



Events

Carlyle House Historic Park's Annual garden Day Herb & Craft Sale

Saturday, April 21

Herbs and vegetable plants will be available for purchase, and family-friendly activities and entertainment will take place throughout the day on the grounds of Carlyle House Historic Park, located at 121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria.

The House will also be open for tours and a 10% discount on all garden related items will be available from the Museum Shop. Admission for the House tour is \$5 for adults; \$3 for children 5-12 years old; FREE for children 4 & under or free with your Alexandria Garden Day ticket. 8am - 4pm

Proceeds benefit Carlyle House's collections and the Garden Guild. This event will take place rain or shine.

For more information about this event please contact the Carlyle House at 703-549-2997 or via e-mail: carlyle@nvrpa.org.

Farmers Market

Year round, rain or shine!
Make sure you stop by to support our local farmers.

Saturdays 5:30-11am

Located in the market square at 301 King Street.

Power Plant Fined For Permit Violations

By Roger Waud

The GenOn coal-burning power plant (formerly known as the Mirant plant), scheduled to shut down on October 1 this year, was fined \$280,704 on February 9 by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for exceeding its nitrogen oxide limits six times between June 28 and July 18, 2011, and for not installing a water-fogging system to control bottom fly ash as required by its operating permit. Fly ash contributes to ozone formation, and the metro DC region has exceeded the federal air quality compliance standard for ozone in the past several years.

During the past month GenOn has informed the city it will revert to the use of trucks, instead of railroad cars, for hauling waste ash. GenOn says its contract with the railroad for hauling away the ash has expired and that using trucks is more economical. Since last August, the plant has operated only sporadically, a situation expected to continue until its permanent shutdown in October. GenOn says truck haulers are asked to abide by operating hour restrictions (7:00 am to 6:00 pm weekdays) and with no idling outside the plant site.

NOTICE hopes the City will begin a planning process sooner rather than later, and that residents of North Old Town will have a strong voice in determining future development of the site.

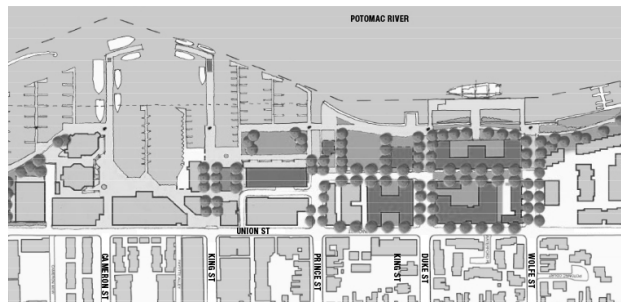
Waterfront Plan Update *By Christa Watters*

The Waterfront Plan passed by Alexandria City Council on January 21 is proceeding in two parts. On February 14, Council approved the first reading of the Waterfront Plan Ordinance. If approved at the second reading (scheduled for February 25), the Waterfront Small Area Plan will be incorporated into the City's Master Plan.

The second action required is approval of an Ordinance amending the W-1 Zone by permitting hotels, deleting rooming houses and tourist homes from the permitted uses, permitting increased density (foot-area-ratio or FAR) with a Special Use Permit (SUP) for development sites in the Waterfront Plan Area provided the development meets

other guidelines and goals of the Plan, and reconciling the height of one property to that of the applicable Height District Map. The Council also added language supporting uses that foster arts, history, and cultural awareness, such as museums.

Principal Planner Nancy J. Williams of the Department of Planning and Zoning said this second ordinance, the text amendment, has been stayed until an appeal filed by several citizens with the Board of Zoning and Appeals is decided. The citizens are also suing to block implementation. Normally, court action on such suits does not proceed until all administrative remedies, such as the appeal, are exhausted.



Waterfront early concept small area illustrative plan for south section (from Cameron Street south to Wolfe Street)

view full plan at: <http://alexandriava.gov/Waterfront>

Sheet Metal Workers Union Building *By Greg Ogden*

The Sheet Metal Workers Union Building, corner of Fairfax and Pendleton streets, sold last year to EYA Inc., a firm that plans to convert the former office space into about 60 generously sized residential apartments or condos.

