public service division, before becoming the chief deputy clerk in July 2009.

Ortiz now works directly with Semonian, who endorsed him for the primary. Ortiz said he's taken Semonian's lessons about the importance of professionalism, patience, understanding and public service to heart.

Those qualities, as well as the context in which Ortiz learned them, are testaments to his experience and ability in the clerk's office, Ortiz said. Scheduled one-hour appointments regularly become two-hour sessions with Ortiz, and it all goes back to one of the first lessons Semonian taught him.

"[Semonian] said, 'Ben, I need you to listen to me very carefully. To you that's a piece of paper. To some-

one else, that affects their life,'" Ortiz said.

That kind of care and consideration for public service remains at the heart of Ortiz's life – and now his campaign – 15 years later, Ortiz said.

"I just want to help the people," Ortiz said. "Alexandria is my home and I don't want to have anything else coming between me and helping the public."

Ortiz said that while he admires Semonian's legacy, there is still room for improvement at the clerk's office. The office's dated technology – specifically the lack of an efficient, expansive e-filing system for the public – has been a key point of interest for voters. Ortiz acknowledges change is needed – in more ways than one.

The clerk's office has an online database called AJIS

SEE **CLERK**

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CLERK

FROM | 9

that allows various judicial parties like the sheriff's office and commonwealth's attorney's office to share documents. Semonian spearheaded the creation of the system in the early 2000s, the first system of its kind in Virginia.

"In the time that I've been there, AJIS has been instrumental in terms of efficiency ... but 15 years is a long time and as much as we try to match our system with the [state] Supreme Court system, it's time to get something in

that can take advantage of current technology," Ortiz said. "That's one of the main things that I would focus [on] and I've actually already started working on that."

For two years, Ortiz has been working with the city manager's office and the state Supreme Court to find resources and evaluate current technology in order to create a new system based on the state Supreme Court system that would include more extensive e-filing for the public.

The clerk's office has a free online portal through

which residents can access case information, but not documents themselves. The office's main form of accessible e-filing – land records – remains locked behind fees. According to Ortiz, the fees are implemented by state-wide statutes. However, he said, change is possible if the fees negatively impact the public he serves.

"We have a clerk's association and we always look at the statutes, the bills, the fee structure to see if there's anything that we can revise and tell legislators, 'Hey, why don't we do this differently?'" Ortiz said.

Money isn't the only barrier to access for residents, according to Ortiz. In an increasingly diverse city, primarily English forms can make things difficult for residents, Ortiz said. Ortiz, a Spanish speaker himself, said he helped create Spanish-language marriage licenses and a special form for deaf and mute residents during his time at the office.

"Things will continue to

come up over time, changes, and we have to adapt," Ortiz said. "That's something I'm so good at because I moved from one place to another without knowing any single person here. I'm still here."

Ortiz is keen on improving the office in limited ways, but he wants to make sure that the things he sees as strengths – the qualities Semonian instilled in the office – are maintained as well.

"It's a balance," Ortiz said. "I don't want to forget or have anyone else forget what this office has been for the last 40 years, but at the same time I'm going to improve it where it needs to be improved. That would be my footprint."

Greg Parks

At a young age, Greg Parks had a first-class education in the power of local politics.

His mother was president of the school board, ran for county clerk – the county equivalent of clerk of court – and even founded a local

agriculture advocacy group called Women Involved in Farm Economics, or WIFE, at her kitchen table.

Parks said his campaign for clerk of court is all about bringing his career, defined by experience at the federal level, back to that kitchen table.

"I think I can really bring it all back to where it started at my mother's kitchen table of really helping Alexandrians, local citizens, have a direct impact on their lives," Parks said.

After graduating from the University of Nebraska in 1988 with a degree in political science and history, Parks moved to D.C. to pursue his law degree at American University. Parks earned his Juris Doctorate degree in 1993.

Although Parks' passion remained in local politics, his proximity to federal agencies led him down a different path, Parks said. He worked as an attorney for the Coast Guard, helping

SEE **CLERK**

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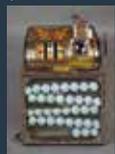
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 Leather Upholstered Chesterfield Sofa	 Verde Antico and White Marble Library Table, 20th C.
 Jack Nicklaus Golf Clubs	 18K Gold Labrador Pin
 Jennings Golf Ball Slot Machine	 Vintage 18K Gold Patek Philippe Watch
 Sevres Bisque Figure of <i>Juliette Recamier</i> on Marble Base, 19th C. h: 15 in.	 Michelangelo Pistoletto A, 1983, screenprint on Mylar: 16 x 12 3/4 in.
	 Lynn Chadwick (British, 1914-2003) <i>Maquette VI</i> – <i>Walking Woman</i> , 1983, signed, numbered 6/9, h: 9 in.

CLERK

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create safety regulations and environmental protections. From there, he moved to the Department of Transportation and then the General Services Administration where he worked as legislative director. He also served as chief counsel for the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals.

Parks moved to Alexandria with his husband David in 2013 and immediately got involved in local politics, serving on boards and committees and getting involved in the Alexandria Democratic Committee.

When Semonian announced he wouldn't be running again, Parks realized the clerk's office was exactly what he had been looking for.

"I came to the conclusion that my experience – my legal experience, my legal training, my experience as a manager – was a really good fit for this office, and it's an office that also appeals to my public service sense," Parks said.

Since announcing his candidacy, Parks has received endorsements from the mayor, every member of city council and the sheriff. For Parks, those connections are a starting point for improving the office and moving it forward.

"[I] have a starting place, if I get elected, to go and advocate for the clerk's office and say, 'Hey, here's all the things this office does that really help the Alexandria citizens and here's why these resources are needed to improve the service here,'" Parks said. "I have experience doing that very directly at the federal level."

Parks' campaign is defined by three central ideas, he said: modernization, citizen service and access to justice. Together, the three



COURTESY PHOTO

Greg Parks, middle, has been endorsed by a number of local officials including every city councilor, the commonwealth's attorney and sheriff.

ideas form an improvement plan that Parks would seek to implement should he win the position.

Addressing the office's technology, Parks said there is plenty of room for improvement.

"I think that this office needs to be modernized in terms of electronic filing," Parks said at a May 28 debate.

Parks cited Arlington's Project Paperless as a possible point of inspiration.

Citizen service, or customer service, is also central to Parks' campaign. While researching the office, Parks learned just how much of an impact the office has on the public – and how much of a responsibility it bears.

"When I was doing the research, what I concluded was that there are so many places that the public touches this office, and what you really, really need is to have outstanding customer service," Parks said. "By that, I mean when you come into that office and you need something, you need to have staff that are trained and motivated to give you outstanding service."

The third pillar of Parks' campaign – access to justice – is ambitious and, as Parks said, a long-term goal

regard to those kinds of things that are non-merit."

As part of his vision, Parks would seek to join the Virginia Supreme Court's Access to Justice Commission – the Arlington clerk is part of the organization – and look specifically at monitoring fee schedules, having aids and online portals that would allow residents to perform simple procedures, like uncontested divorces, without hiring an attorney and increasing multi-lingual documentation.

Parks believes advocating for the office at the local and state level are key to improving the clerk's office. He touted his experience working for the GSA on Capitol Hill.

"I couldn't possibly say that I know the internal workings of that office as well as my opponent," Parks said. "... I think the job of the elected official is to be a leader, to be a high-level manager, to be someone who goes to city council, who goes to the state legislature and advocates for this

office to get the resources it needs and who makes final decisions. I've done that at the federal level in organizations that are as complicated with much larger budgets than this."

For Parks, the office – by virtue of being an elected position – is inherently political and carries with it a certain sense of responsibility. Part of his responsibility as clerk would be changing and improving an office that has been under the guidance of one man for 40 years, Parks said.

"I do hear stories that there are places where the office can improve. I don't think that that in any way besmirches Mr. Semonian's legacy," Parks said. "You build on that by going in and taking a new look at things. ... You don't want the answer to any question to be 'Because we've always done it that way.'"

For information about voting in Alexandria, visit www.alexandriava.gov/elections.

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SPORTS

Undefeated T.C. Williams girls' soccer heads to states

Titans advance after beating Chantilly 3-2 in state quarterfinal

BY MISSY SCHROTT

The T.C. Williams varsity girls' soccer team is two games away from a perfect season.

After a 3-2 win over Chantilly High School in the Virginia High School League quarterfinals on Tuesday, the team will carry its 21-0 record to Glen Allen, Virginia for the state semifinals Friday.

Throughout the entire season, which began in early March, the team has scored 111 goals and given up only seven, according to Liz Blount, one of the team's associate head coaches. Blount shares the role with Ally



T.C.'s Emma Bates breaks away with the ball in a May 22 game against Robinson Secondary School.

COURTESY PHOTO

of girls who work well together and want to get it done. It makes Ally and my jobs very easy."

After winning district finals 6-0 against Hayfield Secondary School on May 17 and region finals 1-0 against South County High School on May 31, the quarterfinal state game against Chantilly was one of the team's toughest games of the season. It was the only game in which they've given up more than one goal.

"We told the girls the smarter team was going to win this game because everybody's good at this point. It's the state quarterfinal game," Blount said.

The teams took turns scoring throughout the

Hodgkins Wagner.

"We've only been scored on three times on our home

field," Blount said. "We just have really good leadership. Teamwork is unbelievable.

