

# The ompass

The Official Publication of the Cameron Station Community Association

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## Opening Doors for Students: Meet the New Principal at Samuel Tucker

By Mayu Molina Lehmann

In July 2022, Ms. Adaarema Kelly became the new principal of Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School, where she had been an assistant principal for five years. She is the first woman and first person of color to be principal in the school's 20-year history. It's an honor she doesn't take lightly. After all, the school was named after civil rights leader Samuel Tucker, who fought for library integration in Alexandria in the 1950s.

### Giving back

Ms. Kelly's career in education stems from a desire to give back to her community. Born in Ghana to American parents, she was four years old when her family returned to Philadelphia, encountering a difficult time adapting to a new environment.

"I struggled in school," she admits, adding that she was diagnosed with



Ms. Adaarema Kelly, new principal of Samuel W. Tucker Elementary School. Photo courtesy of Alexandria City Public Schools

a learning disability. These early experiences informed her career choices and she became a Special Education teacher. "My goal was to help students to not be stigmatized, labeled or put in a box like I was."

After graduating with a degree in History & African Studies at Susquehanna University, she went on to obtain a Master's degree in Special Education at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania and soon after started her 20+ years of teaching, working in six school districts around the world.

When asked about her goals for Tucker she responds that she wants to ensure the staff has all it needs to support students, especially after two years of disrupted pandemic learning. But Ms. Kelly is not one to dwell on challenges. When asked about the lessons learned, she responds with one word: resilience. "We saw how resilient and dynamic our teachers are and how they were able to pivot quickly from teaching in person,

then to virtual, to asynchronous, to hybrid and then back to school. We saw how committed our staff is, their passion, and how much they care for students."

This empathy for children is something Ms. Kelly knows well. "Kids drive me. I want to give them opportunities to apply personal goals. I want them to have high expectations and reach their full potential." She wants to ensure students, especially new immigrant kids, have a safe and welcoming place. "I want to open doors for students. I want them to know they are loved and that we are here to support them."

### A spirit of service

A proud military spouse, Ms. Kelly highlights that she has learned a lot about fortitude and drive from her husband, a retired Marine lieutenant colonel with six combat deployments. "Nothing can be as trying as having a husband in combat as an infantry officer," she shares. "If I can go through that, I can go through anything."

Despite the challenges, Ms. Kelly advanced her career, managed a household and cared for two teenage children. Another vehicle to give back to the Alexandria community has been being a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. She is now a doctoral candidate in educational leadership and administration at The George Washington University and expects to receive her doctorate by the end of 2023.

When asked how she manages it all, she responds, "I have been blessed and have been given a lot. It's my time to give back. To whom much is given, much will be required," she concludes.



Ms. Adaarema Kelly greeting students on the first day of school for the 2022-2023 school year. Photo courtesy of Alexandria City Public Schools

# Everything You Need to Know About Container Gardening

From the Common Area Committee

Not everyone in the community has dirt to dig in for gardening, or they only have a difficult location where nothing will grow well. If what you have is a balcony or entry landing, you still have options. Here are some suggestions about plants that have done well in containers and some factors to consider to keep them alive through the summer.

## All about pots and containers

Pots in protected spots can go out as early as mid-April. More exposed areas should wait until the last official frost date in early May. First, understand how much sun the space will get. Realize it will shift quite a lot between April and September. What may start out sunny early in the season may shift to deep shade as the summer goes on. Or the other way around.

Most garden centers clearly set out their plants by sun and shade. So, you'll want to have a sense of what kind of light you have for the majority of the growing season.

You will need larger containers than you think so plants don't quickly dry out and die on a hot summer day. A cute 8-inch pot, medium-sized for an inside plant, won't be survivable outside. Start at least with a 10-inch pot. It must have a hole in the bottom for drainage. It can help to have a good draining plastic pot inside a decorative one. If the pot you buy it in is too small for future growth, you must re-pot to something larger. There are various pot under-bottom devices that lift the pot up off the surface to keep the surface from getting stains. Make sure they also allow free draining.



One of Cameron Station's young residents, enjoying his patio container garden.

Photographer: Resident Gen Harrison-Doss

## Shopping suggestions for plants

Large containers look best with a plant mix in a specific color arrangement, a mix of textures and at least one tall plant and one that cascades over the side. Be sure that all plants in one pot have similar needs, such as needing the same amount of sun or preference for moisture or dryness; the little tags in plant pots have this information. Check on the ultimate size of each plant before you purchase it. All tiny plants are equally cute, and you can mistakenly think they grow to the same size. By late season, one might dwarf the others and look very scrawny and out of place or even smother the smaller plants.

Shop for plants in garden centers rather than big box stores, unless you know exactly the variety you want

that will succeed. Most garden centers will have a wider range of choices, and they will be well cared for before they are sold. The people that work there can help you find the right plants. Keep an open mind on what you might find there, as garden center supply growers often produce newer varieties in unusual colors that perform better than standard ones.

What to pick if you don't know plants? Read the little tags that provide a lot of useful information. They will have light and watering requirements plus plant food recommendations. Keep them, as they will also help remind you from year to year of what died (don't buy these again) and what succeeded.

(Continued on page 5)

## About . . . *The Compass*

*The Compass* is the newsletter for the Cameron Station Community Association and is run entirely by volunteers.

*The Compass* welcomes your articles and photo submissions, as well as your suggestions for future issues.

Please send us an email at [TheCompass@cameronstation.org](mailto:TheCompass@cameronstation.org).

Previous issues of *The Compass* are available online at [www.cameronstation.org](http://www.cameronstation.org).

Go under the "News" tab on the home page and click on "Community Communications" on the left-hand side.

**Editor-in-Chief:** Gen Harrison-Doss.

**Editorial Staff:** Carla Besosa, Mayu Molina Lehmann, Lenore Marema, Pat Sugrue, Gwen Troops and Rene Zimmer.

**This Issue's Photographers:** Gen Harrison-Doss, Mayu Molina Lehmann, Molley Regan and Linda Taousakis.

# Committee Corner

HARD AT WORK ON BEHALF OF OUR RESIDENTS

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### FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Takis Taousakis - Chairperson

## Activities & Events Committee

By Andy Yang

The annual Cameron Station Holiday Party was held on Sunday, December 18, from noon to 3pm. It featured plenty of activities, including horse carriage rides around the main Cameron Station gazebo, a visit from Santa, a photo booth and various crafts. This year also marked the inaugural Holiday Market, in which various vendors set up shop in front of the clubhouse showcasing their goods. Finally, catered food was provided by Maggiano's, along with various beverages inside the gym. Festive cookies, mini cupcakes and hot chocolate were provided outside by the main gazebo. Overall, it was a fun event. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this event a success.

The Activities and Events Committee is always looking for volunteers to help out during our major events. If you or someone you know may be interested, please email [events@cameronstation.org](mailto:events@cameronstation.org) for details. We are looking forward to planning another fun year for 2023.

## Financial Advisory Committee (FAC)

By Takis Taousakis

The FAC was established in order to advise the Board of Directors on issues affecting the financial position of the Association that may include but are not limited to:

- Reviewing the monthly financial statement as prepared by the Managing Agent;

- Reviewing Repair and Replacement, Operating and Capital Reserves;
- Assessing delinquencies and collection policies;
- Reviewing the annual audit and tax returns as prepared by the Association's audit firm;
- Participating in the annual budget process;
- Reviewing the annual budget as prepared by the Managing Agent;
- Recommending funding options for special projects and unbudgeted expenses;
- Reviewing the Association's investments and optimizing return on investment while maintaining; full FDIC or other insurance on all our funds.
- Assisting other committees, as requested, with regard to the budget and/or other financial matters.

