

PEOPLE

First Responders Honored

Three officers from the Alexandria Police Department received the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor at the White House, in recognition of their heroism during the June 14 shooting incident at Eugene Simpson Stadium Park. The Medal of Valor is the highest decoration for bravery exhibited by public safety officers in the United States.



Battaglia



Jensen



Jobe

At the ceremony, President Donald J. Trump presented the awards to Alexandria Police Officers Nicole Battaglia, Alexander Jensen, and Kevin Jobe, along with U.S. Capitol Police Special Agents David Bailey and Crystal Griner. Trump also recognized personnel in attendance from the Alexandria Department of Emergency Communi-

cations, Alexandria Fire Department, Alexandria Police Department, Alexandria Sheriff's Office, and other partner agencies who responded to the incident.

The Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor, comparable to the military's Medal of Honor, is awarded to public safety officers who have exhibited exceptional courage, regardless of personal safety, in an attempt to save or protect others from harm.



Summer Graduates

PHOTO COURTESY OF ACPS

On Friday, Aug. 4, more than 20 students from the King Street campus and the satellite campus walked the stage to receive their diplomas as part of the T.C. Williams Summer School Graduation. Summer School Graduation enables students who had not met the graduation requirements at the end of the school year to continue their studies during summer school and obtain the credits to earn their high school diploma.

Library Receives Internship Grant

The Youth Services Department at the Beatley Central Library received an "Inclusive Internship Initiative" grant from the Public Library Association (PLA). The initiative is a Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Grant sponsored by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The grant enables the library to support two paid summer internships.

The selected interns work alongside mentors to create a learning project focused on civic engagement and the interns' interests. The internship's goal is to encourage teens to consider careers in libraries. Additionally, this internship aims to change the image of librarians and to bring diversity and inclusiveness to librarianship. The two interns chosen for the Alexandria Library are Josh Habib and Divine Tsasa Nzita.

Habib is a rising freshman at the College of William and Mary and plans to study biology, with the goal of becoming a doctor. He had volunteered in various Alexandria community organizations since a young age. Most recently, he volunteered with Al-



Teen Services Coordinator Isaiah West (center) with summer interns Josh Habib (left) and Divine Tsasa Nzita.

exandria Library through his Senior Experience internship sponsored by Alexandria City Public Schools. He enjoyed the work and people so much that he applied for the PLA internship.

Nzita is a rising junior at T.C. Williams High School has only lived in the U.S. for four years, but has volunteered every spare minute of it to help her community. She plans to study family counseling with a minor in Korean language and literature, and will use the library internship to improve her interpersonal skills.



Rotary in Action

PHOTO BY JAY PALERMINO

Members of Alexandria West Rotary Club (from left) George Valenzuela, Jack Allen, Nadia Mokhtar with John Renner at the Friendship Firehouse Festival on Saturday, Aug. 2 as they are wrapping up a successful morning weathering the winds.



Community Foundation Scholarships

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia has awarded scholarships to 89 students, totaling \$304,700, to support their continuing higher education beginning in the fall. The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia manages and administers the funds for 25 scholarships that support Northern Virginia students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees. The Ashworth Grogan Scholarship / E.Koury was awarded to Sheza Shaikh of T.C. Williams High School going to University of Mary Washington.

Returning to TC

The Metropolitan Arts Collaborative (MetroArtsCo), in collaboration with T.C. Williams High School, will offer free ballet classes to TC students for a second year as part of the after-school activities program. Ballet classes will be held in the T.C. Williams Dance Studio and students will be trained by Virginia Britton, director, MetroArtsCo. Classes will begin Sept. 13, Wednesdays 3:30-5:15 p.m., through June 13, 2018. Students will be given an opportunity to sign up for class at the beginning of the 2017 school year. See metroartsco.org.

