The annual Holiday Party included horse carriage rides into Brenman Park, the Alexandria Harmonizers singing in the Cameron Circle Gazebo and of course Santa Claus in the Cameron Club. There were also plenty of holiday lights decorating houses and trees throughout the neighborhood to keep the celebratory spirit alive!

See more photos on p. 19
Operation Gobble Gobble Supports Families in Need at Tucker This Thanksgiving

By Donna Kenley

Donna Kenley, Sharon Godfrey and Kay Brown organized Cameron Station support for the 10th Annual Operation Gobble Gobble event and teamed up with mega-sponsors David and Stephanie Thorpe Homes, Irina Babb and the West End Alexandria Rotary Club. Cameron Station families generously donated 96 Thanksgiving meals to less fortunate families of children who attend Samuel Tucker Elementary. This huge response ensured meals for those who “need a little extra help this year,” according to Karima Wade, the City of Alexandria Social Worker at Tucker and the event distribution coordinator.

Gobble Gobble was so successful because Cameron Station residents left bags of specified food items with gift cards at the Cameron Club; volunteers picked up the bags and took them to a home used as a staging area; and other members delivered the 96 completed bags to Tucker just in time for distribution at Thanksgiving to families identified by the Tucker social worker.

Thanks to all of the Cameron Station families, sponsors and volunteers who donated their time and efforts in such a compassionate display of kindness. This “teamwork” is what makes Cameron Station such a wonderful place to live. We appreciate the support that you provided to make our Cameron Station family Thanksgiving charity event so prosperous. We will call on you next year to continue this annual event. Many thanks!

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.

Previous issues of The Compass are available online at 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: Marian Cavanagh

Editorial Staff: Carla Besosa, Lily Engle, Scott E.Z. Franklin, Pat Sugrue and Rene Zimmer

Recurring Contributor: Lenore Marema

Photographer: David Thorpe

The Cameron Station community’s 96 donations for Samuel Tucker Elementary School families.
Committee Corner

HARD AT WORK ON BEHALF OF OUR RESIDENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(boardofdirectors@cameronstation.org)
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Martin Menez – Treasurer and Liaison to Financial Advisory Committee
Kim Canter – Director and Liaison to Architectural Review Committee
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ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE
arc@cameronstation.org
Karen Diener – Chairperson

CAMERON CLUB FACILITIES COMMITTEE
facilities@cameronstation.org
Ray Celeste, Jr. – Chairperson

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commonarea@cameronstation.org
Robert Burns - Chairperson

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
communications@cameronstation.org
Tricia Hemel - Chairperson

FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
fac@cameronstation.org
Takis Taousakis - Chairperson

CSCA COMMITTEES
ACTIVITIES & EVENTS PLANNING COMMITTEE
events@cameronstation.org
Andrew Yang – Chairperson

HOA Management Company Chosen
By Marian Cavanagh

In late December, the Board of Directors awarded a new management contract, signed by Board President Mike Johnson, to Community Management Corporation (CMC), the incumbent firm.

The decision followed an almost-year-long review and evaluation process that included selection of a five-member Ad Hoc Committee chartered and competitively elected by the Board. In May, the Committee sent out a Request for Proposal and Addendum to six management firms deemed qualified, given the size and complexity of Cameron Station. On five announced days throughout July and August, they met to evaluate the submitting firms’ proposals, eventually shortlisting the number down to three: CMC, Cardinal Management and Legum & Norman. Oral presentations by the three finalists, which were announced and open to all residents, were made in late July.

The Committee made a best-value determination to open negotiations with CMC in August. The Board accepted that recommendation and was in extended discussions with CMC until final agreement and signing of the contract the last week of December. “There are favorable, unique and innovative provisions in the contract,” says Board Treasurer and Liaison to the Ad Hoc Committee Martin Menez, noting:

• A reduction in the annual management fee from $160K under the old contract to $95K, a 40% reduction. The contract runs for an initial term of three years plus two option years. Fees under the contract remain the same for the entire possible five-year term.
• Improved requirements around financial reporting.
• A set of performance standards for CMC.

The complete executed contract is available for examination upon request.

COFFEE WITH MIKE

Have questions, concerns or good things to share about our community? Mike Johnson, CSCA Board President, invites you to stop by the Cameron Cafe on the first Saturday of the month between 10 and 11am to discuss Association issues. Mike will next be at the Cafe on Saturday, Feb. 8. Hope to see you there!
IN MEMORIAM

John Ticer neighbor Gregory Nucci passed away unexpectedly on March 25, 2019. Greg was born in Huntington, New York, but was a long-time Virginia resident. He attended Georgetown Law School and, after graduation, lived in both Springfield and Alexandria. He moved into Cameron Station in 2006.