## Common Area Committee (CAC)

By Kathy McCollom

Spring landscape cleanups have begun, especially common area tree pruning and cutting back perennials. Annual flowers will be planted in early May, or sooner if the mild weather continues. This winter's ground freezing/thawing

(Continued on page 4)

(CAC continued from page 3)

and many rainy days have left the ground very soft and muddy. Please do not walk on the grass that is already in its most vulnerable dormant state. Walk on paved paths. Heavy play areas or paths on grass will require repairs to

restore the turf. In some cases, areas will be fenced off for several months so grass can grow back.

The committee will once again conduct monthly walk-throughs of the community from May through September. These focus on particular sections each month. In addition to looking at general common area maintenance, the committee looks for areas that have evolved due to tree or bush growth, or now have erosion problems, which may require action to correct. There are many more deeply shaded areas of the community that require different plants from the builder originals, or replacing sparse grass with mulch or paving stones.

The committee reminds owners that they are responsible for maintaining trees and plants in their private lots. In general, trees require pruning every three years or so. Most bushes should be shaped once a year for best appearance. Branches should not extend over sidewalks or streets where they block pedestrians, vehicles, signs or street lights.

Paving of community streets will continue this summer, phase two of three phases. Management will notify residents along those streets well in advance. The city is

planning to repave city streets this fiscal year and that also begins this summer.

On Earth Day on April 22 2023, Cameron Station management (Angel Robles) will coordinate a Watershed Cleanup Event in adjacent streams and parks. Support organizations will provide trash bags and gloves. This is a very family-friendly event. More details will be in future email blasts, or you can contact Angel at [arobles@gocampmgmt.com](mailto:arobles@gocampmgmt.com).

The committee will once again conduct the Pride of Ownership awards. Judging will be in May. Details about nominations and award categories will be available soon. In recent years, the judges have been very impressed at the creativity that's possible in very small garden spaces.

## Communications Committee

By Tricia Hemel

The Communications Committee and its subcommittees have a busy year in 2023! The Welcome Subcommittee will continue to welcome new residents to Cameron Station, and our volunteer photographers will be out and about capturing memorable community moments. The Cameron Station website update is underway and we aim to launch it early this year. Additionally, we are continually working on expanding our online presence and encourage you to follow us on Facebook: [@CameronStationCA](https://www.facebook.com/CameronStationCA), Twitter: [@CameronStation](https://twitter.com/CameronStation), and Instagram: [@CameronStationCommunity](https://www.instagram.com/CameronStationCommunity). Don't forget to like and follow us! A special mention goes to the Newsletter Subcommittee for producing another fantastic edition of *The Compass*, our community newsletter, that highlights community activities, local events and our remarkable neighbors.

If you would like to contribute to any of the projects mentioned above or have suggestions for improving communication in our community, please reach out to us at [communications@cameronstation.org](mailto:communications@cameronstation.org).



On Friday March 17 in the Cameron Great Room, Cameron Station residents enjoyed trivia, beer, wine and refreshments courtesy of the Activities and Events Committee. Photographer: Linda Taousakis

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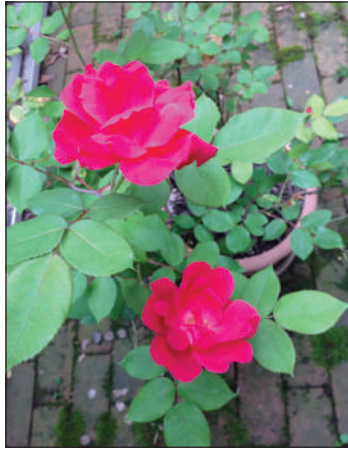
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(Container Gardening continued from page 2)

Note that many garden centers sell blooming cool weather plants in early spring that cannot tolerate summer heat. Pansies in particular are spring-only. Standard geraniums (labeled Zonal) are also cool weather plants. If your plan is for pot plants to last through the season, look for ones that bloom through the fall and can handle heat well. Garden center staff can be very helpful in guiding your purchases. Or, you may decide to enjoy pansies through May and then replace them with summer begonias or vincas for the hottest months.



### Attention and care tips

So, what survives? If you have direct sun and lots of it, and you like to cook, consider herbs. Forget the cute little pots described as windowsill gardens. Most herbs outside in pots will get surprisingly big. A happy basil will get almost three feet tall, and so will a dill. They need large pots. Chives, oregano and mint do well in medium-sized pots and are perennial, so you can leave them outside in the winter. Parsley, thyme and sage do well in partial sun.

Be realistic on how much attention you will give your plants. All benefit from being looked at regularly, so if something is wrong you can promptly fix it. In summer, containers need daily watering; on the hottest days, it might be twice a day. Look for the phrase Gen, no idea why this is marked to delete! I should not be!

### Ideas for plants that love shade:

*Begonias* come in a vast variety, and the showy rex begonias can come inside for the winter, then go back outside, for many years. They get small flowers late summer, although the show is about the leaves. *Coleus* color is also in the leaves, and every year there are new varieties with more dramatic color and leaf shapes. *Oxalis* is an interesting plant often sold around St. Patrick's Day as a potted gift plant, with green or dark burgundy leaves. The leaves have a shamrock-like shape with small flowers above. They are surprisingly perennial and tough. *Caladium* are delicate leafy foliage plants in attractive colors and patterns that can tolerate partial sun out of the wind. They grow from corms and need very

warm days to start. Toward the end of the summer, they quit growing leaves. That's normal. You can dig up the corm, let it dry, and store it until next summer. *Impatiens* are the well-known shade flower for the garden, although they may not fully thrive in a container. The newer *Sunpatiens* can tolerate a wider range of light.

### Tips for plants that love sun:

There are *heat tolerant geraniums* that look like common ones but will keep blooming through the summer. Look for heat tolerant on the tag or the Calliope variety. They are usually mixed in with the common Zonal geraniums so you have to read the tags to tell the difference. Blooming *vinca* thrive in heat and come in many colors. The Cora Cascade vincas are great for trailing off the side of pots. Likewise, you have to read the tags as they are mixed in with regular mounding vincas, and you can't see the difference when plants are small. *Euphorbia* is good for mixed pots with its airy baby's breath quality. Upright *verbena* is also good for pots. *Penta* is a colorful heat-loving flower.

### Good for both:

There are many foliage plants intended as fill and contrast to grouped containers. Some come in burgundy or yellowish leaves, so they add color and are much more than boring fill.

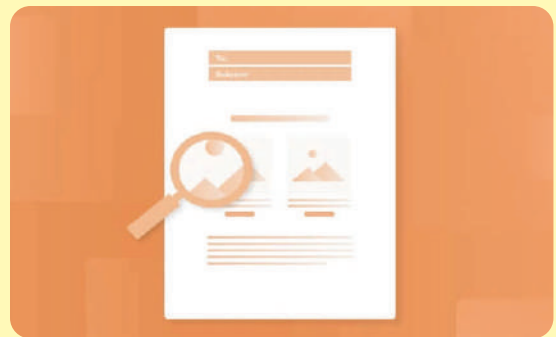
### Common plants that can be disappointing:

*Petunias* can be fussy in their watering and feeding needs, and they get leggy without frequent pinching of tips. After the initial burst of color, they will decline quickly. What look like small petunias (*calibrachoa*) can be hyper-sensitive to overwatering, and one heavy thunderstorm (even in a well-drained container) can drown them. Plants intended as bushes (such as *hydrangeas* or *gardenias*) need very large pots and a lot of space, such as a large patio. They grow too big for a balcony or small spot.

Over time you will see which plants thrive in your specific space and conditions (why you save the tags to find them next year). It's a great joy to look out onto a balcony and see a colorful personal garden.

## The Compass: Writers Needed!

The Compass is looking for volunteer writers! You don't need to be Shakespeare, just willing to write simple articles about current and future events of interest to Cameron Station residents for The Compass newsletter! Contact us at [thecompass@cameronstation.org](mailto:thecompass@cameronstation.org).