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SEE **SOCCER**

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FINANCE

Save for college with a 529 plan

BY SHAWN MCLAUGHLIN

Graduation season is here. It's a time to celebrate milestones for students of all ages, from pre-Kindergarten to graduate school – a true lifetime of learning. As a financial professional for more than 30 years, I make it a habit to regularly remind families that the perfect graduation gift grows along with your child.



SHAWN MCLAUGHLIN

On May 29, college savings plans, more commonly known as 529 plans, across the nation celebrated 529 College Savings Day. This day is a way to raise awareness about the importance of saving for a child's future

higher education needs.

Thousands of families every month make the choice to start building their children's college savings with 529 plans. These flexible and affordable options allow you to prepare for whatever your child's post-high school education will look like.

For those families who have already begun saving for higher education, consider taking this time to review your savings strategy by checking your 529 accounts to make sure you've selected the right investment mix and risk for your current situation.

Why now? It's prudent



FILE PHOTO

529 plans are flexible, affordable college savings plans.

for every investor to review their investment portfolio at least once a year. This gives you the chance to see

how they have performed and evaluate whether you are in a good position or need to increase your savings.

If you haven't yet begun saving for your child's higher education, or you're using alternative savings methods, such as a traditional bank savings account, there's no time like

the present to get started with a 529 account.

A 529 plan is flexible and can be used at most two- or four-year colleges, vocational or technical schools or graduate schools almost anywhere in the United States. It can even be used at some

SEE COLLEGE | 15

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COLLEGE FROM | 14

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Virginia residents who own Virginia529 accounts also may deduct contributions to 529 accounts – up to \$4,000 per account per year – from their Virginia state individual income taxes.

If family members are looking for graduation gift

ideas for your child, growing your college savings through social gifting is smart and easy. Virginia529 offers an online, free way to contribute to any Prepaid529 or Invest529 account using a custom gift ID number.

Families can share that ID with friends and family to make gifting easy. The custom ID is also safe to share on social media. The online gifting portal makes it easy to contribute online to a loved one's education.

Last year, the plan also expanded its gifting options to include Invest529 gift cards, which are available for purchase in participating Target stores in Virginia.

A third option is to print a custom gift certificate that fits any occasion,

in this case graduation season, and mail your payment to Virginia529.

Most parents want to give their children the opportunity to go to college. Families who have a plan and are actively saving can save twice as much as those who don't have a plan. So this graduation season take time to celebrate, and make time to plan and save for your child's future.

Shawn P. McLaughlin is president & CEO of McLaughlin Ryder Investments, Inc. an Alexandria-based financial services firm. McLaughlin received a gubernatorial appointment to the Board of Directors of the Virginia College Savings Plan in 2009 and served as the board's chair for nearly nine years.

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game, before the Titans locked down the 3-2 victory with a free kick 20 yards out with about four minutes left on the clock, Blount said.

"The girls were pumped, to say the least, and they held [Chantilly]," Blount said.

Looking to the rest of the state tournament, Blount said her mantra is going to be, "Just keep it going."

"These girls are really resilient," Blount said. "When we got scored on [during the quarterfinals], they didn't shut down. They said, 'Let's go,' and they rose to the occasion, and they've been doing that all season. They don't want to disappoint each other, and so they just keep working. They dig deep and they find a way."

The team takes on James River High School from



COURTESY PHOTO
The T.C. team in a huddle during Tuesday's state quarterfinal game against Chantilly High School.

Midlothian, Virginia at Deep Run High School in Glen Allen tomorrow at noon.

The winner of that game will take on the winner of the Yorktown High School vs. Floyd Kellam High School semifinal game in the state championship Saturday at 3 p.m. See alextimes.com for updates on the Titans' performance in the state semifinals.

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Top: Junction bakery presents their chocolate macarons.
Above: Del Ray Pizzeria's first place judge's award-winning entree: Jicama shrimp tacos.
Right: From left to right - Chef Pablo Ranea, third place People's Choice award winners Northside 10, Lieutenant Sean Casey, second place People's Choice winners Del Ray Pizzeria, first place People's Choice winners Pork Barrel BBQ, chef Vikram Sunderam and Alexandria Police Sheriff Dana Lawhorne.
Bottom Right: Stomping Ground serves jerk pulled pork with cilantro aioli and red onion on a mini buttermilk biscuit.



Left: From left to right: Third place judges' award winners Swings Coffee Roasters, first place winners Del Ray Pizzeria, Chef Vikram Sunderam, Chef Pablo Ranea, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, Lieutenant Sean Casey, second place winners Stomping Ground. **Right:** Swing's Coffee Roasters serve their hopped cascara soda.



Taste of Del Ray brings the heat

The 11th annual Taste of Del Ray food festival drew a sold-out crowd of 500 people to Mount Vernon Avenue for dishes prepared by 17 Del Ray restaurants. This year's event also featured 50 VIP attendees who were able to enjoy an early sampling of the festival. The event culminated with the two guest judges, Chefs Pablo Ranea and Vikram Sunderam, giving three restaurants the judges' award. Third place went to Swing's Coffee Roasters' hopped cascara soda, second place went to Stomping Ground's jerk pulled pork with cilantro aioli and red onion with a mini buttermilk biscuit and first place went to Del Ray Pizzeria's Jicama shrimp taco. Attendees also got to vote for their favorite dishes. The three recipients of the People's Choice Awards were third place winner Northside 10 for its risotto fritters, second place winner Del Ray Pizzeria and first place winner Pork Barrel BBQ for its smoked white chicken chili.

Photos by Aleksandra Kochurova



Left: Del Ray Cafe served chouquettes with chocolate and raspberry sauces, along with cold soups. **Right:** Mars Rodeo played covers while attendees sampled food from 17 Del Ray Restaurants.



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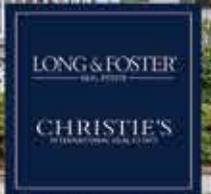


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Times Living

CALENDAR

Celebrate summer in Alexandria

Festivals, beer gardens and parties you don't want to miss

BY MISSY SCHROTT

With Memorial Day in the rear-view mirror, summer is coming in hot. Each year, summer in Alexandria brings a collection of fun events, from recurring annual hallmarks like America and Alexandria's joint birthday celebration in July, to first-time events like the Carlyle Block Party.

Get ready to mark your calendars, because whether you're looking to soak up the sun, stay active or sample drinks throughout the city, Alexandria has you covered. Below are some can't-miss summer spotlights, but there are numerous other one-time and ongoing events taking place throughout the summer, including outdoor movie screenings, First Thursdays in Del Ray and more. Keep up with our calendar each week for a list of upcoming events.

Portside in Old Town

Celebrate the newly opened Waterfront Park with the Portside in Old



PHOTO/ WILL NICCOLLS

Mind the Mat's Megan Brown hosts a pilates class on Mount Vernon Avenue during the 2018 Well Ray Festival.

Town Summer Festival.

Portside in Old Town is a free programming series that aims to draw people to the new park at the foot of King Street, according to Visit Alexandria. The series kicked off this past fall with the first Portside in Old Town Festival on the waterfront, but because of flooding along the waterfront, the event took place before the new park was completed.

On June 22, the festival returns in full swing at the now-finished Waterfront Park. Primarily a music festival, the event will feature six local musical acts that are tinged with international flavor: Elena & Los Fulanos, a Latin folk band; Christylez Bacon and Nistha Raj, a duo that blends hip-hop and Indian classical music; Feedel Band, an Ethiopian jazz ensemble; Cissa Paz, a Brazilian jazz artist; and

Black Masala, a D.C.-based brass fusion band.

The free event, which will take place rain or shine from 2 to 8 p.m., will also feature pop-up eats from Pizza Paradiso, Rocklands BBQ and Dolci Gelati; activities from the Office of Historic Alexandria, The Art League and School of Rock Alexandria; and a beer garden from Port City Brewing Company. The waterfront beer garden will return the

following two weekends, June 28 through 30 and July 5 through 7.

More information is available online at www.visitalexandriava.com.

Well Ray

Well Ray is an annual event that's become a hallmark in Alexandria's health and wellness scene over the past six years. Falling on June 22 this year, the festival takes place each summer on Mount Vernon Avenue in Del Ray.

The free festival features a variety of outdoor yoga, Pilates, CrossFit, spin, barre and dance classes led by Del Ray studio instructors. There will also be a lineup of health and lifestyle vendors offering massages, acupuncture, blood pressure screenings and other services.

For more information, visit www.wellraydelray.com.