Greg practiced both corporate and real estate law in the Washington, DC, area. He was a passionate yachtsman and boater since his early childhood, learning how to sail on Long Island Sound with his brothers and sisters. He was also an avid fisherman, exploring the open waters all over the US and beyond.

Greg’s sister Helen described Greg as “a treasured father, a compassionate brother, an adored uncle, a dedicated friend and an admired business associate.” He was known for his wisdom and sharp humor, generosity, infectious smile and laugh and a shrug of the shoulders that let you know he really had put one over on you. Greg could often be found relaxing on a neighbor’s porch, sharing a cigar, or chatting with friends and neighbors at London Curry House.

Greg will be sorely missed by his Cameron Station neighbors. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

Brenman Park Update

The new pedestrian bridge (the “turtle bridge” along the west side of the pond) was opened in late December. The boardwalk bridge (near the east side of pond) was anticipated to open in early January. Although bridge construction is complete, final structural approval is required by the city’s Department of Code Administration before opening to the public.
Adopt-a-Family

By Mindy Lyle

Cameron Station has been assisting Tucker Elementary with the Adopt-a-Family program to help families in need have a Merry Christmas for many years. It takes a village to make this program a success, and this year the village struggled to keep up with the demand. Fortunately, businesses from outside of Cameron Station, including Kinneman Insurance, doctor’s offices and residents from other parts of the city also adopted families. Our partnership with Greenhill’s Pickett Place Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3), provided donation and accounting support.

Thanks to all of the participants, we were able to help about 20 families during the holiday season with gifts to meet their needs. Whether you adopted a family, supplied gift cards, contributed money, shopped for presents or wrapped packages, your contribution put a smile on the faces of children and adults on Christmas morning. A typical family receives a gift card for food and cleaning supplies, family needs - which typically include household items such as sheets, towels, dishes and kitchen items - and each child receives a few toys and clothing items such as jeans, sweaters, socks and pajamas.

As always, this program presents a number of unique situations, and Cameron Station residents responded with help. The day before school broke for the holiday, thanks to alert teachers, we realized that two families were living without simple furnishings and that the children had neither coats nor long-sleeve shirts. Two residents came to the rescue with additional funds and we were able to provide basic necessities.

In addition to Adopt-a-Family, on December 14 we partnered with Alexandria City Council Member Willie Bailey’s organization, Firefighters and Friends to the Rescue. Our event at Samuel Tucker Elementary provided gifts to another 200 needy families. Many Cameron Station residents, including our Assistant City Manager Debra Collins, helped to sort toys and assist families in their selection.

The families are very appreciative of the contributions and gifts; however, the needs do not end with the holiday season. During the year, Tucker Elementary will accept donations of gift cards to help sustain these families, or you can continue to contribute to Adopt-a-Family through Greenhill’s Pickett Place Community Foundation with the note “Tucker Families” in the memo line.
Activities and Events Committee
By Andrew Yang

The Activities and Events committee hosted a series of events to end this holiday season. Beginning in November, we held our first wreath-crafting event. Twenty-eight attendees made their own special keepsake to take home for the holidays.

The annual Holiday Party was held on Sunday, December 15. For the first time, the event featured horse carriage rides through the main gazebo circle. It culminated with the Alexandria Harmonizers serenading the crowd at the gazebo. There were also crafts and plenty of food and drink for all.

Next up, Cameron Station’s shuttle service provided transportation to the annual ZooLights event in DC. About 50 people made the trip to explore the spectacle of the lights.

To end the year, over 100 residents attended New Year’s Eve at the Cameron Station clubhouse. After a 7pm countdown, a feature movie presentation (Toy Story 4) was shown. Pizza, drinks and ice cream were also served.

We look forward to providing more events in the upcoming year. If you’d like to attend one of our meetings, they take place the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Cameron Club/Small Meeting Room.

Architectural Review Committee
By Jeremy Drislane

A friendly note: As we leap into the new year, we are writing to our neighbors in Cameron Station to provide a reminder of the HOA guidelines and what we do on the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). The members are all community residents, volunteering their time to help maintain the beauty and consistent aesthetic that is a big part of our community’s appeal.

The Design and Maintenance Standards (DMS) and the HOA Guidelines we follow are there to provide guidance on making changes and keeping up with maintenance of your property. It’s not uncommon to look at our properties as a home, and also as an investment. The DMS and HOA guidelines are there to help protect that investment.

