



Upcoming Events:

Free Chamber Concerts

The Lyceum presents free chamber concerts every Sunday afternoon during July and August at 3 p.m. featuring different instruments and ensembles each week. Donations accepted. For more information, telephone 703-746-4722 or visit: <http://alexandriava.gov/historic/lyceum/default.aspx?id=44792> and click on performance calendar.

July 9th
6 pm

Alexandria Birthday

Outdoor celebrations at Oronoco Bay Park. Food, fireworks and the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Free

July 15th - 19th
Daily during store hours

Christmas in July

15 retailers celebrate the 2nd annual Christmas in July. Variety of festivities including holiday trunk shows, food and wine tastings, cookie decorating, musical entertainment and more.

July 16th - September 1st
Tuesdays and Thursdays
5-8pm

Doggy Happy Hour

Hotel Monaco hosts a doggy friendly happy hour in their courtyard.

Council Approves Harris Teeter Development

On Saturday, June 25, City Council approved a development in the 700 block between St. Asaph and North Pitt streets which will replace the existing structures and parking lots, except for the office complex at the southern end of the block. The Buchanan Partners development will include a 52,000-square foot Harris Teeter store with 175 rental units above it and two levels of underground parking below – one for residents and one for store users. The Harris Teeter plan includes a pharmacy and a fully recessed loading dock large enough to completely contain the trucks delivering goods to the store.

Waterfront Plan Approval Deferred *By Roger Ward*

At its regular meeting on June 14 the Alexandria City Council deferred approval of the proposed Waterfront Plan until at least September. Mayor Euille said the Council would plan to hold another public hearing on the Plan in September but that approval by the Council would most likely not occur until after September. The reason for the deferral is the degree of continued contentious citizen debate and objection to the current Plan despite numerous revisions.

At the June 14 meeting, Council instructed City staff to draft a plan on how to proceed and put together a committee or work group that over the summer will examine all the controversial issues. Staff was instructed to specify the number of participants and ensure that they fairly represent all points of view.

Citizens have expressed a wide range of views about how best to create a world-class waterfront. Some feel the City Plan in its current revision is fine. Others believe the City should buy up all private property along the Waterfront and proceed from there. Issues include how to pay for the accession of the property and for the implementation of the various facets of the plan. In between those who completely approve and those who completely oppose, there exists a spectrum of varying views, reflecting in general the tension between a desire to have more open space, art, history, and museum sites on the one hand, and on the other, the need to have commercial development (restaurants, hotels, retail shops)

to generate tax revenue to support the former. The question to be resolved: what is the best balance?

To keep abreast of progress on the Waterfront Plan, go to alexandriava.gov/waterfront.

GenOn/Mirant Progress Update

The Mirant Community Monitoring Group met on June 9 to discuss the progress and implementation of the City/Mirant Agreement, especially Phase II. Phase I projects that addressed fugitive dust not emanating from the stacks have been completed: an ash loading dust suppression system, a street sweeper, and an ash loader.

City staff reported that Phase II, with the goal of purchasing and installing baghouses on stack units 3, 4 and 5 and electrostatic precipitator upgrades on stack units 1 and 2 is achievable within the project budget.

The bidding process is in its final stages. By September 1 the City expects a contractor to be selected and given "limited notice to proceed -- for engineering," enabling engineering efforts to proceed, along with the process to obtain the required permit from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality by March 30, 2012. April 1, 2012 is the target date for giving the contractor "full notice to proceed."

The first baghouse installation should be completed in Fall 2012, the second in Spring 2013, and the third by Fall 2013, with...

Why is an Alexandria Street Named for a Welsh Saint? *By Tom Soapes*

St. Asaph is a town in Wales. Its name is thought to stem from the late 6th century when Asa, a disciple of an exiled Glasgow cleric who had established a monastery in that area, is said to have brought live coals in his apron to warm his leader, who had been praying in an icy stream. For this miracle, Asa was consecrated the first Welsh bishop of the see. Asaph's feast day is May 1, and he is thought to have died in 601.

In the 1770s, the bishop of Llandaff and St. Asaph, Jonathan Shipley, was a Whig member of Parliament and strong opponent of the Crown's policy toward the American colonies. He was not allowed to give a speech in Parliament in opposition to the repressive acts responding to the Boston Tea Party; so he published the speech, but it had little impact. Shipley was also a minority voice opposing laws against Protestant dissenters. He became a close friend of Benjamin Franklin, the colonies' minister to England. Franklin retreated to Shipley's home in Twyford in 1771 to start writing his autobiography and became a surrogate father to Shipley's five daughters. The Franklin-Shipley correspondence shows them to have been kindred spirits.

How Shipley became known to Americans is not clear, but Franklin is probably the principal source. The street in Alexandria is named for him in honor of his support of the American Revolution.

Why was such an important north-south street, sitting between Washington and Pitt, two important names, given an obscure name? When Alexandria's streets were first laid out in the 18th century, east-west was the more important orientation, as these more numerous streets took goods to and from ships on the river. Thus, the 18th century perspective regarding street names differed from today's view.

GenOn/Mirant Progress Update...continued

...some chance that the second and third installation may proceed in parallel.

The group also discussed new EPA regulations on the limits for 1-hour sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions, enforceable in 2017. The Sierra Club has submitted its modeling covering the northern Virginia, D.C. and Maryland area for the new standard to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. The City will independently review monitoring data and conduct modeling on the new SO₂ rule. A new EPA mercury rule is expected to be signed by the end of 2011. Both of these rulings should further the goal of continuing to clean up the plant's emissions. - *Adapted from a report by Elizabeth Chimento*

For more detailed information on the plant and efforts by local residents and Sierra Club to improve the plant's operating standards and eventual hopes of closing down this aging plant, see our Web site at <http://www.notice-alexandria.org/> In addition to the information provided on the site, you can follow links to the City Web site and other locations from there.

NOTICE Web site Updated

By Greg Ogden

We have completely redone our NEW website. It is filled with NOTICE- and civic-related news. We have added interest items, such as a real-time police activity report and the local weather.

We commit to keep it current and meaningful to you. <http://notice-alexandria.org>.

Check out the links to:

- Civic sites and activities
- Alexandria RSS feed (*official city news daily*)
- Fact checking (*apolitical links only*)
- Board Member Bios and one-click contact details
- Mass media
- Old Town Patch
- Send Letters to the Editors
- Weather
- NASA Science
- Congressional Research Service
- Gardening

What did we miss? We solicit your suggestions on articles or links (or subjects) you would find useful or other features that would be helpful to you. E-mail them to our webmaster, Greg@Notice-Alexandria.org.

Upcoming Events:

August 6th
10 am - 2 pm
Friendship Firehouse Festival

107 S Alfred Street.
Celebrating the 1774 founding of the Friendship Fire Company. Crafts, food, music, fire trucks and tours. Free.

August 6th
Noon - 4 pm
Carlyle Housewarming
Celebrating the housewarming for when John Carlyle and his wife Sarah Fairfax Carlyle moved into their new home in August 1753. Free.

August 20th
Archaeology Family Dig Day
Help screen excavated soil for artifacts at Shuter's Hill excavation site at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. \$. Reservations required. 703-746-4399

Thank you to all 'Take NOTICE' contributors!

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Become a member

Keep up-to-date on what's going on in the neighborhood!
www.notice-alexandria.org