Carlyle Block Party

With an influx of new businesses, including Lost Boy Cider and Whiskey & Oyster, and even more new concepts on the way,

SEE EVENTS

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PEES

The self-cleaning cat

Grooming your cat should be a bonding experience — not a bath | Page 20

HOMIES

Incorporating wood in kitchens

Wood countertops and accents serve their own kind of utility | Page 22

CALENDAR

June events

Attend a sound meditation, make art for Father's Day and more | Page 24

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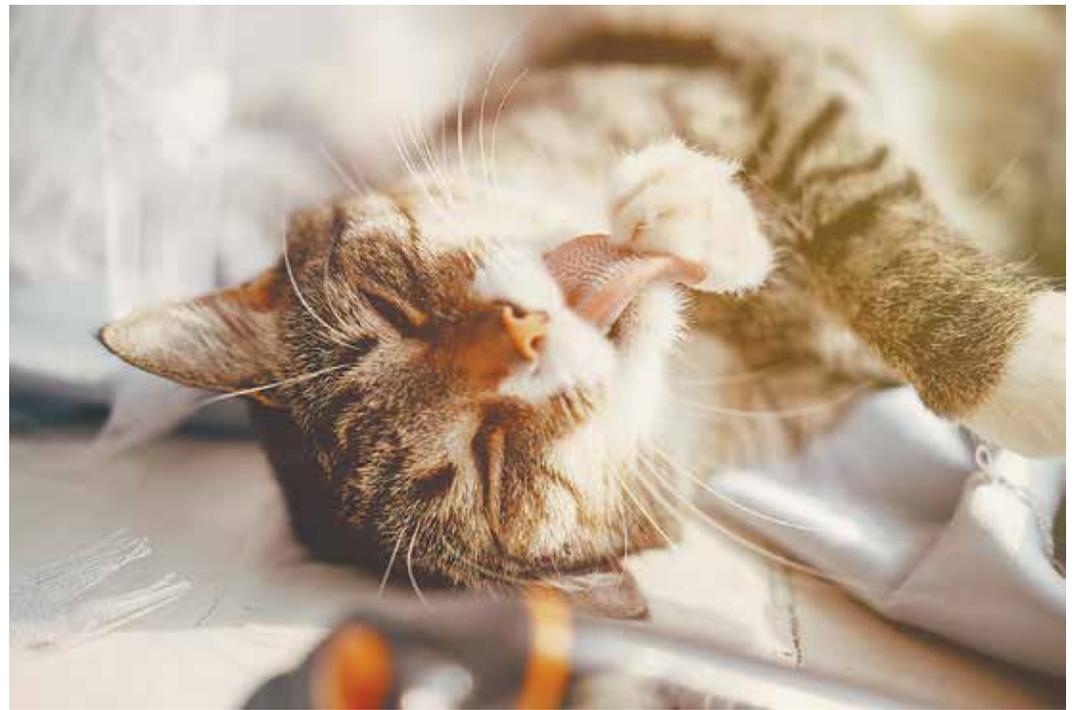
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FILE PHOTO

A typical cat is awake less than half of the day – and about 15 percent of that time is spent grooming.

The self-cleaning cat

BY SARAH LIU

Have you ever noticed how clean and chic a happy, healthy cat looks? Over the years, I have had multiple non-cat owners ask me how often I bathe my cat. The idea is laughable. Honestly, I think she'd kill me if I tried. Moreover, as a lifelong cat lover who has known hundreds of cats, I have given fewer than 20 baths, and more than half of those were very young kittens with fleas.

We might take our cats'

impeccable grooming for granted, but thousands of years of nature and generations of nurture have gifted humans with neat and tidy companions fit to share our couches and beds.

Studies show cats spend up to 15 percent of waking hours grooming themselves. If you consider the typical cat is awake less than half a day, that's really quite a lot. It might seem like vanity, but grooming is an innate survival mechanism. Sharp claws catch prey; clean,

odorless fur evades detection by larger predators.

Grooming starts at birth

Mother cats lick their newborn kittens immediately after delivery, removing fluids and stimulating respiration. In the first few weeks, the mother cat's tongue will keep the babies clean and reinforce a mutual bond of affection. The rhythmic pressure of

SEE GROOMING

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PETS

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abdominal grooming encourages digestion, and mom's raspy tongue will effectively change diapers for kittens too young to eliminate waste on their own.

Kittens are incredibly fast learners

By two weeks, a newborn kitten will attempt to clean herself. By six weeks, she will spend time grooming her littermates, assisting with hard to reach places under the chin and behind the ears. This mutual grooming, or allogrooming, will continue to reinforce social bonds amongst littermates that can last into adulthood. In cat colonies or multi-cat households, allogrooming maintains good relations and follows a complex social hierarchy. For example, a 1998 study from researchers at the University of Southampton, UK and University of Leiden, Netherlands shows that higher-ranking cats more frequently groom lower-ranking cats, generally focusing on the neck and head area.

By eight weeks, a kitten is proficient at grooming herself

Her raspy tongue is barbed with tiny hooks, perfect for removing loose fur and debris, and redistributing skin oils. A full grooming session is usually systematic, going from the top down: licking the lips and nose, then a paw licked to sufficient dampness to wipe the sides of the head, ears and eyes, followed by long strokes to each shoulder and foreleg, the flanks, the anogenital area, the hind legs

and finally the tail. You may also notice your cat biting her nails. This is a normal behavior to remove the worn down outer layer and reveal the sharp claw underneath.

Assisted grooming is a great bonding experience

While healthy mature cats are generally self-sufficient, gentle strokes with soft brushes remove loose fur, cut down on hairballs, and soothe nerves for a relaxing environment. Special combs and clippers remove mats and ragged nails, and pet wipes dissolve wax or secretions in inner ears and around the eyes. Like humans, each cat has likes and dislikes, so pay attention to your cat's body language and accommodate her preferences.



SARAH LIU

Many cats feel overstimulated by repeated attention to certain areas of the body, and will quickly let you know when enough is enough. Brushes, combs, clippers and other grooming devices come in all shapes and sizes and are specific to your cat's length and texture of fur. Longhaired cats are often more prone to matting and hairballs and will especially benefit from assistive grooming. Shorthaired cats, especially those with a thick undercoat, still shed and will appreciate help removing dead fur.

Regular grooming provides an opportunity to survey your cat's health

Healthy, stress-free cats have shiny clean coats and supple smooth skin. Grooming gives a chance to look for parasites, such as fleas or ticks, fungal infections like

ringworm and allergic reactions to food or environmental irritants like household cleaners. Apart from physical condition, grooming reflects your cat's mental state as well. Stress in cats can manifest in hair loss, often caused by over grooming, or in oily or flaky fur, sometimes caused by under-grooming. Poor grooming can be a sign of advanced age or obesity, as arthritis or body habitus may prevent the postures necessary to reach certain areas of the cat's body.

SEE **GROOMING** | 25



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HOMES

How to tastefully incorporate wood in your kitchen

BY MARY G. PEPITONE

Don't knock wood as a kitchen accoutrement that mixes form and function. When it comes to entertaining both indoors and out, wooden boards are no longer on the chopping block.

While a wood surface initially might fall flat in terms of water and stain resistance, it's a product that stands the test of time, Steve Pless, sales manager for John Boos and Co., a fabricator of wood countertops and boards, said.

"Due to a minimalist trend that highlights stainless steel and dark polished surfaces, wood brings instant warmth to an overall kitchen design," Pless said. "While wood has never completely fallen out of favor, our company has been experiencing solid and steady growth that's doubled in the last six years."

While hard-rock maple is the most used wood to fabricate countertops and cutting boards made by John Boos and Co., other woods — including oak, poplar, walnut and cherry — each have their own unique grains and characteristics that are one of a kind.

Nicks and scratches are part of a wood surface's patina, Pless said, and natural countertops and cutting boards require ongoing maintenance. Food-safe mineral oil provides a non-toxic coating to protect a natural finish.

"A wood countertop can also be factory-treated with a smooth semigloss finish, and can be easily cleaned with mild soap and warm water, which doesn't require regu-



PHOTO/KATY MILTON

San Francisco designer Katy Milton finds there's no pretention when entertaining using her custom-made four-foot-long plank of natural poplar.

lar re-oiling," Pless said. "I don't advise cutting directly on a countertop, no matter what surface it is — that's what a natural wood cutting board is for — but you need to embrace the fact that a wood surface is going to take on a character of its own."

Part of a countertop's character comes from one of three ways the wood is fabricated:

- **Edge-grain-style:** Cut lumber planks are laid on edge and joined together. They can be cut to make countertops up to four inches thick.

- **Plank-style:** Wood planks are joined together

er to form the width of the countertop. Each board can run the entire length of the countertop and shows off the heart of the grain.

- **End-grain-style:** Many short pieces of wood, usually four inches thick, are stacked side-by-side and joined with cut ends facing up. This produces an extremely tough surface that resembles a checkerboard, and gives a traditional butcher block appearance.

The hard-rock maple countertops from John Boos and Co. are popular on kitchen islands that don't

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Upcoming Games

6/6 Bethesda Big Train (away)

6/7 Braves (away)

6/8 Giants (home)

6/9 Bethesda Big Train (home)

6/10 D.C. Grays (home)

6/11 Braves (home)

6/13 Thunderbolts (away)

6/14 Giants (away)

All home games start at 6:30 p.m.

All away games are at 7 p.m.



Home games are held at **Frank Mann Field**
3700 Commonwealth Ave. Alexandria, VA 22205

 Alexandria_Aces  AlexandriaAces1  Alexandria_Aces

HOMES

WOOD

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house a sink, Pless said.

“The experienced weekend do-it-yourself-er can install these countertops over existing cabinetry and easily change the look of the kitchen,” Pless said. “The important thing is to allow for expansion and contraction of wood, since it is a dynamic material and responsive to weather.”

Water-repellent finishes and barriers can make wet kitchen applications possible. While wooden countertops are durable, they are not moisture-resistant and may warp over time if exposed to water on an ongoing basis. No matter the type of wood or finish, allowing liquid to pool on the surface can cause watermarks and expansion that can lead to



PHOTO/JOHN BOOS AND CO.

The eating area of this kitchen island is a hard-rock maple top that is factory-treated with a smooth semigloss finish. This tabletop can be easily cleaned with mild soap and warm water, and doesn't require regular re-oiling.

glue joint failure and warping.

“Wooden countertops are easily

cleaned by simply wiping the surface with a slightly damp cloth using anti-bacterial dish soap or a small amount of bleach or vinegar in the water,” Pless said. “Follow that up by thoroughly drying the wooden countertop after washing it.”

Pless said it is a good habit to use separate cutting boards for different types of food preparation.