In a typical month, we will see applications for plenty of roof and window replacements and/or repairs; landscaping applications; and other miscellaneous submittals such as replacements/repairs for decks, shutters, fencing, light fixtures, etc. The guidelines generally provide direction for all this work. The ARC is also here for guidance, so please feel free to come to one of our monthly meetings to discuss any future work you’re planning. (They take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Cameron Club/Henderson Room.) Getting some feedback from the ARC early in the process can help mitigate potential delays or unexpected costs/change orders from your contractors if something does not align with the guidelines of Cameron Station. Here are some quick examples of when residents may need to get prior approval through submittal of an exterior modification application:

- Repairing or replacing your roof or gutters? Yes.
- Changing a color on the outside of your house, such as a shutter or door? Yes.
- Making landscape modifications? Yes.
- Changing your kitchen cabinets? No.
- Changing tile or flooring within your home? No.
• Changing the front door or storm door? Yes.
• Replacing windows? Yes.
• Installing Ring or Similar type doorbell or other security devices? Yes.
• Making changes to your deck or stain color? Yes.
• Installing Ring or Similar type doorbell or other security devices? Yes.
• Replacing windows? Yes.
• Changing the front door or storm door? Yes.
• Making changes to external mechanical or A/C devices? Yes.

This is not an exhaustive list, but the theme here is, if you are making a change that can be seen from outside the house, you will probably need to submit it for prior written approval and have it reviewed. If you’re unsure, just ask or refer to the DMS guidelines which can be found on the Cameron Station website. (https://www.cameronstation.org/search?q=Design+and+Maintenance+Standards&search=&w1=before&d1=&w2=before&d2=)

Have questions on approved paint colors for doors/shutters or stain colors for decks/fences? The HOA administrative offices, located in the Cameron Club, have color samples you can review in person.

We also get a lot of retrofit applications, where a homeowner has installed something that either is or is not in compliance. Either way, that’s not good, and if not in compliance, could cause the homeowner unforeseen costs. A big reason for the ARC is to prevent this; and as your neighbor, the last thing we want to see is undue stress on people in our community. So please get in touch and we’ll do our best to make everything go as smoothly as possible!

Common Area Committee
By Kathleen McCollum

Winter is a quieter time for common area work. Snow removal as needed is the major effort.

The late summer drought caused stress to everything growing in the community. When walk-throughs resume in May, we will look especially for anything already stressed that didn’t survive the winter.

Winter freezes and thaws also cause new rises and dips in the brick walkways. Report any of these new tripping hazards (or places where water pools and freezes) to management for the next round of brick sidewalk repairs.

Several streets through the neighborhood are city streets and therefore maintained by the city. This includes Cameron Station Boulevard, Brennan Park Drive and Somervelle Street. The Services tab on the city website (www.alexandraviav.gov) has an easy-to-use resident reporting tool for issues relating to those streets, such as potholes or street lights that are out. It’s called Call Click Connect. You will get prompt status updates after your request.

It’s not too soon to start thinking about your garden patch, if you have one. The best starting point is determining what survived the growing season well and what didn’t. The community has a small group of Volunteer Gardeners who know the growing conditions here in Cameron Station. They can offer tips on how to care for trees and shrubs planted by a previous owner, or ideas if you want to add something new. Contact them at gardeners@cameronstation.org.

Communications Committee
By Tricia Hemel

This past year was a productive one for the Communications Committee (ComCom). In 2019, the Cameron Station website was updated, five issues of The Compass were published, photos of community events were documented and shared (thanks to Compass photographer David Thorpe) and the Welcome Committee was created. Our goal in 2020 is to continue to expand on communication initiatives so that the residents of Cameron Station are informed of all community matters. If you would like to assist in any way, please join us at our monthly committee meetings, which take place on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Cameron Club/Small Meeting Room, or email us at communications@cameronstation.org. We have one opening on ComCom for a voting member, and the Welcome Committee and The Compass are always happy to add new members.

Facilities Committee
By Ray Celeste, Jr.

As we enter a new year and a new decade, we want to take this time to reflect on what makes it so great to be a member of our community.

First, thank you to our management staff and the volunteer leadership members who spend so much time and effort on our behalf. I am so very proud of each and every one of them. We will continue to do our best to serve this noteworthy community.

Please remember to visit and explore our Fitness Center, enjoy our pool during the summer months and take one of our many engaging and complimentary classes. If you’d like to attend one of our monthly meetings, they take place on the second Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Cameron Club/Henderson Room.