The developer is preparing specific development plans, not yet submitted to the City. EYA does not plan to change the building's footprint. Interior parking far exceeds that required for 60 families. Envisioned facade changes would make the building look more residential.

The city's regulations do not require formal briefings of interested neighbors and citizens, but the City has strongly encouraged EYA to reach out and work with the neighborhood, which we are told they plan to do. NOTICe has expressed to the Planning Department a willingness to assist in organizing and promoting meetings with citizens so NOTICe members can stay informed.

For more information on the SUP process, the park, the project's view of and from Oronoco Bay or the Potomac River, and other details, see a longer article published on our Website: www.NOTICe-Alexandria.org

Occupied City: Life in Civil War Alexandria *By Tom Soapes*

The new exhibition at the Lyceum, Alexandria's History Museum (corner of S. Washington and Prince Streets), tells about Alexandria life during the Civil War. Alexandria was occupied by the Union Army throughout the war, limiting the rights and activities of the citizens.

The exhibition displays many photographs from the 1860s. Alexandria's function as a military railroad hub is emphasized by the exhibit's centerpiece, a mock-up of a roundhouse featuring panoramic photos, taken from the original roundhouse located near today's intersection of Duke Street and Route 1 by Andrew Russell, a major photographer of the time. A map and photos illustrate the rail system of the area, showing locations and buildings still familiar to current Alexandrians. One is of Camp Convalescent at the foot of Shuter's Hill in Rosemont. Another map shows the locations of the many Alexandria buildings that became wartime hospitals, including St. Paul's Church, the Baptist Church on South Washington, and the Cotton Factory at North Washington and Pendleton. Interesting facts about everyday life in the occupied city and the politics of the era are interwoven throughout the exhibition, which will remain open into 2013.

Bus Barn Update *By Greg Ogden*

Slim progress, if any, is occurring on the proposed relocation of the Metro Bus Barn facility that takes up the full 600 block of North Royal Street. Originally, Metro officials expected the facility to move to a site in Fairfax County by December 2012. But in 2011, the Newberry Station Homeowners' Association, representing homeowners near the proposed new 17-acre location on Cinder Bed Road in Fairfax County, filed suit to block the construction of the proposed new 160-bus garage. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors tried to have the suit thrown out of court, but in August, a Fairfax County Circuit Court judge ruled to allow the case to proceed to the discovery phase. Current status of the suit is not known.

NOTICe is for you

We Inquire: *Staying connected with changes and issues that affect North Old Town.*

We Inform: *Circulate information to our members through newsletters and circulars enabling you to be heard.*

We are Open: *Welcoming varying views of our role in North Old Town.*

We Discuss: *Remaining involved in finding alternative solutions and being tolerant of our neighbor's perspectives.*

We Meet: *Membership meeting three times a year, and a winter party in February.*

Membership - Join NOTICe

Single \$15, Family \$25, Sponsor \$50, Angel \$150+

NOTICe is a 501-C3 organization. Dues are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Mail this form and payment to:

NOTICe; P.O. Box 25571; Alexandria, VA 22313

Upcoming Events

International Women's Day Fundraiser

8th March

Ten Thousand Villages

915 King Street

15% of the day's sales go to the Alexandria Office on Women and their programs to prevent domestic violence.

Wonders of Science

24th March

Apothecary Museum,

105-107 S. Fairfax Street

Demonstrations of the

wonders of 18th-century

science. McLean High

School's historical

reenactment society will

conduct demonstrations.

1-4pm, \$6

Historic Garden Week

21st April

Old Town Alexandria

Tour unforgettable gardens

10am-4pm, \$40 day, \$20

single site. 703-549-3741

NOTICe Board

Christa Watters, president

Roger Waud, vice president

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Tom Soapes, treasurer

Greg Ogden, web master

Mike Mendoza, at large

Frances Zorn, at large

What did we miss?

Email us your suggestions on articles, links, or subjects you would find interesting to you.

Greg@Notice-Alexandria.org.

Contact NOTICe

703-549-6167

contact@notice-alexandria.org