“For example, use one cutting board for raw meats and fish, and another for cooked or raw foods, such as vegetables and bread,” he said. “Of course, clean the cutting board thoroughly after each usage, according to manufacturer's guidelines, and that will help protect against cross-contamination.”

For Katy Milton, a designer located in the San Francisco Bay area,

wood is great for entertaining on the go.

“Wood is organic and has its own story, and just invites people in,” Milton said. “This is the way I love to entertain. There's just something about the informality and beauty of a beautiful wooden board laden with food.”

Milton packs her wooden board with an assortment of meats, cheeses, crackers, olives, fruit and nuts, then artfully displays the food for an impromptu picnic or gathering.

“When everyone is done eating, I just wash the natural board and treat it with a food-grade mineral oil,” she said. “There's no pretention when you're entertaining using a wooden cutting board. Wood is approachable, and people just innately gather around it.”

HOME OF THE WEEK

Alexandria city residence in tranquil and private setting

1103 Finley Lane is a residence in a quiet, tranquil setting, conveniently based in Seminary Hill.

It's close to the entrance to I-395, and near to some of Alexandria's most prestigious schools. It also affords easy access to some of the most important locations in the Washington Metropolitan area, with Amazon's HQ2 set for Crystal City, Reagan National Airport just five miles away, and the U.S. Capitol Building and K Street within 10 miles. The combination of luxury, craftsmanship, a peaceful setting and location is unmatched.

The original owners reside in the majestic 1.3-acre manor. The 10,400 square-foot home includes six bedrooms, six bathrooms, seven fireplaces, a three-car garage and a heated swimming pool surrounded by professionally-designed landscaping. This elegant home was built with the intention of seamlessly intertwining entertainment with



Left: The manor home is surrounded by trees on a 1.3-acre lot. **Right:** The home features gracious and spacious rooms.



PHOTO/SEAN SHANAHAN

comfortable living quarters.

The quality craftsmanship is apparent as soon as you enter the home. The three-floor elevator is a welcome feature, although there are also two staircases. Heart of pine floors, 10-foot ceilings and custom features in every room are among the luxuries that make this

home an urban oasis.

The 45-foot black pebble heated lap pool offers peaceful outdoor exercise. The landscape consists of vibrant colors and a variety of plants, including azaleas, hydrangeas, yellow and peach tea roses, red and pink camellia bushes, lilacs, magnolias and dogwood trees.

AT A GLANCE

Neighborhood: Seminary Hill
Size: 10,400 square feet
Bedrooms: Six
Bathrooms: Six
Parking: Three-car garage
Contact: Heather Corey
 TTR Sotheby's International Realty
 703.310.6800 (office)

HOMES ADVERTORIAL

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CALENDAR

EVENTS

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including a food hall at 200 Stovall St. and a Wegmans grocery store, it's no secret that Carlyle is one of the city's most up-and-coming neighborhoods.

To celebrate the growing neighborhood, the inaugural Carlyle Block Party will take place on June 22 at John Carlyle Park from noon to 8:30 p.m. The event is hosted by the Carlyle Vitality Initiative, a group that aims to improve the neighborhood's vitality through physical and experiential improvements, according to

the City of Alexandria website.

The all-day block party will feature performances by Capital Blues Ensemble, Turtle Recall, Aztec Sun and other Alexandria bands, as well as two beer gardens, food trucks and a variety of games.

For more information, visit www.thecarlylecommunity.com/carlyle-events/.

USA / Alexandria Birthday Celebration

In Alexandria, residents are never shy about celebrating the city's history.



PHOTO/ JEREMY MILLER

Alexandria's Town Crier announces former Mayor Allison Silberberg at last year's Alexandria Birthday Celebration.

This annual event keeps the Fourth of July celebrations going, bringing together American and Alexandria

history along the waterfront.

The party, which will take place on July 13 at Oronoco Bay Park, will celebrate the country's 243rd birthday and the city's 270th.

Each year, residents gather in their lawn chairs and blankets for the party's main event – a fireworks display accompanied by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Other festivities include birthday cake and food vendors.

For more information, visit www.visitalexandriava.com/alx-bday/.

[-mschrott@alextimes.com](mailto:mschrott@alextimes.com)

JUNE 6

ALX PRIDE 2019 MIX AND MINGLE

In honor of the start of Capital Pride in the DMV area, and the 30th anniversary of the City of Alexandria's support of Pride Month, come to a special mix and mingle. Stop by for music in the Grand Hall, drinks and snacks and open artist studios and projects, including a pride selfie station. Proceeds go to benefit NOVA Pride, Northern Virginia's fastest growing LGBTQIA organization, with a mission to educate, advocate and celebrate in service to the LGBTQIA community in the area.

Time: 7 to 9 p.m.

Location: 105 N. Union St.

Information: torpedofactory.org

NOTES OF COLOR: WASHINGTON SCULPTORS GROUP EXHIBITION

The Washington Sculptors Group, in partnership with the Athenaeum and the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association presents "Notes of Color," juried by Mollie Berger Salah, assistant curator at the Department of Drawings and Prints, National Gallery of Art.

"Notes of Color" explores the materials of both the painter and the sculptor as inspired by the unique multi-media practice of renowned D.C.-area artist Hilda Shapiro Thorpe. The exhibit is open from June 6 to July 21.

Time: Thursday through Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

Location: 201 Prince St.

Information: www.nvfaa.org

PRIDE AT THE DOG PARK

Four-legged friends can celebrate Pride Month in style with rainbow bow ties, collars and flower bows from The Dog Park. The boutique will also be selling LGBTQIA-friendly pawprint magnets for pup owners.

Time: 1 to 3 p.m.

Location: 705 King St.

Information: www.thedogparkva.biz

JUNE 7

ART ON TAP

Enjoy local craft beers, original artwork and amazing food at The Art League's annual Art on Tap. Craft beers from local breweries have been artfully paired with selected artwork. Local restaurants have chosen a brew and artwork coupling to serve as their muse to create the perfect complementary appetizer.

Time: 7 to 10 p.m.

Location: The Art League, 105 N. Union St.

Information: gallery@theartleague.org

LENA SEIKALY AT THE CARLYLE CLUB

Join acclaimed D.C.-area vocalist Lena Seikaly and award-winning jazz guitarist Steve Herberman in a tuneful tribute to female lyricists and composers of Broadway, Hollywood and jazz. Accompanied by legendary drummer Frank Russo and virtuoso bassist Eric Harper, Lena and Steve perform works with lyrics or melodies by Peggy Lee, Billie Holiday, Dorothy Fields, Betty Comden and other woman songwriters who helped write the Great American Songbook.

Time: 8 to 10 p.m.

Location: Carlyle Club, 2050 Bal-lenger Ave.

Information: www.thecarlyleclub.com

FIRST FRIDAY FAMILY ART NIGHT

Create the perfect gift for Father's Day. Dress to get a little messy and join one of three artist-led activities to make and take an original handmade work of art. Pizza and drinks provided. Tickets are \$9

per person, and free for children age five or younger.

Time: 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: Durant Arts Center, 1605 Cameron St.

Information: www.alexandriava.gov/Arts

GAME OF JOKES IMPROV SHOW

Comedy is coming. Miss "Game of Thrones" already? Have no fear, this June improv show is "Game of Thrones" themed. The show promises to be fun for fans and newcomers alike. There is a \$5 suggested donation. Mature content may be unsuitable for children.

Time: 8 p.m.

Location: The Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St.

Information: www.alexandriava.gov/Lyceum

JUNE 8

SOUND MEDITATION Using crystal and Tibetan bowls, instructor Dante Baker will lead a soothing asana and breathwork class to prepare the body for sound meditation. In the last hour, Baker will conclude with a soothing and unique exploration of the chakra energy points through sound vibration.

Time: 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Location: 2704 Mount Vernon Ave.

Information: www.delrayartisans.org

JUNE 9

FACETIME WITH HISTORY:

THOMAS JEFFERSON Facetime with History is an ongoing series giving today's museum guests time to spend with people from the past in an informal setting, much like meeting at the tavern to catch up with friends. This month, join former President Thomas Jefferson, as he discusses his retirement and current

projects.

Time: 1 to 5 p.m.

Location: Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal St.

Information: www.alexandriava.gov/GadsbysTavern

FUNNY WOMEN OF A CERTAIN AGE

"Funny Women of a Certain Age" is a show straight from the unfettered mouths and uninhibited minds of the funniest, most daring, most experienced people in comedy: the women that have seen it all. They've raised children both on and off the road with big hairy club bouncers cradling their babies while onstage. These women have stayed in comedy condos where you don't want to use a blacklight on anything. They've been told women aren't funny and asked to trade sexual favors for work. They have a lot to say, and they say it hysterically.

Time: 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Location: The Birchmere, 3701 Mount Vernon Ave.

Information: www.birchmere.com

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT'S BIRTHDAY PICNIC

Celebrate world-renowned American architect Frank Lloyd Wright's birthday. Come and visit the only Frank Lloyd Wright House open to visitors in the D.C. region – the small but magnificent Pope-Leighey House. Come for a Sunday afternoon of all fresco fun on the lawn of Pope-Leighey while enjoying a local jazz group and taking open house tours of this hidden architectural gem. Sip a drink, snap some photos of the house and enjoy a picnic in mid-century modern style.