If you have questions, or personal fitness goals, please consult with Psy Scott, our Fitness Director and an outstanding mentor (cameronclubfitness@gmail.com). In addition, our Board of Directors and our committee members are working hard to make your life and that of your family a more rewarding one! If you can, please take the time to thank them when the opportunity presents itself. Happy New Year and Happy New Decade!
Financial Advisory Committee
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 Association’s investments.
- Assisting other committees, as requested, with regard to the budget and/or other financial matters.

One important responsibility of the FAC is to oversee the Master Association’s repair and replacement reserve process. We completed an update to our reserve study in 2019. Each of the six condominium associations is to independently follow a similar approach to their property’s long-term maintenance needs.

A reserve study is a capital budget planning tool. It is required that a reserve study is performed once every 3-5 years (no longer than 5). The study is used to determine the physical status of the Association-owned property and components, estimate the replacement timing and come up with the cost over time for maintaining all community assets. A reserve study provides a rational basis for budget planning, but it should not be considered a spending plan. The costs for each component are estimated based on cost history from the property, construction industry reference sources, contractor estimates, phased projects and design and project management costs. Small projects (under $1,000) and items funded through the operating budget are not included in the reserve study.

Projects in the reserve study need to be planned in a timely fashion, but should only be executed after detailed study following community policy. The planned projects are presented to the Board of Directors for final approval.

The Master Association repair and replacement reserve balance as of October 31, 2019, is $2,031,250. In 2020 we will add $368,482 to our reserves, and if we perform the 2020 projects outlined in the reserve study, we will spend $1,484,469 in maintaining our community. The large 2020 projects might include: repaving one-third of the roads owned by Cameron Station; addressing issues with our irrigation system; maintaining sidewalk pavers on Cameron Station streets (city street sidewalks are maintained by the city); renovating the locker rooms in the Cameron Club; replacing old HVAC systems; and several other needed projects.

If you’d like to attend one of our meetings, they take place on the last Monday of the month (except May and August, which will occur on May 21 and August 24) at 7pm in the Cameron Club/Henderson Room.
Carpenter’s Shelter: Our Collective Efforts Are Working!

By Aliki Pappas

As the holidays pass, we’ve not only marked a new year, we’ve also brought in a new decade. As I reflect on the last 10 years, a lot of things have happened at Carpenter’s Shelter. We’ve moved more than a thousand people back into permanent housing, planned a dramatic redevelopment of our permanent home, successfully moved to a temporary location and continued to engage an ever-growing pool of people wanting to get involved to help others. The best change of all is the big-picture headline: a 45% reduction in the number of people who are homeless in Alexandria. **Our collective efforts are working!**

Carpenter’s Shelter would like to recognize all the generosity and support that has equipped us to move forward in this significant way. The reduction in the number of people who are homeless can be attributed to strong volunteerism and financial support from the community, a talented staff, support from local businesses and foundations as well as the hard work of those we serve to get reestablished in permanent housing.

We have had such a successful journey this past year because of the continued support from Cameron Station and other Alexandria neighborhoods. Together we celebrated with nearly 500 of our nearest and dearest supporters at our annual Carpenter’s Cook-Off; we hosted our ZeroK Non-Race with the finish line party at the nearby Aslin Beer Company; we celebrated #GivingTuesday by not only topping our revenue goal for our Carpenter’s Clinic, but by also spreading awareness of our medical services to people who are homeless. Most notably, we reached our New Heights Campaign financial goal with a gap-closing gift from Amazon. This achievement could not have been attained without the community’s support - more specifically, the generosity of Amazon, the Hoffman family, John & Elizabeth Siegel, the Daniel E. Offutt III Charitable Trust, Earl W. Stafford and more than 400 donors.

I am thankful for your active commitment as neighbors to the shelter. We invite you to continue to celebrate with us in 2020’s prosperous new beginning. Let us discover what impact we can jointly have on the future of individuals and families in need.

As you open up your 2020 calendar, please save the date and join us for Carpenter’s Cook-Off on Sunday, April 19. And put a big placeholder in July 2020, which is the month we are to move into the new shelter. To learn more about all of our upcoming events, as well as how to get involved as a volunteer, donor or ambassador, please visit www.CarpentersShelter.org. Thank you!

A Volunteer doubled as Santa Claus and handed out gifts to residents.

