



Save the Date!

**NOTICE Quarterly
Community Meeting
Thursday, May 24**

**Best Western
Old Colony Inn,**
GW Parkway access Rd,
Corner of Second Street

7 p.m. – Registration
and Social hour with
refreshments

7:30 p.m. Brief business
meeting

7:45 p.m. – Speakers:
Congressman Jim Moran
D-8th District
and
Colonel Patrick Murray
*Republican Candidate for the 8th
Congressional District*

Farmers Markets

Make sure you stop by to
support our local farmers.

**Saturdays
7am-noon**

Located in the market
square at 301 King Street.

Wednesdays 3-7pm

Located in at King Street
Metro. **Starts May 2nd!**

Join us at:
[www.facebook.com/
upperkingstreetfarmers
market](http://www.facebook.com/upperkingstreetfarmersmarket)

Old Health Department Building: Preserve or Demolish?

By Roger Waud

The vacant old Health Department building located at the southeast corner of Pendleton and N. St Asaph streets and occupying much of the block along the east side of N. St Asaph has been designated as surplus City property. Preparing to put the site up for sale, the City is considering whether the building should be preserved or demolished.

Because a part of the building lies within the Alexandria National Register historic district, it is a candidate for historic preservation. City Staff says that this 68-year-old two-story red brick, postwar Colonial Revival style building with its slate roof and two cupolas is clearly of “old and unusual or uncommon design, texture and material” that would be difficult to reproduce today. It has carved stone steps, leaded glass windows over the entrance, and sandstone lintels. Its size and setback from the street, with mature trees in the front yard, would help maintain the scale and character of the surrounding neighborhood, which includes Robert E. Lee’s boyhood home and some late 19th century buildings. Directly across Pendleton Street to the north is the historic Portner Brewery bottling building, part of which was retained during redevelopment.

On April 18, the Old and Historic Alexandria Board of Architectural Review voted unanimously in favor of designating the building for historic preservation. Their recommendation, though not binding, is being sent to City Council for consideration.

Waterfront Plan Implementation *By Christa Watters*

Implementation of the Alexandria Waterfront Small Area Plan is proceeding. On April 14, 2012, City Council established the Alexandria Waterfront Commission to advise the Council and staff on issues related to Alexandria’s historic Potomac River waterfront and on implementation of the Waterfront Small Area Plan. The Commission replaces the Waterfront Committee, established in 1989, and expands the membership to 21, representing different neighborhoods, community organizations, or City committees.

To move ahead with Waterfront Plan implementation, at its April 17 meeting, the Commission heard presentations on

potential sites for Waterfront area Bike Share Stations and also of the Union Street Corridor Study, which will study both parking and traffic issues along the corridor, to include consideration of the conflicting needs of different kinds of traffic: automobiles, delivery trucks, bicycles, and pedestrians. The study also looks at traffic patterns, such as where the highest volume of vehicle turns occurs and in which directions.

The Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 am at City Hall Room 2000, 301 King Street, unless otherwise indicated on the agenda, which is available on the City’s web site: www.alexandriava.gov

Great Running (or Walking) Right Here in North Old Town *By Mike Mendoza*

If I told you that you could see wildlife including birds, ducks and frogs, watch airplanes take off and land, and admire murals of our Nation’s First President you might think that you’d have to head somewhere far away, right? Nope, it’s all right here in the neighborhood. With the weather warming up, why not dust off those running shoes and head out on the Mount Vernon Trail? A round-trip run from Oronoco Bay Park to Marina Drive at Daingerfield Island is approximately 3 miles. Or continue to the Four Mile Run Bridge where you can frequently see fishermen giving it a shot. That makes it a 4-mile run. Still not done? Continue to the end of the long-term parking lot at Reagan National to make it approximately 5 miles.

Looking for other paths? Check out www.mapmyrun.com for over 1,000 different running paths throughout Alexandria.

Harris Teeter Development Update *By Fran Zorn*

The Harris Teeter Development, located at 735 North St. Asaph Street and bordered by Madison and Pitt Streets, has begun demolition of existing structures.

The development will build a 5-story structure housing 175 rental apartments and a Harris Teeter grocery store. Construction is planned to last through 2014, but the Harris Teeter grocery store will open prior to the final completion date, probably in late 2013.

Friendship Firehouse Museum *By Tom Soapes*

Fire played a significant role in Alexandria's history, and some of that story is on display at the Friendship Firehouse Museum (107 S. Alfred St.). The fire company was established in 1774 as a volunteer company. Firefighters had to pay dues to belong to the company, which did not supply uniforms. The current Friendship Firehouse was built in 1855, and renovated in 1992. It was one of several fire companies protecting the city in the 19th century.

Open flames were a daily fact of life in Alexandria into the early twentieth century for cooking, heating, and industrial purposes. Open flames in a town with many wooden buildings created a substantial and continuous fire hazard. The city suffered its most devastating fire in 1827, when a fire destroyed Green's Furniture Factory (Prince and S. Royal Streets) and 53 other buildings. Damage was estimated at \$127,000. In 1855, arsonists started a fire in which seven firefighters died at the Dowell China Factory, 215-217 King Street. The arsonists were never caught.

The museum also documents other major blazes in 1871 and 1922. On May 12, the museum will offer a walking tour (fee charged) highlighting firehouses and fiery events in Alexandria history. The museum also sponsors a Father's Day Open House and, in August, a Firehouse Festival (www.alexandriava.gov/historic) and is available for special events, including children's birthday parties. Open Saturdays and Sundays 1:00 - 4:00, admission charged.

Printers' Row Town Houses Making Progress *By Christa Watters*

The 20-town-house development (with a condo ownership structure) known as Printers Row at 1125 North Royal Street is finally in active construction after years of delay. Steve Weatherby, vice president of construction at Holladay Corporation of Washington, DC, was on site on April 11 to confirm the company is targeting completion by year's end or early 2013.

Jessica Sterchi, an associate at the firm, confirmed that the first units are expected to be delivery-ready by fall. The town houses will average 2,500 square feet, with most units having 3 bedrooms, though a few will have only 2. The development will be in a contemporary industrial/warehouse style with brick facades, but the units facing Royal Street will have somewhat more traditional fronts to blend with the adjacent Hearthstone Mews community.

The development includes one small retail building, a 1900-square-foot unit on the corner of North Fairfax and Third Streets. Below grade parking with two spaces per town house. Holladay Corporation also developed Liberty Row and Abingdon Row in North Old Town.

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, email and our website.*

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

Free Mother's Day Tours.

13th May

The following landmarks are offering free tours for mothers (fees for others)

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum

105-107 S. Fairfax Street
(703) 746-3852

The Carlyle House

121 N. Fairfax Street

(703) 549-2997

(also offering tea for \$27 per person)

Gadsby's Tavern Museum

134 N. Royal Street

(703) 746-4242

Spring Wine Festival & Sunset Tour

18th May - 20th May

Mount Veronon

Includes candlelit tours of the mansion.

(703) 780-2000

\$35

NOTICE Board

Christa Watters, president

Roger Waud, vice president

Ernie Lehmann, secretary

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