# Tricia Hemel Receives the 2022 Mark Pillow Award

By Pat Sugrue

In 2006, the Mark Pillow Community Spirit Award was instituted in memory of our neighbor Mark Pillow, who died the previous year. For those of us who had the good fortune to know him, Mark represented the best of Cameron Station – he was a kind and generous friend and neighbor who volunteered his time and talents for the

benefit of us all. Each year, the award is presented to a neighbor who captures Mark's generous spirit and love of community. This year's recipient is Tricia Hemel.

Tricia has been Chair of the Communications Committee (ComCom) since 2019, overseeing community communications during what may have been the busiest time for ComCom since the committee began.



Tricia not only oversees the workings of ComCom, but also is involved in its many subcommittees – Newsletter, Website, Social Media, Welcome, Public Relations and Photography. Tricia involves herself in all of them, attending meetings whenever she is available and interacting with the members of ComCom and the subcommittees on any important issue... she never refuses a request for assistance or advice.

Tricia is not only an excellent leader but also a kind and caring friend. She never hesitates to share her time and talents with the community she loves, and she is dedicated to helping ensure that Cameron Station remains a wonderful place to live. Congratulations, Tricia, on this much deserved award!

## Show Your Love for our Beautiful Neighborhood on Instagram - #LoveWhereYouLive

By Gen Harrison-Doss

We live in a beautiful community! From the colonial-style brick and painted buildings, tree-lined streets, local businesses, seasonal flora and fauna and Ben Brenman Park on our doorstep, Cameron Station is eminently photographable.

If you “love where you live,” share your neighborhood photos on the Cameron Station Instagram page! Be sure to: a) have a public profile, b) tag “Cameron Station Community”, and c) use **#LoveWhereYouLive** in your photo caption. The Communications Committee will then share the pictures to the official community Instagram page! Demonstrate your neighborhood pride and photography skills while also highlighting our wonderful community on social media.



Spring is finally here! Photographer: Raesident Molley Regan

## Days to Celebrate!

By Carla Besosa

APRIL: Diamond for inner strength, balance, clarity and abundance

Apr. 12 National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day (Cameron Café Grilled Panini offered on Wine Wednesdays.)

Apr. 13 Scrabble Day (Yes, some people can spell without Spell Check!)

Apr. 15 National Banana Day (Fresh bananas available daily at Cameron Café.)

Apr. 17 National Tea Day (New on Old Town's Waterfront: Lady Camellia's Tea Room.)

Apr. 30 International Jazz Day (Grammy winner Samara Joy: Best New Artist and Best Jazz Vocal Album)

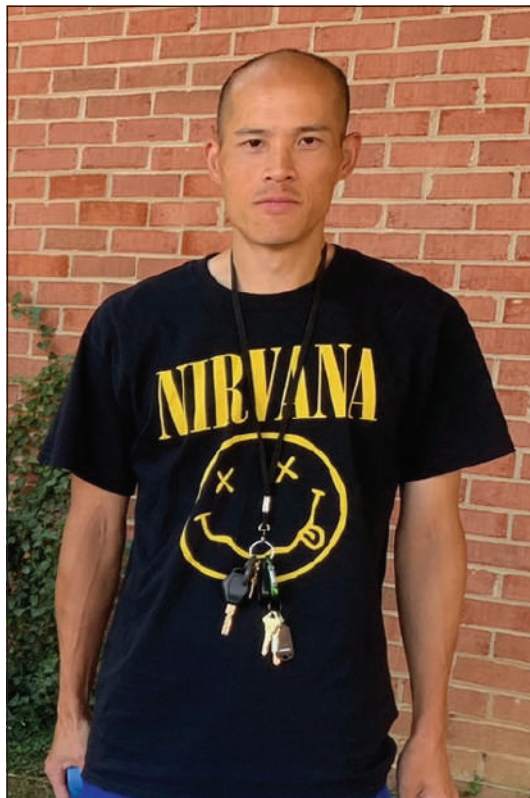
# The 2022 Volunteer of the Year: Andy Yang

By Pat Sugrue

The Volunteer of the Year Award was instituted in 2016 to recognize residents who have had a significant and positive impact on our community by volunteering their time and talents. The 2022 recipient is Andy Yang, Chair of the Activities & Events Committee.

While there are many positive aspects of life in Cameron Station, one of the most important is our sense of community. And one of ways we continue to build community is by coming together at social events. As one of our neighbors reminds us in his nomination of Andy: "Have you ever attended an event in Cameron Station? A pool party, wine tasting, trivia night, yard sale, holiday party, Easter Egg Hunt...? Well, then, Andy is a guy to thank!"

Andy has chaired the A&E Committee since January 2018, and while he depends on the support of his dedicated committee members and welcomes sponsorship from our

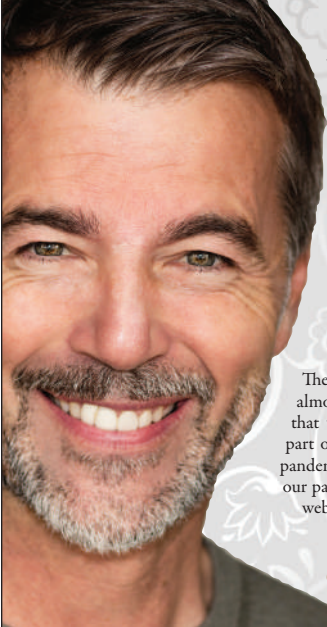


generous realtors and retailers, Andy is the one ultimately responsible for the success of these important community events. This is an in-person, hands-on responsibility – dealing with sponsors and suppliers, negotiating costs, coordinating tasks, setting up, decorating, breaking down and cleaning up... the list goes on and on, and the time commitment is significant.

Andy truly deserves the Volunteer of the Year award, and all the A&E members deserve our thanks and admiration. And our help! The many and varied events throughout the year give neighbors opportunities to get together with old friends and make new ones... and keep building that all-important sense of community. Lucky for us, Andy says there are many wonderful community activities planned for 2023. We congratulate you on this honor and thank you, Andy, for all you have done...and continue to do!

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# Neighbors in the News: An Amazing Pet Rescue

by Rene Zimmer

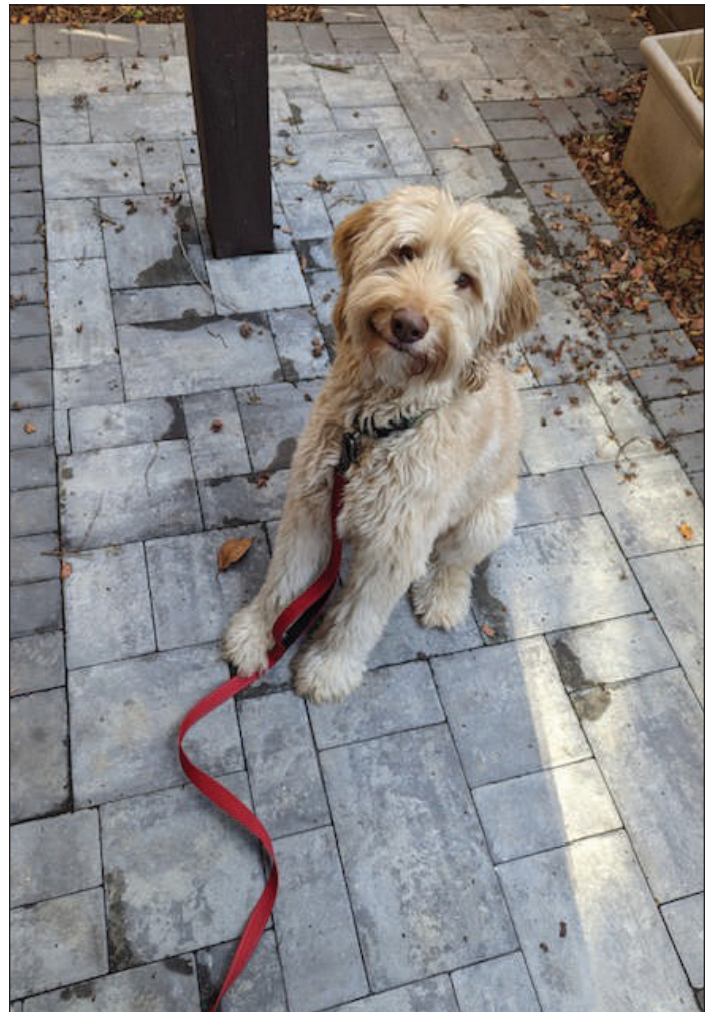
During the month of December amidst the holiday bustle, Steve and Meredith Aquila found themselves in a position to help a fellow neighbor. One day while they were out in the neighborhood walking their dog, Cooper, they came upon a dog walking aimlessly around the gazebo off leash. The dog was well groomed and happy, but his tag seemed to have fallen off his collar so there was no way to identify him.