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: 9000 Richmond Highway

Information: www.woodlawnpope-leighey.org

DYKE MARSH MEETUP WALK WITH A RANGER

Come enjoy the outdoors on this two-mile walk

with a national park ranger to see the largest freshwater marsh in the nation's capital. Several thousands of years old, Dyke Marsh is home to a large variety of plants and animals that make up a unique ecosystem along the shore of the Potomac River. Bring a pair of binoculars for viewing an eagle's nest and other marsh life. Dates for the walk continue through August.

Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Trailhead near Belle Haven Park

Information: www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

JUNE 14

2019 SOLO EXHIBITION: JULIA KWON

In this competitive opportunity, one artist is selected by a jury panel for an opportunity at a solo show. Interdisciplinary artist Julia Kwon creates paintings, sculptures, and textile art that explore reductive representation, othering, and objectification, particularly in relation to ethnicity and gender. Kwon was chosen from nearly 130 artists from across North America.

Time: 6 to 7 p.m.

Location: Target Gallery, 105 N. Union St.

Information: torpedofactory.org

LATE SHIFT AT THE FACTORY: SUMMER PARTY

The waterfront comes to life with a big after-hours party to kick off the Late Shift Summer Series. Music, activities and art await on all three floors of the Torpedo Factory. Target Gallery joins the festivities with its 2019 Solo Exhibition reception too.

Time: 7 to 10 p.m.

Location: Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St.

Information: torpedofactory.org

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CALENDAR

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JUNE 15

SUMMER KICK-OFF CONCERT

Celebrate the start of summer with Alexandria's Summer Kick-Off Concert, one-hour of free live music with all the fun sounds of the season. Cheer on your favorite movie with "How to Train Your Dragon" and enjoy the summer vibes with a blast of trumpets and trombones and some flashy saxophones from the Alexandria Citizens Band. No need to worry about bug spray or rain; the event will be indoors.

Time: 4 to 5 p.m.

Location: Del Ray Methodist Church, 100 E. Windsor Ave.

Information: www.delrayumc.org

JUNE 19

ONE ACT PERFORMANCE OF

"THE GREAT GATSBY" Picnic Theatre Company returns to Woodlawn Mansion garden for a Roaring Twenties cocktail hour, music and one-act performance of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby." Come to the Woodlawn Mansion fountain garden for drinks, a picnic and a wild theatrical romp. There will be drinks for sale to accompany the picnic dinners participants have brought from home. Or purchase a pre-packaged picnic dinner and have it ready at the venue. Dinner options will be sent to all attendees a few weeks before the event.

Time: 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Location: 9000 Richmond Highway

Information: Woodlawnevents@savingplaces.org

JUNE 20

CREATIVE WRITING WITH COMMUNITY BUILDING ART WORKS

As featured in the 2018 HBO Documentary "We Are Not Done Yet," Community Building Art Works serves veterans, military personnel and members of the community through generative creative writing workshops. Led by accomplished authors, they are focused on using the written word as a tool for introspection, communication and connection. Bring a pen, a notebook and an open mind. The program is free, and donations are welcome.

Time: 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Location: Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St.

Information: torpedofactory.org

"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW"

The Metropolitan School of the Arts and Homeschool Productions present one of Shakespeare's funniest comedies, "The Taming of the Shrew," in the style of Commedia dell'arte. Introducing The Company of Particoat Wags in the premiere of "Il Soggiorno della Regina: A Festival of Renaissance Music, Dance, Song and Story." Shows go from June 20 to 23.

Time: Shows at 2 and 7 p.m.

Location: 5775 Barclay Dr., Suite 4

Information: homeschool@metropolitanschoolofthearts.org

thoroughly, removing all soap and residue. The cat will lick herself as soon as she is set free, and leftover suds can cause digestion issues or toxic reactions. Third, unless your cat is very young or very weak, she will likely be hostile. Bathing is easier with two people, one to hold, and one to lather. Frightened and angry cats will defend themselves with tooth and nail. Consider wearing gloves, and seek medical attention if bitten or scratched.

The writer is a longtime volunteer with King Street Cats. She lives and works in Alexandria, and faithfully serves her feline soulmate Chloe Huggins. For more information about King Street Cats, go to www.kingstreetcats.org

JUNE 21

SUMMER SOLSTICE RECEPTION

The summer solstice has been seen as a significant time of year in many cultures and has been marked by festivals and rituals. Join Del Ray Artisans for its Summer Solstice Reception celebrating the Chakra art installation.

Time: 7 to 9 p.m.

Location: Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave.

Information: www.delrayartisans.org

JUNE 22

WELL RAY HEALTH AND WELLNESS FESTIVAL

The Del Ray Business Association will host its 6th Annual Well Ray Festival in the heart of Del Ray. Over 75 health and lifestyle inspired vendors will provide a variety of activities to allow festival-goers the opportunity to explore, heal, taste and move in achieving a healthy life. Wellness and holistic health practitioners will offer services ranging from therapeutic treatments such as massages to acupuncture, physical therapy and nutritional counseling, health screenings, meditation, and more.

Time: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Mount Vernon Ave. in Del Ray

Information: www.wellraydelray.com

PORTSIDE IN OLD TOWN SUMMER FESTIVAL

Kick off summer with a day of live music featuring an array of creative collaborations and genres, from Ethiopian jazz to Brazil-

ian to Latin folk. This summer festival focuses on the global cultural influences that stem from Alexandria's history as a port city and continue today. Toast to summer at a waterfront beer garden by Port City Brewing Company, and savor bites from a pop-up Pizzeria Paradiso or Rocklands BBQ. Cool off with a treat from Dolci Gelati as you enjoy fun for the whole family, including hands-on arts and history activities.

Time: 2 to 8 p.m.

Location: Waterfront Park, 1 King St.

Information: www.visitalexandriava.com

THE WAR OF 1812 WALKING TOUR

A guided walking tour of people and places in Old Town associated with the War of 1812 and the British occupation of Alexandria in 1814. The tour will last approximately 90 minutes. Tour space is limited, so the purchase of tickets in advance is highly recommended. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Free for members.

Time: 10 a.m. to noon

Location: Lee-Fendall House, 614 Oronoco St.

Information: www.leefendallhouse.org

CARLYLE BLOCK PARTY

The Carlyle Vitality Initiative will host its very own block party, featuring live music from Turtle Recall, Aztec Sun-Funk with Soul and local Alexandria bands at the AlexandriaLive.com stage. Enjoy two beer gardens featuring local craft beers and restaurant food fare, along with food trucks, games and surprises for the whole family.

Time: Noon to 8:30 p.m.

Location: John Carlyle Park, 300 John Carlyle St.

Information: www.eventbrite.com/e/announcing-the-carlyle-block-party-registration-61753344917

JUNE 23

RELEASING ENERGY BLOCKS: GONG SOUND MEDITATION WORKSHOP

This experiential workshop begins with an easy but effective breath exercise, followed by a guided meditation to energize the chakra system. The workshop culminates in a gong sound experience to release energetic blocks, stimulate circulation and the glandular system. No experience necessary. Please bring a yoga mat or blanket, as well as a cushion for seated meditation if needed. Gong is not recommended for women in the last trimester of pregnancy.

Time: 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Location: Del Ray Artisans, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave.

Information: www.delrayartisans.org

JUNE 25

BARK AND BREW

Join Operation Paws for Homes for a Bark & Brew event. Spend the evening with the local dog rescue at Hops N Shine with your dog and a cold brew. This Bark & Brew will be a Double Donation Yappy Hour, and Hops N Shine will donate \$2 to OPH for every Tito's or Heavy Seas drink purchased.

Time: 5 to 8 p.m.

Location: 3410 Mt. Vernon Ave.

Information: www.ophrescue.org

GROOMING

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If the terrible day comes when you do need to bathe your cat, make sure to consider the following:

First, you should not use your regular highly fragranced shampoo on your cat. Cats have different skin than humans, with different oils and pH balance. Even baby shampoo can dry out feline skin. Seek advice from a veterinarian, or in an emergency, make sure to use fragrance-free hypoallergenic formulas. In cases of flea infestation, blue Dawn dish soap is your go-to. Second, use warm, not hot, water. Work from the neck down, with gentle, soothing motions. Avoid the eyes, nose and inner ears. Work up a lather, then rinse



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Our View

Is development a net positive?

We all make tradeoffs every day. Some are deliberate, while others are almost subconscious. We prioritize work tasks, with some items getting done first while others are left for another day. We make decisions to spend or save our money and time.

There are also tradeoffs within communities and government at all levels. What's painful is when important priorities compete for finite resources.

The issue of tradeoffs was raised at the May 28 city council legislative meeting, when Mayor Justin Wilson and Councilor John Chapman, among others, urged a comprehensive conversation around whether we as a community prioritize open space or affordable housing. The discussion took place during a debate about long-range planning and what should take precedence in negotiations with developers.

We agree that this conversation is needed and think a component of the discussion should not only be what's most important, but which competing interest is most appropriately tackled by government versus the private sector.

However, we think the conversation Wilson and Chapman proposed is too limited in scope.

The larger issue isn't whether affordable housing or open space should be emphasized in negotiations with developers. Rather, it's the question, "How much development is too much, and how do we start saying 'no' to increased housing density in Alexandria if we decide we're on the wrong path?"

Both of the competing priorities raised at the May 28 legislative meeting — open space and affordable housing — are made worse by excessive housing density. Let's examine them one at a time.

The city's 2002 Open Space Master Plan, which was updated in 2017, sets forth a goal of 7.3 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. This plan is aspirational, rather than strictly enforceable. The city has thus far been able to meet the open space goal. As the 2017 revision states, at the present rate of population growth, this goal may become unattainable within six years.