**JOIN THE COMPASS!**

Do you like to write, edit, interview and/or proofread? Our community newsletter is always looking for talented people to join the staff. Contact Editor Marian Cavanagh at thecompass@cameronstation.org if you’re interested. We’d love to have you!

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Still working on your New Year’s Resolutions? How about adding “Volunteer” to your list? There are many opportunities to help our Alexandria community with your time and talents. Visit https://www.volunteeralexandria.org for more information.
MAIN STREET RETAILERS

**Bright Start Learning Center, LLC**

![Bright Start Learning Center](image)

4920 Brenman Park Drive Alexandria, VA
Tel: (703) 370-8414 Fax: (703) 997-0487
www.brightstartva.com

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SAT 8 AM– 6PM

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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22304
Tel: 703-823-0606

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**London Curry House**

![London Curry House](image)

www.londoncurryhouse.com
Tel - (703) 419-3160

Lunch
12pm-2pm (Everyday)

Dinner
5pm-9:30pm (Everyday)
Private Dining Room available for Meetings and Family gatherings.

4906 Brenman Park Drive
Alexandria, VA 22304

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**Cameron Station Dental Care**

![Cameron Station Dental Care](image)

Painless Laser Dentistry
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Genuine, Attentive Care
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Alexandria, VA 22304
(Behind the Coffee House)

Tel: 703-461-3000
www.CameronStationDentalCare.com
Snow Removal Requirements – And Volunteers Needed!

All owners and residents are required to clear snow and ice from the driveways serving their home, the lead walkway to their residence and any sidewalks fronting or bordering the home no later than 24 hours after each snow event. Please make advance arrangements with neighbors to clear snow from your property in the event you are away from home. Alternately, you can contract removal services with a contractor of your choice.

Cameron Station residents who would like to volunteer to help assist those residents with physical limitations during snowstorms/snow removal, please contact the Management office 703-567-4881 or managers@cameronstation.org. This information will also be sent out via the weekly email blasts. Thank you!
Restaurant Review: Dolce and Bean

By Carla Besosa - Cameron Station Foodie

“The greatest tragedies were written by the Greeks and Shakespeare...neither knew chocolate.” Sandra Boynton, Cartoonist

No matter what your choice, you will be in ecstasy as you enjoy every bite! I tend to gravitate toward the dark chocolate, sea salt and anything with maple. Experiment, ask questions and you’ll find the perfect bite - rich but not too sweet!

In addition, Dolce and Bean serves velvety smooth gelato. There are 12 from which to choose; 10 permanent flavors and 2 rotating. Try the unique renditions such as White Chocolate Raspberry or Sicilian Pistachio. Gelato can be served in a dish or a cone.

I was delighted to find that they have added a new creation - Dolce and Bean now makes crêpes! I enjoyed a blueberry crêpe with a schmear of Nutella. How fun! Other types of fruit are available as well, and they can top it off with whipped cream.

With your sweets you’ll need coffee, of course. Dolce and Bean has wonderful coffee drinks meticulously prepared. Hot chocolate and a variety of teas will also do the job.

Dolce and Bean is a family-owned and operated establishment; another feather in their cap! They’ve built a good reputation and have a regular following - this says a lot! We even met a regular from Cameron Station while there (Hello, David from Carlton Place!).

Support this amazing local business! Petros, the delightfully friendly proprietor, will make sure that your experience is memorable.
Overhydration
By Psy Scott, Fitness Director

All cells and organs need water to function properly; however, excessive water consumption can lead to water intoxication. This has been known to be fatal in some cases. Also known as water poisoning, water intoxication is the disruption of brain function due to drinking too much water.

Drinking a lot of water increases the amount of water in your blood. This water can dilute the electrolytes in your blood, especially sodium. When sodium levels fall below 135 mmol/L, it is called Hyponatremia. Sodium helps balance fluids between the inside and outside of cells. When sodium levels drop due to excess water consumption, fluids shift from the outside to the inside of cells, causing them to swell. When this happens to brain cells, it can produce dangerous and potentially life-threatening effects.

**Bottom line:** Water intoxication results from drinking too much water. The excess water dilutes blood sodium levels and causes fluids to move inside cells, which then swell. When brain cells swell, pressure inside the skull increases. This pressure causes the first symptoms of water intoxication, which include:

- Headache
- Nausea
- Vomiting

Severe cases can produce more serious symptoms, such as:

- Increased blood pressure
- Confusion
- Double vision
- Drowsiness
- Difficulty breathing

Excess fluid accumulation in the brain is called Cerebral Edema, which can affect the brain stem and cause central nervous system dysfunction. In severe cases, water intoxication can cause seizures, brain damage, coma and even death.