Concerned for the dog's safety, Meredith walked to the Northeast part of the traffic circle and coaxed the dog to come to her. She then used Steve's belt as a leash. Since they have both a dog and cat at home, they asked another neighbor to hold onto this darling "escapee" for them while they attempted to locate the owners.

Steve and Meredith texted friends and neighbors, called the animal shelter and posted a photo on Facebook hoping to track down the owners. They bought some supplies for the dog and even brought this doodle to the animal shelter to see if he had a microchip. As it turned out, he did have a chip, but it was not registered yet.

Later the same day, Meredith was contacted by the owners. They had either heard about the Facebook post or seen it themselves. The family described the dog's collar to prove ownership. Next they proceeded to help solve the mystery of their dog Sawyer's "escape." As it turns out, this seven-year-old Doodle slipped out the door when not one was looking as his family prepared to leave for church that morning. The family followed church with an outing of some sort and did not return home until the late afternoon to discover him missing.

The owners turned out to be Ryan and Emily Beck. They live in Cameron Station with their three small children. The family was very distraught to return home in the late afternoon to find their beloved Doodle missing. They were unaware of his exit and frantically looked for him. The kids (and parents) were very upset and thought that perhaps he had been hit by a car or wandered off forever. They were beyond thrilled to hear about the Facebook post with a picture of Sawyer.



The family was relieved to be reunited with their precious pet. Thanks to Steve and Meredith, this story had a happy ending for all involved. The Becks are so grateful that Meredith and Steve took the time and love to help their dog and reunite him with his family! They are indeed wonderful neighbors for us all!

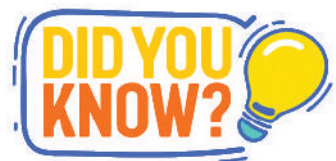
## Feeling Out of the Loop?

Decisions on community matters made by the Cameron Station Community Association (CSCA) Board of Directors and Committees are discussed, debated and determined in public, with the exception of private matters between residents and the Board that are discussed in closed Executive Session.

If you want to know what is going on in Cameron Station, attend the monthly Board and Committee meetings (and/or read the minutes posted on the website); read *The Compass* and sign up for weekly Email Blasts. If you have any questions for the Board or Committees or CSCA management, send an email. Email addresses can be found in every issue of *The Compass* newsletter.

## Extra Visitor Parking Spaces

While some areas of the community have very few visitor parking spaces, other areas have plenty. Extra spaces can be found behind Woodland Hall Condos (400-500 block of Cameron Station Boulevard), behind the Carlton Place Condos (Knapp Place) and on Gardner Drive (parallel to Duke Street).



# A New “West End” for Alexandria

By Mindy Lyle & Gen Harrison-Doss

The old Landmark Mall, which was located at the triangle formed by Duke Street, Interstate 395 and Van Dorn Street, was a prominent part of Alexandria since opening in 1965. When it closed in 2017, only one store remained open – Sears. In 2020 Sears closed all stores across the US. The process to master plan the Landmark Mall site began in 2009 when Landmark Mall gained prominence on the Dying Malls in America lists. The first advisory group was formed to work with city staff to determine a direction for the site. In 2019, the plan was revisited by a new citizens advisory group, and the plan was then amended in 2021. Currently, the Landmark/Van Dorn/Eisenhower West Implementation Group monitors development, design and construction on the site.

## Construction & Development

The 52-acre site and \$2B project was re-named “WestEnd Alexandria” or “WestEnd Alex” by Folger Pratt (Master Developer) and will include a hospital, medical office buildings, multi-family residential units, townhomes, retail, commercial and entertainment spaces, outdoor parks, a new fire station (relocated Fire Station 208), affordable housing and a new transit hub for the city’s proposed rapid transit network and Metrobus.

The only remaining building after demolition is the old mall’s parking garage, which will undergo renovations and reopen with the first phase of the project. Now that demolition is complete, the site is being graded, with infrastructure construction underway. The first buildings are estimated to be complete in 2025, with construction in various forms expected to run through 2028.

## A new hospital and medical campus

In December 2020, the not-for-profit hospital on Seminary Road, Inova, along with the City of Alexandria, jointly announced plans for a new state-of-the-art Inova hospital to be a key part of the WestEnd Alex development. The current Inova hospital on Seminary Road has been rezoned for townhouses and single-family use and will be sold. The current hospital will be demolished.

The new Inova hospital will be renamed “Alexandria Hospital,” and the medical campus is expected to employ more than 2,000 healthcare workers. According to the development’s website, the hospital campus will include a larger emergency room than the current Inova hospital. Additionally, the hospital is pursuing a Level II trauma designation and would be one of only three Level II trauma centers in Northern Virginia, seven statewide and 270 nationwide, providing 24-hour specialty services for trauma care.

## Live-Work-Play

WestEnd Alex will also include a trendy lifestyle concept called “Live-Work-Play,” which has grown in popularity over the past 10 years. These types of communities include residential, office and retail space and are like mini-villages where residents have access to multiple work and entertainment facilities within their residences or close at hand. The concept was made even more popular due to the pandemic’s impact on increased hybrid and work-from-home arrangements.

Being able to live, work and have fun without leaving your building is most appealing to the largest renting generation — Millennials, especially the younger half of this age-group of renters. In fact, according to census data, the zip codes with live-work-play

buildings are home to high shares of young Millennials. The greater Washington DC area ranks third in the nation for the most live-work-play spaces, with only Manhattan and Brooklyn ranked higher.

WestEnd Alex is a catalyst for increased development in the area for the entire West End. Several other projects are in various stages of approvals or early construction. These include Tri-Pointe homes project on Eisenhower Avenue, a mixed income project by AHDC with 32 affordable townhomes, eight affordable multi-family units (with three reserved for Sheltered Homes of Alexandria) and Landmark Overlook which will provide townhomes and apartments with some opportunities for affordable ownership (with a possible hotel or office building at a later date). Additionally, at the current site of Vulcan Materials off Eisenhower West near Backlick Run, is a proposal to provide a six-acre park with handicap accessibility, condos, townhomes and a hotel, plus an affordable addition and renovation of Parc Vue on Holmes Run. Already approved is the CDD for Pickett Place North and South; the area surrounded by S. Pickett Street, Van Dorn Street and Edsall Road.