Alexandria's affordable housing supply is even more negatively impacted by our recent surge in dense development projects. Low rent, often low-rise complexes throughout the city have been replaced in most instances by larger developments with much greater housing density.

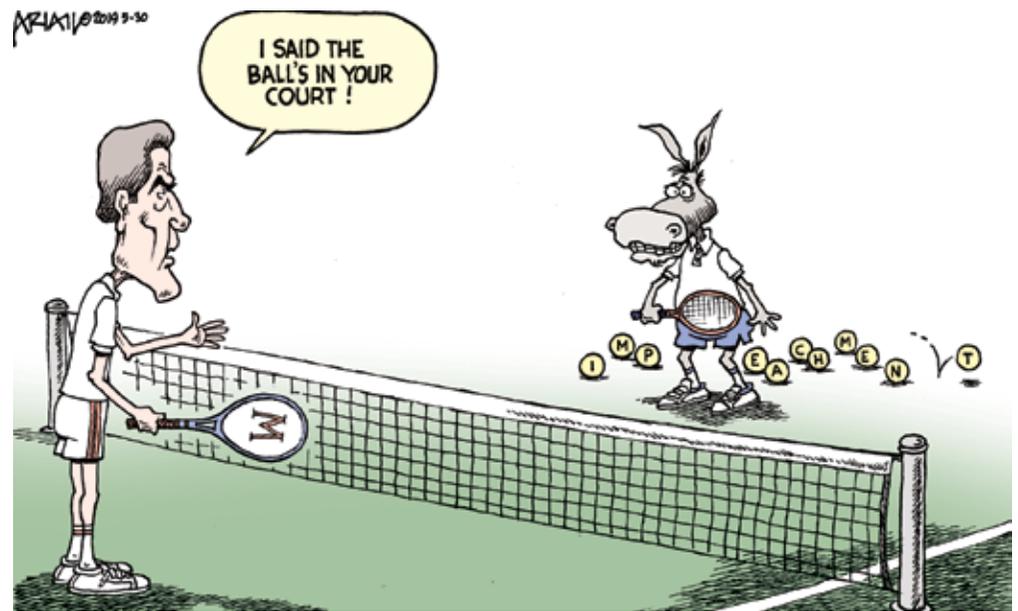
While the city negotiates with developers to include a few affordable housing units — often bargaining away parking requirements and granting exceptions to density regulations — large swaths of affordable housing have been lost. These new, large, mostly market-rate developments are much pricier than the complexes they replace, which drives up housing costs throughout the city.

We need to have a city-wide discussion around what we are gaining and losing through our rapid, high-density development. Increased traffic congestion, which city staff seems determined to combat by making it more difficult to drive and park cars in Alexandria, is one clear byproduct of intense density growth.

Opinion

"Where the press is free and every man is able to read, all is safe."

- Thomas Jefferson



Your Views

Scooters, lack of parking are ruining Old Town

To the editor:

The condition of Old Town is deteriorating. With lots of empty storefronts, you'd think those in city hall would have concluded that posting two-hour parking limits for many blocks around the commercial district was not a good idea. I live nearby and frequently come into Old Town to shop, walk, dine and just spend time.

Nothing discourages lingering more than worrying about parking. And much of that on-street parking depends on the use of an app to pay for it, which I flatly refuse to use. If those same people who made this decision would read the privacy terms associated with putting these apps on your personal device — access to your contacts list, your photos, etc. — they might understand that some people don't want their privacy invaded just for the privilege of parking their car so they can go spend money in the commercial district.

But the worst is the invasion of elec-

tric scooters, which have just taken over. They are everywhere — littering the sidewalks, the grass, parks, intersections or wherever else riders feel like dropping them. I regularly see scooter riders heading into groups of pedestrians, expecting the seas to part and allow them through.

As for the argument that scooters are an eco-friendly transportation alternative — not really. The great majority of riders I see are young, able-bodied males using them as toys. I've never seen one person on a scooter that looked unable to walk.

It's bad enough one can't go into the District without this omnipresent scourge, but now, they've taken over Old Town. The companies providing these devices should be made liable for where they are placed; Bike Share has managed to figure this out and provides a valuable service. How something that literally creates a public nuisance, and

Listen to residents on Seminary lane issue

To the editor:

Alexandria's Department of Transportation and Environmental Services is recommending a series of changes to Seminary Road based on city staff's confusing hybrid of recommendations from three separate proposals. Most concerning is a proposed shift from two eastbound car lanes to a single lane from St. Stephens Road to Zabriskie Drive, which then reverts back to two lanes at the intersection of North Quaker Lane.

Staff is also proposing no right turn on red onto southbound Quaker, which will create even longer queues than we experience today. These design changes will be voted on during a Traffic & Parking Board meeting on June 24.

At a meeting on May 30, T&ES Director Yon Lambert confirmed the city will not prioritize Alexandria resident input over non-resident input when deciding on this issue. Nevertheless, five separate civic associations representing a majority of thousands of residents in North Central Alexandria – the neighborhoods most impacted by the road diet – have urged city leaders to find a balanced solution and maintain existing arterial traffic flows on Seminary Road, which carries an average 20,000 drivers per day. Citizens submitted a petition to this effect signed by more than 1,200 residents.

To be clear: We all want safety on our roadways and we are not against cyclists or pedestrians. Most of us simply cannot walk, ride bikes or reach our daily destinations via the meager public transit options that

exist in our end of the city.

Why is the city setting up a false choice between safety and traffic flow, as though they are mutually exclusive, and not equally impactful on our quality of life? As the Clover College Park Civic Association wrote to city staff, "Our residents have expressed concerns that the city is using safety as a reason to propose reducing the number of travel lanes on Seminary, while the city's data shows this stretch of Seminary Road does not have a major safety problem."

Seminary Hill Association presented a reasonable option to balance pedestrian safety with mobility in Alternative 4, calling for narrowing existing car-travel lanes to reduce speed, adding crosswalks at bus stops and Ft. Williams Parkway, increasing speed enforcement and creating an additional buffer between pedestrians and car travel. Unfortunately, city staff ignored this solution.

Residents must continue to urge city leaders to choose a balanced solution for maintaining Seminary Road traffic flows with reasonable safety improvements for all. Use the city's Call, Click, Connect comment system and be sure to share your views by June 10 through this survey: <https://www.research.net/r/AlexandriaVA-SeminaryRdPublicComment>.

-Clover College Park
Civic Association,

Seminary Hill Association,

Seminary West Civic Association,

North Ridge Citizens' Association,

Brookville-Seminary Valley

Civic Association,

Seminary Civic Association

protracted fights over the direction of Old Town in recent years. Modernization is understandable, but it's gone way out of whack.

-K. Stershic,
Alexandria

OLD TOWN

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at times a danger, could be unregulated and welcomed with open arms by city government is beyond me.

I know there have been many



The Business Plan

with Bill Reagan

Erroneous zones

Who among us hasn't spent sleepless nights or agitated days stewing over something someone said, or something you inferred, that you realize later you had completely misunderstood? Likewise, we might stumble or make a momentary mistake that prompts us to doubt our own capabilities and whether we really have what it takes, only to bounce back the next day full speed ahead.

This column periodically explores variations on this topic, because misperceptions are a pervasive weak link in our productivity and affect everybody from time to time. The solution is to seize the opportunity to gather informed assessments and objective feedback. That applies to every aspect of our lives.

Small business owners are particularly susceptible because they're isolated. They might not have people around them to check their beliefs and don't realize that they're not the only ones making common mistakes. On the other extreme, they might feel smug and think things are rosy until they are dumfounded by unforeseen circumstances.

The Alexandria Small Business Development Center is a resource that can provide objective feedback in its confidential one-on-one consultations. Those might be a discussion of comparative performance measures and best practices, financial assessments or tips on handling thorny business issues.

The center has access to a large network of resources to help business owners make critical connections with experts or other businesses, or perhaps get feedback from peers. These include peer groups, co-work spaces, industry gatherings and targeted networking opportunities.

Business owners might feel more comfortable approaching someone

one-on-one. Good advice doesn't have to come from someone in the same industry or area of expertise. Identify someone whose success you admire, and invite them to coffee to get their viewpoint. These informal sessions might help you to see your business from a fresh perspective.

Objective feedback can come from many sources. Professional coaches offer consistent and insightful observations. Many Fortune 500 companies support their executives engaging coaches to add balance and perspective to their personal and professional lives. Professional coaches are not

cheap, but they are often worthy investments.

Many of us invest time, money and energy into our personal health and well-being. Whether we're pursuing diets or fitness regimens, it's very possible we're following routines we've seen in magazines or picked up through casual observation.

Too often those routines are not suited to our particular circumstances or condition. We might not be getting the best effect – and might even be doing harm. For personal health and fitness, as in other matters, it is absolutely essential to get the guidance of a qualified professional.

There are many aspects of our lives where we're wasting time, emotion and effort. One of my favorite maxims is that none of us is as bad as we think we are on our worst days; but neither are we as good as we think we are on our best days.

Objective, informed feedback can be one of the most important investments in individual and business productivity and is worth careful consideration.

The writer is executive director of Alexandria's Small Business Development Center. The SBDC can be reached at www.alexandriasbdc.org.



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With the 75th Anniversary of D-Day celebration last Saturday, we want to highlight Alexandria's sister city Caen, the capital of Normandy, France.

Readers might be familiar with Caen's World War II history; the city has rebuilt from the approximately 75 percent destruction that it suffered during the war. Today, the capital of Normandy has approximately 100,000 residents within the city limits and approximately 50,000 in the surrounding areas.