**Bottom line:** Drinking too much water increases pressure inside the skull. This can cause various symptoms and even be fatal in severe cases.

Over-hydration and water intoxication happens when you drink more water than your kidneys can get rid of via urine. **But the amount of water isn’t the only factor. How long you take to drink the water also counts.** You have a greater risk of developing water intoxication if you drink a lot of water in a short period of time. The risk is less if you drink the same amount over a much longer period of time. The kidneys are capable of excreting up to 7 gallons (28 liters) of fluid per day. However, they cannot excrete more than 1 liter per hour. Therefore, drinking more than this is not a good idea.

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**Feeling Out of the Loop?**

Decisions on community matters made by the HOA 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* newsletters; visit the community website, www.cameronstation.org; and sign up for email blasts. If you have any questions for the board, committees or HOA management, send an email. These addresses can be found in *The Compass* newsletter.

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**Monthly Committee Meetings**

**Activities and Events Committee**  
First Wednesday of the month, 7pm, Cameron Club/Small Meeting Room

**Facilities Committee**  
Second Thursday of the month, 7pm, Cameron Club/Henderson Room

**Architectural Review Committee**  
First Tuesday of the month, 7pm, Cameron Club/Henderson Room

**Financial Advisory Committee**  
Last Monday of the month except for May (May 21) and August (August 24), 7pm, Cameron Club/Henderson Room

**Common Area Committee**  
Second Monday of the month, 7pm, Cameron Club/Henderson Room

**Board of Directors**  
Last Tuesday of the month (except for November and December, TBD) 7pm, Cameron Club/Henderson Room

**Communications Committee**  
Third Wednesday of the month, 7pm, Cameron Club/Small Meeting Room

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The Compass  
www.cameronstation.org  
January-February 2020
The Joke’s on You!

We thought it might be fun to include a joke, cartoon or some other humorous highlight in upcoming issues of The Compass. If you’ve got something that’s both non-political and family friendly, please send your submissions to thecompass@cameronstation.org. Here’s an example, courtesy of Liana Finck in the Dec. 16, 2019 issue of The New Yorker.

Book Clubs

Reading Between the Wines
Jan.  The Geography of Bliss by Eric Weiner
Feb.  Notes from a Small Island by Bill Bryson

Monday Night Book Ball
Jan.  Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens
Feb.  Doing Justice: A Prosecutor’s Thoughts on Crime, Punishment, and the Rule of Law by Preet Bharara

Interested in joining Monday Night Book Ball book club? Please contact PJ (sottiepj@aol.com). We’d love to have you.

Third Thursday of the Month
Jan.  Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens
Feb.  The Alice Network by Kate Quinn

New members are welcome: contact Gayle Hatheway (gayleandotis@sbcglobal.net).
CS Holiday Lights 2019
Carla’s Picks
By Carla Besosa

Alden Theater (McLean)
Feb. 26 Free Foreign Language Film
Mar. 15 Danú (Irish Music)

Anacostia Playhouse (Anacostia)
Feb. 22-Mar. 22 This Bitter Earth

Anthem Theater (DC Waterfront)
Mar. 16 Sturgill Simpson

The Athenaeum (Old Town)
Feb. 22-Mar. 22 A Civil Right During the Civil War - Colored Troops & Alexandria National Cemetery (John Chapman)

Atlas Performing Arts Center (DC)
Mar. 5-22 Einstein’s Wife
Mar. 11-29 Inherit the Windbag

The Barns at Wolf Trap (Vienna)
Feb. 20-21 1964 The Tribute
Feb. 25-26 Cherish the Ladies
Mar. 17 Ladysmith Black Mambazo
Mar. 25-28 The Second City

Bethesda Blues & Jazz (Bethesda)
Feb. 14-15 Eddie Levert of the O’Jays
Feb. 22 Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Competition (lost in 2019)
Feb. 27 A Civil Right During the Civil War - Colored Troops & Alexandria National Cemetery (John Chapman)

Birchmere (Arlandria)
Feb. 15 Thanks for the Memories (Tribute to musicians we lost in 2019)
Feb. 22 Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Competition
Feb. 28-29 Arlo Guthrie
Mar. 6 Oak Ridge Boys
Mar. 10 Graham Nash
Mar. 12 The Hot Sardines
Mar. 20, 10,000 Maniacs
Mar. 31-Apr. 1 Rosanne Cash