### Local Realtors Weigh In:

Irina Babb of RE/MAX: *“I am super excited about big changes coming to the West End. This new urban village can only mean great things for the local market values. We look forward to this walkable environment with shops, restaurants, a 10-screen movie theater and improved accessibility.”*

Aaron Podolsky of the Podolsky Group: *“This long-awaited investment will help re-ignite an area that has seen little change over the years. Residents in the surrounding area will soon see all the benefits that such a project will produce. Both residential and commercial real estate will see a net positive effect, as well as all the small businesses that surround west end Alexandria.”*

### Additional Information:

- For more information on the rezoning of the existing Inova hospital, visit [inova.org/seminaryroad](http://inova.org/seminaryroad).
- For more information on the future Inova Hospital at Landmark, visit [www.inova.org/landmark](http://www.inova.org/landmark).
- For more information on the Landmark redevelopment, visit [alexandriava.gov/landmark](http://alexandriava.gov/landmark).
- For information on the transit hub, visit [www.alexandriava.gov/transportation-planning/west-end-transitway](http://www.alexandriava.gov/transportation-planning/west-end-transitway).



Rendering from [WestEndVA.com](http://WestEndVA.com)



## Carla's Picks

By Carla Besosa

### Alden Theater (McLean)

Apr. 14 David Dorfman Dance

### Alexandria

Mar. 18-Apr. 16 From Alexandria Marina, water taxi to the Wharf to see Cherry Blossoms

### Anacostia Arts Center (DC)

Apr. 19-May 14 *'night Mother*

### Anthem Stage (DC/Waterfront)

Apr. 26 Jamie Cullum

May 10 Seal

### Arena Stage (DC)

May 5-Jun. 25 *Exclusion*

### The Barns at Wolf Trap (Vienna)

Apr. 14-15 An Evening of Comedy

Apr. 19 Karla Bonoff

Apr. 30-May 1 George Winston

### Bethesda Blues & Jazz Club (Bethesda)

Apr. 14 The Jets (Elton John tribute)

Apr. 28 Earth Wind & Fire tribute

### Birchmere (Arlandria)

Apr. 18 Graham Nash

Apr. 26 Suzanne Vega

Apr. 29 Eaglemania (Eagles tribute)

Apr. 30 Herman's Hermits

May 5 TUSK (Fleetwood Mac tribute)

May 8 Cowboy Junkies

May 9 Amy Grant

### Blues Alley (Georgetown/DC)

Apr. 12-16 Stanley Jordan

Apr. 20-23 Jane Monheit

May 2 Veronneau

May 3-7 Lee Ritenour

### Creative Cauldron (Falls Church)

Mar. 17-Apr. 2 *Snow Queen*

May 11-Jun. 4 *Audrey*

### Del Ray Artisans Gallery (Del Ray)

May 5 Opening Reception: "Prints in May @ DRA"

### Dulles Expo Center (Chantilly)

May 6 NOVA Wine Expo

May 19-21 International Gem & Jewelry Show

### 1st Stage Theater (Tysons)

Apr. 20-May 7 *Mojada*

### Gala Hispanic Theater (DC)

Apr. 20-May 14 *La Valencia (Valor)*

### GMU Center for the Arts (Fairfax)

May 13 Fairfax Symphony Orchestra featuring Zuill Bailey on cello

### The Hamilton (DC)

Apr. 23 Celebrating David Bowie

Apr. 28 Laurel Canyon

### Jammin Java (Vienna)

Apr. 20 40 Fingers

May 4 Dan Navarro

### Kennedy Center (DC)

Apr. 11-29 *Les Misérables*

May 4-6 Cirque de la Symphonie

Jun. 14 Anoushka Shankar with NSO

May 13-27 La Bohème

### Lena's Woodfire Pizza & Grill (Del Ray)

Tuesdays & Thursdays: Live Music

### Little Theater of Alexandria (Old Town)

Apr. 22-May 13 *Mary Stuart*

### Lost Boy Cider (Alexandria)

Every Thursday: Trivia Night

First Friday: Live Music

### MGM Theater (National Harbor)

Apr. 22 Bill Maher

May 11-14 Jill Scott

May 19 Tom Jones

May 20 Smokey Robinson

### National Theater (DC)

May 16-28 *Beetlejuice*

### Round House Theater (Silver Spring)

Mar. 28-May 7 *On the Far End*

### Signature Theater (Shirlington)

Apr. 25-Jun. 18 *Passing Strange*

### The State Theater (Falls Church)

Apr. 27 Tribute to Foo Fighters

May 12-13 Bruce Springsteen Tribute

### St. Elmo's Coffee Pub (Del Ray)

Last Sunday of the Month: Janna Audey

### The Strathmore Music Center (Bethesda)

Apr. 16 Emanuel Ax

Apr. 22 Joshua Bell

Apr. 23 Bela Fleck

Apr. 29 RAIN (Beatles tribute)

### Warner Theater (DC)

May 20 *Don Giovanni*

### Woolly Mammoth (DC)

Mar. 28-Apr. 16 *The Jungle*

Apr. 1-23 *The Nosebleed*

## And Another Thing...

### (newsy notions & other fun facts)

On Yelp's list of best 100 places to eat in the US, the only one close to us is Falafel Inc. in DC.

On Yelp's list of top 10 pizza places in NoVA, Lena's is the only one in Alexandria (personally, I would add Aldo's, Reynolds, & Delia's).

We will miss Birchmere owner Gary Oulze who passed away late January.

The Ground Hog saw his shadow, so winter weather prevails until March 16, according to legend.

Follow Cameron Café on Facebook to learn about tastings, game nights and live music!

## New & Coming Soon

Hot Lola's Chicken has replaced Granddaddy's Skillet in Pinecrest Plaza.

Lima Bistro & Bar has replaced Savio's in Van Dorn Station.

Roha Ethiopian Restaurant open in Van Dorn Plaza.

Two breweries in Falls Church: Audacious Aleworks on Fairfax St. & Settle Down Easy on Fairfax Dr.

Borek G Turkish Market & Café in Falls Church (Mom's cooking!)

New St. Elmo's Coffee Pub on Kenwood Ave.

Handover by the Slice open on King St. in Old Town.

Rosemarino is returning to Del Ray this summer.

All Rice Thai open in Kingstowne.

Peru Grill & Bar to replace A.J.'s Pizza & Cheesesteak on Duke St.

Pupusa Loca has replaced Tempo on Duke St.

Astro Beer Hall coming to Shirlington this summer.

Z Burger open at the corner of Van Dorn & Pickett.

Lena's Oasis closed (just the Oasis).

Handover by the Slice open on King St. in Old Town.

Gostov Boulanger & Brasserie to open in Del Ray.

## What Am I Listening to?

Veronneau - Live at Blues Alley

Zoë Keating - Into the Trees

Trevor Gordon Hall - This Beautiful Chaos

Mike Dawes - Era

# 2 Jefes Tex-Mex Restaurant

By Carla Besosa aka The Cameron Station Foodie

2 Jefes opened about a year ago, moving into the spot formerly occupied by Pilar's, in an unassuming strip on Huntington Ave. The location is more convenient than you may think: just a quick four miles/eight-minute drive. My seven visits there have encompassed lunch, happy hour and dinner; I've never been disappointed!

The space is festively decorated and has a casual, relaxed and comfortable feel. Plans are underway for a back patio so patrons can enjoy outdoor seating as well. Traditional Latin music sets the mood. The staff is friendly and efficient. Jorge Cedillos (one of the "Jefes") greets customers, many of whom are regulars, with a huge welcoming smile. Positive energy abounds before you even order!

I like to sit at the bar (of course I do) which has 10 stools, two TVs, and an impressive array of libations (like their Mango Mojito). The salsa is fresh, and the chips are warm. My litmus test is the *Guacamole*, and theirs is some of the best I've had in this area, customized to your "picante" specificity. The

*Quesadillas* (shrimp, chicken, steak, cheese, spinach or mushroom) make good appetizers, as do the *Gambas al Ajillo* (shrimp sautéed with garlic, onion, and wine). They also offer an entire page of variations on *ceviche*... impressive!