Founded in 1432, the Université de Caen Normandie plays a large role in the life of the city, with a student body of 28,000. Visitors and residents can enjoy strolling down the Rue Saint Pierre to browse shops, or eat in restaurants on or near the Rue du Vagueux.

Caen is famous for its limestone, named Pierre de Caen. Particularly known for its suitability to carving, Pierre de Caen is probably most famous for its use in Westminster Cathedral.



PHOTO/CAENLAMER-TOURISME.FR.

Another renowned building made of Caen stone is the Château de Caen, built by William of Norman in 1060. Six years later, he conquered England and became known as William the Conqueror. Today, the castle houses three museums and a garden devoted to the cultivation of plants grown in the Middle Ages.

History fans also can't miss the Church of Saint Pierre, the site of Henry IV's conversion to Roman Catholicism in 1593, ending the French religious wars. Those more interested in 20th-cen-

tury history will be attracted to the Caen Memorial Museum, which focuses on World War II history and the Cold War.

On June 6, 1944, more than 160,000 Allied troops invaded Normandy, in then-German occupied France, gaining a significant foothold in continental Europe. The Battle for Caen took place from June 6 to August 6 of that year. When the dust settled, 80 percent of the city had been destroyed, and rebuilding the city took 18 years. While more than 9,000 Allied soldiers were lost

during the invasion, it directly led to the Allied victory over Hitler and the Axis Powers.

The City of Alexandria has shared a Sister City relationship with the city of Caen since 1991. Today, Caen and Alexandria enjoy cultural, educational and economic cooperation. Throughout the year, ACSCC also organizes exchange programs, lectures, children's programs and additional events to promote our French-American relationship. You can see one of these lectures tonight at Alexandria's History Museum at the Lyceum, as Rear Admiral Tom Flynn, retired Judge Advocate General of the Navy, retired U.S. Army Historian Dr. Kim Bernard Holien and retired U.S. Army Lieutenant Gen. Bob Wood discuss the significance of D-Day.

Out of the Attic is provided by the Office of Historic Alexandria. A special thanks to Sister Cities exchange intern Anais Poplin for her help with this column.

OUR VIEW

FROM | 26

City leaders argue that continued, high-density development is vital to Alexandria's tax base, and without it, city services would have to be cut back.

We think this issue should

be part of the comprehensive discussion on tradeoffs. Are we as a city willing to accept cutbacks in some city services if it means a better quality of life? There is a quality versus quantity facet to this discussion.

Finally, we would like

to see a range of data from studies examining the issue of whether increased housing development density is really a net financial positive for cities. Or whether the increased demand on services that results from population growth is actually a net drain

on city finances.

The core issue is whether accelerating housing density is our golden path forward – or simply a type of Ponzi scheme that mostly benefits those associated with development projects. The jury is still out.

Weekly Poll

Last Week

Have you attended any of the previous 10 Taste of Del Ray events?

- 40%** - No, I have never attended but would like to.
- 35%** - I'm not interested.
- 21%** - Yes, I have attended at least once.
- 5%** - Yes, I always attend and plan to on Sunday.

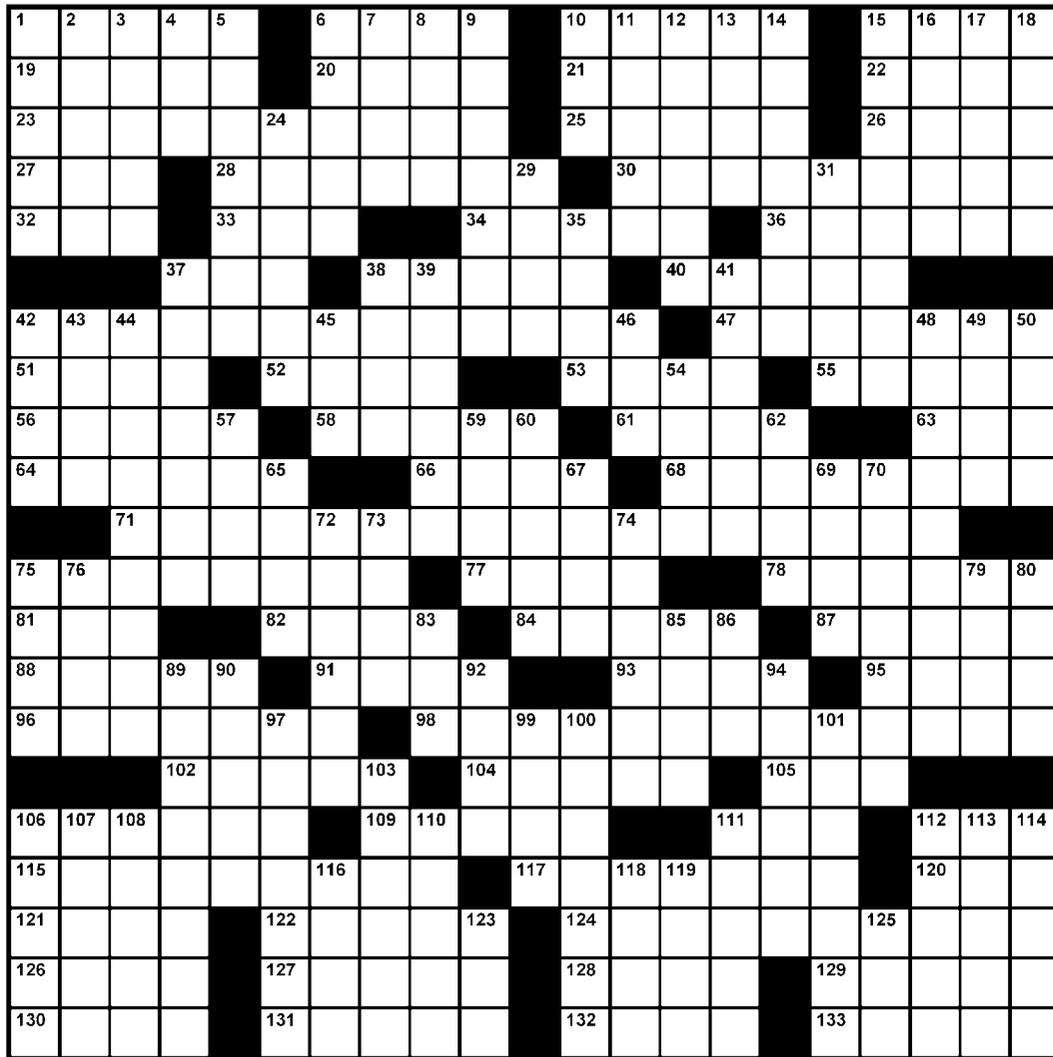
This Week

Take the poll at alextimes.com

Do you think electric scooters are safe?

- A) Yes, I think they're generally safe.**
- B) Yes, I think they're safe if the rider wears a helmet.**
- C) No, I think they're dangerous for pedestrians.**
- D) No, I think they're dangerous for scooter riders.**

Weekly Words



CAPITALISM by Sheryl Bartol and Debbie Ellerin, edited by David Steinberg

ACROSS

1. "___ Shrugged"
6. Jamie of "M*A*S*H"
10. Greyhound safety org.
15. Notices
19. Like well water
20. Former Cub Moises
21. He wrote about Matilda and James
22. Island of Napoleon's exile
23. Making a big bet in Ireland?
25. Readied a ukulele
26. Boatloads
27. Summer sign
28. Sappho, for one
30. Korean comfort cuisine?
32. Drop the ball
33. Loop transports
34. The hare, in a fabled race
36. Core strengtheners
37. Sellout sign initials
38. Garlicky sauce
40. Fur tycoon
42. Fish-filled North African lunch?
47. Sit to be photographed by
51. J. Lo's fiance
52. Lip-___ (mouth the words)
53. Big Island coffee
55. Caribbean cruise stop
56. Horses' hair
58. Like a perfect game

61. ___ chops and applesauce
63. Turn on a winding path
64. Puts in office
66. Kelly Clarkson, for one
68. Takes advantage of
71. Taiwanese go-getter?
75. Leaving a mark
77. Hollywood sidewalk sight
78. Small band size
81. Asian pan
82. Helen's destination
84. Forever ___
87. Bird that's also a yoga pose
88. States with conviction
91. 401(k) relatives
93. Give a fig
95. "___ girl!"
96. Type of testing done by 23andMe
98. Assemble quickly in Afghanistan?
102. Genius Bar workers, e.g.
104. Stratagems
105. M.A. seeker's hurdle
106. Skiing variety
109. Wavy fabric
111. Telluride or Sedona
112. End of the CIA's address?
115. Low-carb Ecuadorian food trend?
117. Green and Tea
120. Keats work

121. Shrinking Asian sea
122. Let happen
124. Speed off in Switzerland?
126. The "b" of n.b.
127. Certain track athlete
128. Potato ___ soup
129. Churns up
130. Ruckuses
131. Smart-alecky
132. Lodge group
133. Bird that's also a yoga pose