Black Rock Center for the Arts (Germantown)
Feb. 20 Heather Mae
Feb. 28 Latin Jazz

Blues Alley (Georgetown)
Feb. 18 Special EFX featuring Chieli Minucci
Feb. 27-Mar. 1 Kim Waters
Mar. 5-7 Peter White
Mar. 12-15 Joey DeFrancesco Trio
Mar. 19-22 Kevin Eubanks

Capital One Arena (DC)
Feb. 13-17 Disney On Ice: Celebrate Memories
Feb. 22 Marc Anthony
Mar. 11 Celine Dion
Mar. 18 Billie Eilish
Mar. 21 The Harlem Globetrotters

Carlyle Club (Alexandria)
Mar. 20 All 80s All Night

City Winery (DC)
Feb. 29 Melba Moore

Constitution Hall (DC)
Feb. 22 The Pop-Up Comedy Festival
Mar. 13 Capital Comedy Festival

Creative Cauldron ( Falls Church)
Feb. 13-Mar. 8 Cinderella’s Dream

Dance Place (DC)
Mar. 21 New Releases Showcase

Dulles Expo Center (Chantilly)
Feb. 28-30 International Gem & Jewelry Show
Mar. 7-8 The D.C. Big Flea & Antique Market
Mar. 27-29 Sugarloaf Crafts Festival

Eagle Bank Arena (GMU/Fairfax)
Mar. 20-21 Harlem Globetrotters

Epicure Café (Fairfax)
Feb. 14, Mar. 13 Eclectic Jam with Cristian Perez
Feb. 26 Hip-Hop Show
Mar. 1 Luna - Original Folk, Blues, Jazz, Latin
Mar. 8-9 Gypsy Jazz Jam with Swingology

Falls Church Episcopal (Falls Church)
Mar. 20 Stone Room Concerts: Martyn Joseph

1st Stage Theater (Tysons)
Jan. 30-Feb. 23 The Royale
Mar. 26-Apr. 19 A New Brain

Folger Theater (DC)
Jan. 14-Mar. 1 The Merry Wives of Windsor

Ford’s Theater (DC)
Jan. 24-Feb. 23 Silent Sky
Mar. 13-May 20 Guys and Dolls

Fort Ward Museum & Historic Site (Alexandria)
Feb. 16 Revolutionary War Reenactment
Mar. 14 Civil War Women’s Day

Gadsby’s Tavern Museum
Feb. 15 George Washington Birthday Banquet/Ball

Gala Theater (Adams Morgan)
Feb. 6-Mar. 1 Exquisite Agony

GMU Center for the Arts (GMU/Fairfax)
Feb. 15-16 Virginia Opera: Cinderella
Mar. 10-11 Shen Yun
Mar. 26-28 Men on Boats (Harris Theater)
Mar. 27-28 Mason Dance Co. Gala Concert

Gunston Arts Center (Arlington)
Feb. 27-Apr. 5 Suddenly Last Summer & Ada and the Engine

Hamilton (DC)
Feb. 20 Spyro Gyra
Feb. 22 Dirty Dozen Brass Band
Feb. 29 Marcia Ball & Sonny Landreth
Mar. 1 Zoë Keating
Mar. 5 Roomful of Blues
Mar. 13 Dweezil Zappa
Mar. 22 The Ides of March

Harman Center for the Arts (DC)
Feb. 11-Mar. 15 The Amen Corner
Feb. 20-Mar. 22 Timon of Athens

Howard Theater (Howard Univ./DC)
Mar. 28 Lyfe Jennings

Imagination Stage (Bethesda)
Feb. 8-Mar. 22 Zomo the Rabbit: A Hip-Hop Creation Myth
Mar. 15-Apr. 15 Thumbelina
Mar. 21-Apr. 12 Paper Dreams

Jammin Java (Vienna)
Mar. 1 Joan & Joni - Tribute to Joan Baez & Joni Mitchell
Allison Shapiro & Kipyn Martin
Mar. 6 Gina Chavez
Mar. 13 Toby Lightman

Kennedy Center (DC)
Feb. 11-16 American Ballet Theater - Giselle
Feb. 29-Mar. 22 Washington National Opera - Don Giovanni
Mar. 1-21 Washington National Opera - Sampson & Delilah
Mar. 5-7 Martha Graham Dance Co.
Mar. 21 Patti Smith

Lisner Auditorium (GWU/DC)
Mar. 13 Kronos Quartet
Mar. 14 Glennon Doyle
Mar. 14 Miss Richfield 1981 - Below the Belt

The Compass www.cameronstation.org

January-February 2020
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<td>Strathmore Music Center (Bethesda)</td>
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<td>Warner Theater (DC)</td>
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<td>Woolly Mammoth (DC)</td>
<td>Feb. 10-Mar. 8</td>
<td>Shipwreck: A History Play About 2017</td>
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**And Another Thing...**

*(in my stream-of-consciousness order)*

**Cameron Cafe** is now serving beer and wine and has extended hours (until 9pm) Thurs.-Sat. Check out their eclectic list of six reds, six whites, and six brews.