The entrée selection is expansive and includes various creations made from seafood, chicken, steak, pork, vegetables and many combinations thereof. For example, try the *Mar y Tierra*, grilled NY strip steak with homemade garlic sauce, topped with shrimp. Other options include the *Al Caballo Fajita*, sizzling fajita over tomatoes and jalapeños, topped with two fried eggs and hollandaise sauce, and the *Salmon Acapulco*, grilled filet of salmon topped with shrimp and scallops and finished with an Acapulco sauce. I suggest pairing your entrée with one of the many Mexican beers (I find Pacifico most refreshing).

## 2 Jefes Tex-Mex Restaurant

2249 Huntington Ave  
Alexandria, VA 22303  
571-347-7571

[www.dosjefesrestaurant.com](http://www.dosjefesrestaurant.com)

### Hours

Monday to Thursday:  
11 am to 10 pm

Friday to Saturday:  
10 am to 11 pm

Sunday 10 am to 10 pm

### Prices

Appetizers \$5.95-\$14.95

Entrees \$12.95-\$27.95

Lunch \$10.95-\$19.95

Brunch \$10.95-\$16.95

### Bar

Full

### HC Access

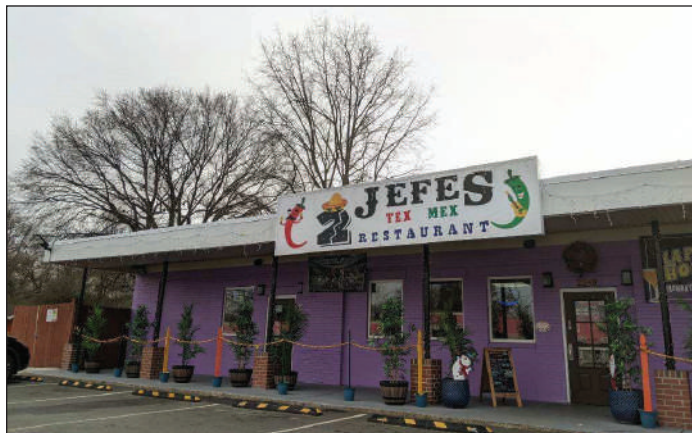
Yes

### Parking

Lot

### Reservations

Yes (Recommended  
Weekend Evenings  
& Brunch)



2 Jefes Tex-Mex Restaurant, off of Huntington Ave.



One of the two "Jefes," Jorge Cedillos.



The Cameron Station Foodie in action.

All Photographs: Mayu Molina Lehmann.

Presently, one of my favorite dishes at 2 Jefes are the *Street Tacos*. The tortillas (I choose flour) are filled with sautéed strips of chicken or steak, green peppers, red onions and tomatoes, topped with fresh avocado and cilantro. The meat is sautéed in such a way that it's amazingly juicy and delicious.

Finish up with some *Sopapillas*, fried dough drizzled with honey and cinnamon. Or perhaps you'd like to splurge on the *2 Jefes Coffee* with Godiva Liquor, Bailey's and Kahlua.

Check it out! Choose to your liking, support the dream and enjoy 2 Jefes!

# 13th Annual Operation GobbleGobble is Successful Once Again Thanks to Cameron Station Families

by Donna Kenley

*Cameron Station families raised \$11,500 to provide much-needed meals and holiday spirit for Tucker Elementary families.*

Thanks to your generous support for the 2022 13th Annual Operation Gobble Gobble, Cameron Station reached the goal – to provide 100 Tucker Elementary families with \$100 in grocery gift certificates to purchase Thanksgiving meals.

On November 17, 2022, Donna Kenley, representing Cameron Station, and Kay Brown Johnson, Liaison to Tucker Vice to the PTA, presented Samuel W. Tucker Elementary Principal Adaarema Kelly with grocery gift certificates totaling \$10,000. Cameron Station families provided these much-needed gift certificates for Thanksgiving meals to wonderful Tucker families (identified by the Tucker social worker) who could use a little help during this Thanksgiving season. An additional \$1,500 supported \$100 meal gift certificates for Tucker Adopt-a-Family during the December 2022 Holiday Season.

Cameron Station Community's Operation GobbleGobble 2022 was very successful. I am grateful for many gracious neighbors who supported this community-wide, Thanksgiving project. Thanks to families (over 100); businesses (Irina Babb Homes LLC, Cameron Café and Aldo's Italian Kitchen Eisenhower Avenue); philanthropic organizations (West End Rotary Club - 9<sup>th</sup> Year); and Alexandria Community School Organization (Tucker PTA and School Tutors) who rallied to this holiday cause.

Finally, I recognize three special Cameron Station families: the "Secret Sponsor" matched donations with \$2,000 in gift certificates; and two "High Donor Families" gifted \$1,000 in certificates. These gestures exemplify the family pride found in Cameron Station.

I am honored to work with all of you on this project and I appreciate the hope that you provided to families who could use a little help during the Holiday Season. Again, you exemplify what it means to be a part of this caring community – Cameron Station.



Alexandria West Rotary Club (AWRC) Rotary President Roya Khan proudly presents \$1,000 in Gift Cards to Donna Kenley, Cameron Station Program Coordinator for Operation Gobble Gobble 2022. The AWRC celebrated its nine-year partnership with Cameron Station. AWRC also supports immigrant families and other humanitarian causes both in the local community and internationally.



Donna Kenley representing Cameron Station and Kay Brown representing the PTA presented Samuel W. Tucker Elementary Principal Adaarema Kelly with grocery gift certificate totaling \$10,000. An additional donation of \$1,500 in gift certificates supported December Holiday Meals.

# The Latest on Potential EV Charging Stations for Electric Vehicles in Cameron Station

By Michael J Zimmer, Chair of the Main Street Condominium EV Charging Committee (2022-23)

Power charging for new electric vehicles (EVs) has now been under review and discussion in Cameron Station since 2022. In Alexandria today less than 5% of vehicles in use are EVs. Currently, there are 56,000 EV charging stations with 144,000 charging ports in the US. These are composed of approximately 60% Tesla superchargers and 40% non-Tesla chargers.

## Community demand profile

The Main Street Condominiums conducted a community demand survey in their four buildings in April, 2022. The results corresponded with separate forecasts that EV charging demand would rapidly change by 2025. Currently less than 5% of owners had EVs, but that was based on an average price entry cost in 2022 of over \$63,000. It now appears that electric vehicles will explode with market penetration by 2030 as market prices drop significantly and new incentives apply. The key for Cameron Station's evaluation will be recognizing this domestic growth of new EVs requiring charging stations along with the required capital investments. The Main Street research also showed that 88% of EV drivers currently are charging at their own homes. The balance of 12% will charge at their workplace or in driving over interstate highways.

## Coordinated Activity

The Main Street Condominiums established an EV Charging Committee in March, 2022. It has also started working with the Cameron Station HOA in reviewing this issue and considering appropriate strategies in recognition of these needs. This Main Street review is focused in several areas such as technology, trends, options, implementation strategies and requirements for security and limitations. Market research has informed this review as well as relevant stakeholder discussions with the City, Dominion Power and other surrounding homeowner and trade associations. Seeking better understanding of the electricity, telecommunications and IT implications on the physical spaces available for surface and garage parking locations for EVs in Cameron Station is a paramount consideration. Public and private incentives, and the potential cost-benefits available to our homeowners, retail customers and visitors in Cameron Station are also a variable to better protect future property values.

## Other issues:

It is not clear whether scale benefits are appropriate for a full Cameron Station community response to EV charging. Also, condominium operations especially for underground parking pose unique challenges in planning and property management. Any strategy may implicate declarations, bylaws, rules and regulations, zoning and city planning. The existing electric, communications and IT infrastructure must be assessed with barriers, solutions and cost-effective alternatives. The timing for staging the introduction of EV charging into the community is under thoughtful review this year. Finally, we must integrate the city, state and federal policies in support of EVs, the utility and private sector and

third-party intermediary support for EV transportation, alternatives and growth. This may provide cost sharing and better cost controls over ultimate strategies considered for deployment of EV charging in the community.