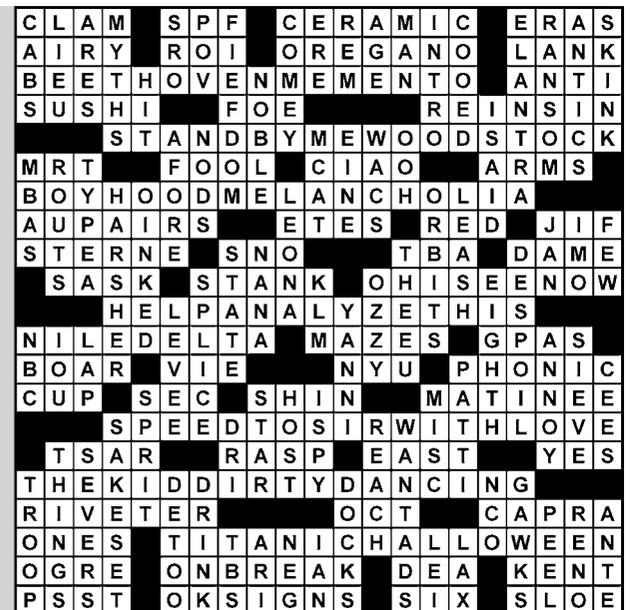
DOWN

1. Mix up
2. Closer to reality
3. Fruits of one's ___
4. Cobbler's tool
5. Some members of a SWAT team
6. Gradually vanishes
7. "That's saying ___"
8. Investment firm T. ___ Price
9. Is almost out
10. Cake decorating, e.g.
11. Lush
12. Bakery-cafe chain
13. Antony's love, briefly
14. Total
15. Pirate or sailor
16. "Crocodile Rock" singer John
17. Kindle material
18. Former Las Vegas casino

DEATH NOTICES

- CARRIE BOLLMAN** (47), of Alexandria, June 1, 2019
- JEAN CARGAL** (89), of Alexandria, May 8, 2019
- DONALD ELDER** (73), of Alexandria, May 24, 2019
- FREDA HARTLESS** (73), of Alexandria, May 20, 2019
- JEFFREY HUNTER** (61), of Alexandria, May 17, 2019
- RONALD NARMI** (85), of Alexandria, May 21, 2019
- GORDON D. NOE** (52), of Alexandria, May 31, 2019
- HARMON A. ROBERTSON** (82), of Alexandria, May 28, 2019
- MARY ANNE RUDDY** (62), of Alexandria, May 25, 2019
- JOSHUA SHUPACK** (36), of Alexandria, May 30, 2019

Solutions from last week



24. "It won't be missed"
29. Pavarotti performances
31. Author Mario Vargas
35. Tired's partner
37. Cognac cocktail
38. ___ Domini
39. Dog tag?
41. Helen's homeland
42. Far from edgy
43. Risk territory in Asia
44. Response to "No offense"
45. Author Rand
46. Hip follower
48. Numbers that don't compute
49. Theater award
50. From ___ to riches
54. Puzzle, at times
57. Mix up
59. 3/15, notably
60. Course for a future J.D.
62. Unit in a bust
65. BBQ skewer
67. Exam for a future J.D.
69. "Mod Squad" member
70. Do over and over
72. Add vitamins to
73. Frankenstein's assistant
74. Diviner at Delphi
75. Gala giveaway
76. Protected bay
79. Feed the kitty?
80. In the vicinity
83. Chatter
85. Some say "Welcome"
86. Maven
89. Names anew
90. One found in a pool
92. Delhi dress
94. More custardy
97. Winter roof blockages
99. Pat on the back, maybe
100. In service (var.)
101. Solver's smudge
103. Appreciates the roses
106. Jordan's seaport
107. Enticed
108. It has 88 keys
110. Nebraska natives
111. "Lola" band, with "The"
112. Shoot for the moon
113. The Browns' Beckham Jr.
114. 28-Across output
116. Pelvic bones
118. Spool of film
119. Long journey
123. Ironically humorous
125. Neckwear for Miss Piggy

SCOOTERS

FROM | 7

The UCLA study found hospitals in the Los Angeles area, where scooters have a longer track record than in Alexandria, had seen an uptick in scooter-related injuries. The study analyzed 249 cases where people had been sent to the hospital for scooter-related injuries in the span of a year.

Ninety-two percent of those people were riders, only 4 percent of whom were wearing helmets. Forty percent of the 249 injuries sustained were head injuries.

“With every injury — whether we see it on a bike or a motorcycle or a scooter — the injuries are significantly more severe if the driver is not wearing a helmet,” Graf said.

The CDC study, based on data collected in Austin, Texas across 87 days in fall 2018, found similar data

points. Almost 200 people were involved in confirmed scooter-related incidents. Only one was wearing a helmet.

Fifty-five percent of those injuries were sustained in the street while 33 percent occurred on the sidewalk. The remaining 12 percent happened in various other locations, including parking lots, parking garages and pedestrian and bike paths.

Notably, 10 percent of the incidents involved a motor vehicle. The rest involved riders hitting immobile objects or surfaces, like a pothole or curbside, and driver-induced incidents, such as braking hard or tipping over.

The CDC study found that, based on the number of rides taken in the time span of the study, there were 20 rider injuries per 100,000 e-scooter trips. The

CDC also notes that there have been fewer than a dozen e-scooter-related fatalities nationwide.

While Alexandria Inova Hospital has yet to see a significant increase in the number or intensity of scooter-related injuries, Graf said the hospital is still monitoring them. The primary concern for the hospital is the potential for serious head injuries, Graf said.

There’s the potential for concussions, which can result in loss of consciousness, headaches, memory loss or vomiting. But there are even more severe issues, Graf said, especially with a riding population that is largely not wearing helmets.

“[There] are things like skull fractures, whether just isolated or something called depressed skull fractures where there’s displacement of the bone,” Graf said “And

then even more severe than that would be bleeding, either bleeding in the brain tissue itself or in the areas between the skull and the brain.”

Much like with bicyclists, a hard brake can send riders flying over the handlebars and facing serious, non-head related injuries, Graf said.

“If you fly over the handlebars, depending on your speed, we worry about the handlebars hitting you on your abdomen underneath your ribs,” Graf said. “... The one thing we worry about is that if you go over the handlebars, underneath the ribs we worry about a splenic injury or a liver injury. Those end up being tears or bleeds that can be really significant or life threatening.”

For the moment, Graf’s concerns remain based on prior experiences with bicyclists and motorcyclists. But

studies like those run by the CDC and UCLA reveal the nationwide context in which those concerns exist.

It’s unclear how much greater use of helmets, along with rider education and police and corporate enforcement, can increase the safety of e-scooters. Some Alexandrians want stricter regulations, while others want to cancel the pilot program all together. But the one thing they all want is safety on Alexandria’s streets — sooner rather than later.

“What will happen is that somebody is killed, maybe more than one, and then people are going to be up in arms and then [the city will] start to react,” Doyle said. “Don’t wait for the death of one or more people on these scooters or the injuries of the pedestrians and scooters.”

-cmelloklein@alextimes.com

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICES



BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW DESIGN GUIDELINES COMMITTEE MEETING JUNE 13, 2019

The City of Alexandria Board of Architectural Review (BAR) Design Guidelines Committee will hold a meeting on the date and time listed below to update the graphics of the 1993 BAR Design Guidelines and to create new guidelines to illustrate the policies adopted by the Parker-Gray district in 2013. This meeting is open to the public; however, no public testimony or comment will be received.

DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019

TIME: 8:00 to 9:00 AM

PLACE: ALEXANDRIA CITY HALL PLANNING & ZONING LIBRARY

301 KING STREET, ROOM 2100
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314

For further information, contact the Department of Planning & Zoning at 703-746-4666.

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Graciela.Moreno@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3808, Virginia Relay 711.



Board of Architectural Review LEGAL NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing will be held by the Board of Architectural Review on WEDNESDAY, June 19, 2019 beginning at 7:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia on the following applications:

BAR #2019-00037 OHAD

Request for partial demolition/capsulation at 605 Prince Street
Applicant: Billy Klipstein, LLC

BAR #2019-00038 OHAD

Request for addition, alterations and rooftop HVAC waiver at 605 Prince Street
Applicant: Billy Klipstein, LLC

BAR #2019-00191 OHAD

Request for alterations and signage at 501 South Washington Street
Applicant: Mount Vernon Petroleum Realty LLC

BAR #2019-00207 OHAD

Request for alterations at 702 South Royal Street
Applicant: Robert Cvejjanovich

BAR #2019-00208 OHAD

Request to install small cell facility on utility pole on public property adjacent to 911 Jefferson Street
Applicant: AT&T

BAR #2019-00209 OHAD

Request for partial demolition/capsulation at 430 North Union Street

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Classifieds

CLASSIFIEDS FROM | 30

Applicants: Kathy B. Hirsch & Jay Lawrence Hirsch

BAR #2019-00210 OHAD

Request for additions and alterations at 430 North Union Street

Applicants: Kathy B. Hirsch & Jay Lawrence Hirsch

BAR #2019-00219 OHAD

Request for alterations at 120 South Payne Street
Applicant: Avenue Property, LLC

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

For reasonable disability accommodation, contact Graciela.Moreno@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.3808, Virginia Relay 711.

Information about the above item(s) may be obtained from the Department of Planning & Zoning, City Hall, 301 King Street Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, or at 703.746.3833 www.alexandriava.gov/dockets.



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Monday, June 17, 2019 - 7:00 PM Council Chambers, City Hall 301 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Information about this item may be obtained from the Department of Planning & Zoning, 301 King Street, Room 2100, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, telephone: 703.746.4666 or on the City's website at www.alexandriava.gov/dockets.

The following case description has been revised. All other previously advertised cases for the above hearing remain the same.

BZA #2019-0002 111 Franklin Street Public hearing and consideration of a request for variances from the required side yards and open space to convert an existing noncomplying office building to a two-family duplex dwelling; zoned: RM/Townhouse. Applicant: M & M Real Estate, LLC, represented by Kenneth Wire

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