**Carpenter’s Shelter 18th Annual Cook-Off** at the Birchmere, Apr. 19, noon - 3pm. Live music! Auction! Taste of Alexandria! Much fun and you’re supporting a great cause!

**Crafty Crab** to open in the Modera Tempo building (5770 Dow Ave., formerly Portner Brewhouse). The city approved retail parking in the unused garage spots.

**Markey’s Munchery** has set up shop at 6555 Little River Tpk., in the parking lot between Home Depot and the car detail shop. This is a one-man, short-order grill with five stars and rave reviews!

The famous Neapolitan pizzeria, **Pupatella**, has opened a new location at 1621 S. Walter Reed Dr. (Near S. Glebe Rd.)

**Denny’s** to open in Bailey’s Crossroads (5501 Leesburg Pike, formerly Chili’s).

**Café Grains** is open in Van Dorn Station at 514 S. Van Dorn St.

**Bon Chon** opened at 6852 Richmond Hwy.

**El Saltado Peruvian Cuisine** opened in Bradlee Shopping Center.

**Hank & Mitzi’s Italian Kitchen** to open early 2020 at 600 Montgomery St. (Formerly Hank’s Pasta Bar)

**Top Golf** in Kingstowne closed.

**A.C. Moore** in Bailey’s Crossroads closed.

**Food Star** grocery to open at 5521 Leesburg Pike (formerly Toys “R” Us).

**Silver Diner** to open at 4610 King St. (King & Beauregard)

**Al’s Pizza & Cheesesteak** to open on Duke Street just above Reynolds St. (Formerly Domino’s)

**Lidl** grocery to open in Pinecrest Plaza at 6548 Little River Tpk.

**Doyle’s Outpost** to open in Seminary Plaza (formerly AMF Seminary Lanes). This is a laser tag social entertainment venue catering to adults.

**Goodie’s Frozen Custard** to open in the Old Town Ice House, 200 Commerce St. (Commerce & Payne)

**Yates Pizza** (“coming soon” for six years now) may actually open this summer.

**The 92nd Academy Awards** airs Feb. 9.

**What Am I Listening To? (To What Am I Listening?)**

John Bullard: **Classical Banjo: The Perfect Southern Art**

Kellylee Evans: **Come On**
Advertising & Submissions Policies & Procedures

Advertising:
The Compass newsletter is published bimonthly and distributed to approximately 1,800 residences, as well as 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 (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. Estimated (not guaranteed) time of delivery for the next issue is the last week of March to the first week of April.

Article Submissions:
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). The newsletter staff, Communications Committee or Board of Directors reserves the right to edit submissions. They will also determine the newsletter to be “full” at their discretion. Articles are to be factual and of public interest. Editorial content may be deemed inappropriate at the discretion of the newsletter staff, Communications Committee or Board of Directors. Photographs submitted will be returned to sender if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Advertising Rates:
Display Ads (Camera-ready)
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.

Advertising & Submissions Policies & Procedures

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

Days to Celebrate!
By Carla Besosa

Feb. 11 - Don’t Cry Over Spilled Milk Day
Feb. 12 - Darwin Day (Have you evolved?)
Feb. 27 - No Brainer Day (Literally or figuratively; you choose!)
Feb. 29 - Leap Day (Keeping our calendar in alignment with the Earth’s revolutions around the Sun)
Mar. 1 - National Pig Day (“Pigs aren’t really fat, they’re Rubenesque” - Mary Lynne Rave, co-founder)
Mar. 4 - National Grammar Day (Oxford comma debate, anyone?)
Mar. 7 - Middle Name Pride Day (Are there any other Maxines out there?)
Mar. 8 - National Proofreading Day (Marian, did I spell that correctly?)
Mar. 14 - Pi Day (Divide it out or eat it!)
Mar. 15 - Ides of March (Beware Caesar! Also, the rock band with the great 1970 hit "Vehicle.")

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The Compass
January-February 2020
More of the Holiday Season in Cameron Station