## Appreciation

We thank especially the Main Street EV Charging Committee members for their thoughtful leadership, skills and time spent since 2022 including Todd Hutchings, Anita Suri, Dick Shea and Mindy Dullea in shaping our community thinking. That leadership has been encouraged by the Main Street Condominium Board of Directors, and also Steve Philbin the property manager for Cameron Station. Anthony Walker from Walker Custom Electric Services of Woodbridge, VA has provided Main Street technical and engineering guidance in its EV review.

## Important questions ahead

The main barriers and important questions commanding our attention for thoughtful action in 2023 appear to be the following:

- Access and locations for the EV charging along with property/ building electric capacity assessments;
- Range anxiety for refilling EVs;
- Payment methods, card sharing and unfairness issues;
- Choices for operating software, updates and technology review to avoid stranded investments;
- Installation costs, including HOA, vendor, installation, operations and maintenance and software servicing expenses.
- Cross-subsidy risk aversion for costs by non-EV users;
- Zoning opacity and coordination with City zoning policies;
- Cost of installation, especially below ground locations in the condominium buildings and locational limits;
- Ownership of parking space rights as well as public space opportunities;
- And finally, the lack of standardization of EV charging delivery systems as they evolve in the marketplace.

## Conclusion

Your thoughts and insights are welcome, as Cameron Station prepares for this transformation and mobility shift in the evolution to EVs. This will become a major transportation option for our homeowners, our retail tenant, service and supply vendors and their delivery trucks, commercial and industrial and visitors / users in serving the Cameron Station community of the future.

# New Foods and Home Renovation Trends to Explore in 2023

## 2023 Food & Drink Crystal Ball

By Lenore Marema

### Food Trends

Dates are the new and lower calorie sweetener for everything that contains sugar from syrup to soda to ketchup.

Plant based products are ever increasing in popularity and it not just cauliflower products anymore. Creative new pastas based on spaghetti squash, hearts of palm and green banana are popping up;

There is fungi fever for the richness in taste and texture that mushrooms provide to dishes. Expect dishes with oyster, trumpet, and other less commonly known mushrooms;

Two new foods to look for:

--Ube is a nutty, vanilla scented purple yam from the Philippines increasing found in pies, lattes, and waffles.

--Youpon is the only native North American plant that is caffeinated. Grown from a holly bush in the south, you will start to see it brewed in herbal teas and cocktails;

Pulp is dairy-free milk, such as soy and oat milk, but start looking for pulp in flour and baking mixes;

*(Continued on page 17)*

## 8 Home Decor Trends for 2023: Refreshing Your Space for the New Season

By Tricia Hemel

Spring is a time to refresh and rejuvenate your home with the latest home decor trends. Here are eight of the most popular trends for 2023 to help inspire you:

1. **Natural Touch:** Bring a piece of the outdoors inside with natural materials like rattan, cane, stone and wood. These elements add warmth and an organic feel to any space.

2. **Neutral Hues:** Beige and brown tones are making a comeback, providing a calm and peaceful atmosphere in your home.

3. **Nostalgic Decor:** Bringing back the traditional charm, antique and vintage finds are making a big comeback this season. Incorporating a vintage item like a classic vase or an old-style portrait can bring a touch of character to your home and evoke a sense of nostalgia.

4. **Vibrant Colors:** Rich and bold hues are making a statement in home decor, with Pantone's color of the year, Viva Magenta, leading the way. Deep purples, greens and blues are popular in statement pieces like sofas and accent walls.

5. **Art Deco Revival:** The elegant and stylish Art Deco style is back in fashion, bringing a touch of the 1970's to your



Image from Pantone website

home. Key elements of this look include geometric patterns, metallic accents and bold colors.

6. **Textured Interiors:** This spring, the trend is towards creating spaces with a tactile and organic feel. Walls with a lime wash or plaster finish, natural materials and neutral color palettes with textured accents are key elements in achieving this sought-after look.

7. **Statement Rugs:** Make a bold statement in your home with statement-making rugs. Choose a rug with a unique pattern or bright color to add a touch of personality to your space.

8. **Ceiling Decor:** The ceiling is becoming a new focal point in home decor, with many opting for statement wallpaper or bold colors. This is a great way to add drama and interest to your space.

These eight home decor trends for 2023 offer something for everyone, from natural materials to vibrant colors, enabling you to rejuvenate your living space and embrace the new season. Ultimately, it's important for your home to reflect your unique personality and lifestyle, creating a welcoming and comfortable environment that feels like home.



# Thank You for Supporting Adopt-a-Family in 2022

By Mindy Lyle

Thanks to the continued support of the Cameron Station community and our business partners, we were able to support 27 Tucker Elementary families through the adoption program in this difficult year. The need was great, with new challenges presented by families recently relocated from Ukraine and Afghanistan. This year we had very few wishes, but rather requests for household basics (such as cleaning supplies, socks, underwear and plates) to help the families start life in another country. Perhaps due to pandemic fatigue, the program shrunk considerably from last year; however, the families in need continued to grow. While we were able to help 27 families, a total of 75 families requested assistance.

A team of elves shopped, wrapped and assembled gifts for multiple families. This program requires many people to step up and either adopt a family or pitch in for the final push to shop, wrap and get gifts to the school for delivery, so volunteers are always welcome and greatly appreciated.

The Adopt-a-Family program is fortunate to have the support of Greenhill Companies through Greenhill's Pickett Place Community Foundation, a 501c3. This foundation was established to support initiatives in the West End of Alexandria. In addition to their personal monetary contribution, Greenhill provides all accounting and legal services required for the foundation.



The Tucker families were so grateful for the help they received. We hope to continue the program in 2023 and to be able to help even more families this year. Please look for more information in the fall.

*(Continued from page 16)*

Cakes and breads increasingly are increasingly being decorated with real flowers, which can be eaten;

Tinned fish is not just your mother's tuna fish anymore. Expect many new varieties of fish in tins as people want to add more fish to their diets;

International/cultural cooking remains popular, prompting the rise of new international markets and e-markets;

Premium pet food for dogs is starting to take off with premium fresh foods and bone broth;

## Going out to Eat

Most restaurants report they have enough employees, but their menus are more focused on a lesser number of entrees to keep inventory costs down. Many menus have added vegetable entrees. After almost three years of limited eating out, diners now look for entertainment such as—ice sculptures, flaming desserts, and music/piano bars. Can the old-fashioned baked Alaska be far behind?

It's unlikely that communal dining tables with strangers will come back soon, but family style serving to a group of family or friends is gaining in popularity. Will small plates to share also regain its former popularity? Solo dining is becoming chic, and more restaurants are changing their seating to accommodate solos.

Post-pandemic, the current diner is looking for nostalgia and comfort food, like mac & cheese, but they also want to eat food that decreases their carbon footprint, provides fair treatment for growers and animals, and is healthy for them. Restaurants are sharing more information about their farmers and sourcing for ingredients. Producers are re-branding their products to show how much protein and other healthy ingredients they contain. Yet, the demand for fast food is higher than ever. What's a restaurant to do? Right now, most just have a list of their healthier entrees.

Mocktails increased their popularity by 22% last year, and that trend is expected to be even higher in 2023. Avocados soon may appear more in cocktails than on toast. Slushies are making a comeback, beyond the frozen margherita, to more exotic flavors such as berry hibiscus.

# Outdoor Spring Fun for Kids and Families in Alexandria

By Gen Harrison-Doss

Temperatures in March and April average between 56° and 68° in Alexandria. That means after months of largely indoor activities, families can get outside just in time for Spring Break. Explore the activities below to start planning your family's Spring fun!

**Ben Brenman Park** – As residents of Cameron Station, we are fortunate to have Ben Brenman Park right on our doorstep. On a day with nice weather, pack up a picnic lunch and take your family to the park. There are more than 60 acres to explore, plus two bridges across the lake, accessible picnic tables, multiple walking paths and a playground (best for kiddos under five).

**Family Fun Farm at Ticonderoga** – Just 35 minutes outside of Alexandria in Chantilly, VA, is Fun Family Farm at Ticonderoga. From April 1 to April 9, the farm is hosting a series of Easter Egg Hunts at 11am and 2pm. These egg hunts are broken down by age group so your kids can “compete” against kids in a similar age bracket, and there is a golden egg in each hunt! If egg hunts aren't enough, they also have additional activities that include slides, teeter-toters, swings, tether ball, a tire play zone and others. Plus, there are farm animals to visit, such as chickens, goats, a piglet and a mama sheep and her babies. You will need to purchase a ticket to attend the farm: \$12.95 for adults and \$16.95 per child (Age 0-7+).



Photo courtesy of ClimbUPton

**West End Farmers Market** – Every Sunday beginning April 24 you and your family can visit the West End Farmers Market. It goes rain or shine and runs through late November, and dogs on leashes are welcome. The market hosts local farmers, bakers, cooks, crafters and artisans, as well as often treating all to live music. In addition, the market frequently hosts local non-profits so West End residents can engage face-to-face. And for book lovers, the librarians from the Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library come every third Sunday to advertise their multiple events and sell used books for just \$1.

**Climb UPTon** – Climb UPTon is a 90-element vertical adventure park located in Upton Hill Regional Park in Arlington. Kids ages five and older can test their climbing skills (and courage!) navigating the aerial challenge course. The park is ideal for adults and teens too! If that's not a good fit for your kids, no worries – Upton Hill Regional Park has lots of other fun things to do. In addition to walking trails and batting cages, there is a great playground for kids of all ages.

**Scope Out the Local Flora and Fauna** – We are fortunate to live in Northern Virginia, where there are multiple places to experience beautiful Spring blossoms. Here in Alexandria, you can visit Christ Church on N. Washington Street and see the English style country garden there, with magnolia trees, azaleas and more. And while the cherry blossoms

in the DC Tidal Basin hit peak bloom anytime between mid-March and late-March, their blooms can last as long as through mid-April. More than 15 million visitors from around the world visit them every Spring.

**Visit Our Local Zoos** – There are two different zoos within an hour of Alexandria: the Smithsonian National Zoo in Washington, DC, and NOVA Wild in Reston. Both zoos have a focus on education, animal welfare and conservation and have a series of special Spring events. Through April 9, at NOVA Wild you can see the “Great Migration Light Show,” which has more than 800,000 LED lights. On Monday April 10, the Smithsonian National Zoo is hosting “Easter Monday,” an event that has been held since 1891. The origins of the event come from when African-American kids were originally banned from the White House Easter Egg Roll, which started in 1878. Even when the event became integrated with the Eisenhower administration, Black families in the area largely attended the zoo's egg roll instead. The tradition now is fully multi-cultural and combines two things kids love: “treasure” hunts + animals. Advanced tickets to book your slot here are highly recommended!

**Miniature Golf** – Our location in the West End means we have four outdoor miniature golf options nearby: Rudy's Golf and Sports Bar, Cameron Run Mini Golf, the Lucky Duck Miniature Golf Course and one at Climb UPTon. Rudy's, off Van Dorn Street, offers 36 holes of miniature golf spread across two distinct 18-hole courses. You can enjoy Rudy's both during the day and the evening, as there is unique course lighting for nighttime play. Cameron Run Mini Golf is super close to Cameron Station located in Cameron Run Regional Park. Grab your bikes and helmets and cycle there in under 10 minutes! Lucky Duck, located in Springfield and run by Fairfax County Parks and Recreation, has 18 holes and can host kids birthday parties. And finally, in addition to the fun climbing at Climb Upton is a deluxe mini golf that is open from March to October.

## Resources:

<http://www.ticonderoga.com>  
<http://westendfarmersmarket.org>  
<https://www.novaparks.com/parks/climb-upton>  
<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/>  
<https://boundarystones.weta.org/2018/04/02/white-house-easter-egg-roll-washington-tradition-1878>  
<https://novawild.org/>  
<https://www.novaparks.com/parks/cameron-run-regional-park/things-to-do/mini-golf>  
<https://www.rudysgolf.com/miniature-golf>  
<https://www.fxva.com/listing/lucky-duck-miniature-golf-course/1397/>  
<https://visitalalexandria.com/the-best-of/free-things-to-do-outside/>

# Advertising & Article Policies & Procedures

## Advertising:

*The Compass* newsletter is published bimonthly (except July/August) and distributed to approximately 1,800 residences, provided to our community businesses for customer access and displayed on the Cameron Station website. Advertising space is filled on a first-come, first-served basis, and the ads published in each issue are solely at the discretion of the newsletter staff or Communications Committee. **Only one ad per advertiser per issue is permitted. Ads must be submitted NO EARLIER than the 15th of the month preceding issue date and no later than the 30th, or the 28th in February (see box).** Payment must accompany all ads. Artwork must be camera-ready in JPEG or TIFF format: 65 line screen or 300 dpi. ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ARE PREFERRED. Ads appear in black/white in printed copies; but are displayed in color on the website and in the electronic version. Estimated (not guaranteed) time of delivery is first or second week of the second month of issue date (e.g., first two weeks of February for January/February issue).

## Articles:

Any submissions for publication must include the writer's name, address and phone number and must be received by the **30th of the month preceding issue date** (see box). Articles are to be factual and of public interest and emailed to [thecompass@cameronstation.org](mailto:thecompass@cameronstation.org). The newsletter staff, Communications Committee or Board of Directors reserves the right to edit submissions, determine in their discretion that the newsletter is "full" or deem any content inappropriate. Photographs submitted will be returned to sender if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

## Submission Deadlines

January/February ..... December 30  
March/April ..... February 28  
May/June ..... April 30  
September/October ..... August 30  
November/December ..... October 30

## Advertising Rates:

1/4 page (3.5" x 4.5") - \$150  
1/8 page (3.5" x 2") - \$125

## Classified Ads

(Limit 35 words)  
Resident - \$5  
Non-resident - \$25  
Lost & Found, Carpool, etc. - Free

Checks should be payable to Cameron Station Community Association and sent with camera-ready artwork to *The Compass*, 200 Cameron Station Boulevard, Alexandria, VA 22304. Artwork may be emailed to [admin@cameronstation.org](mailto:admin@cameronstation.org).

**Note:** The included advertisements, articles or references to websites of third parties do not indicate an endorsement by Cameron Station Community Association, Inc. and are not verified for accuracy. *The Compass* will not be responsible for poor ad reproduction due to the quality of the material provided by advertisers.



# Cameron Station Book Clubs

## Reading Between the Wines

April – *Gadsby's Corner* by John Adam Wasowicz

Previous Books:

January – *The Last Rose of Shanghai* by Weina Dai Randel

February – *Dinner with Ruth* by Nina Tottenberg

March – *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus

If you are interested in joining this book club, please contact Pat at [pmc15762@gmail.com](mailto:pmc15762@gmail.com).

## Monday Night Book Ball

April – *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks

Previous Books:

January – *How to Hide an Empire: A History of Greater United States* by Daniel Immerwahr

February – *Did Ye Hear Mammy Died?* by Seamus O'Reilly

March – *On Animals* by Susan Orlean

If you are interested in joining the Monday Night Book Club, please contact PJ at [sottilepj@aol.com](mailto:sottilepj@aol.com).

# The ompass

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Alexandria, VA 22304

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