



Guest conductor Jon Kalbfleisch leads the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra during the ASO pops concert July 7 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Children enjoy playing in Oronoco Bay Park prior to the city's 269th birthday celebration July 7.

Alexandria Celebrates Its 269th Birthday

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Orchestra highlighted the evening with a performance of Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture," with cannon support provided by the Presidential Salute Battery of the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

The celebration included live music by the U.S. Navy Band Commodores, food vendors and birthday cake distributed by Mayor Allison Silberberg and members of City Council. Alexandria Poet Laureate Wendi R. Kaplan delivered a reading.

The main attraction was the ASO, led by guest conductor Jon Kalbfleisch, and its performance of the "1812 Overture" complete with cannon fire over the Potomac River.

The Old Guard was represented by 14 platoon members in ceremonial uniforms, who mingled with the crowds during the day and enjoyed a lunch sponsored by the Old Dominion Boat Club.



Town Crier Ben Fiore-Walker welcomes the crowd to the city's 269th birthday celebration July 7 at Oronoco Bay Park.



Members of the Presidential Salute Battery of the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, also known as "the Old Guard," prepare to fire the cannon salute to culminate the city's birthday celebration.

Carlyle Kids Libraries and Carlyle House collaborate for educational and fun summer programming.

BY VERNON MILES
GAZETTE PACKET

When it comes to summer activities, free is a hard price to beat. A partnership between the Carlyle House and Alexandria Public Libraries called "Read, See, Do" is helping to bring education and summer fun to Alexandria children ages seven through 12.

On July 9, Diana Prince from the local libraries stood in front of a small collection of local children. Prince was reading through the book "Brick by Brick" by Charles R. Smith Jr. about the construction of the White House. She paused after each page, turning the book to show the illustrations by Floyd Cooper. The

material isn't what you might think of as summer fun reading; it's the story of how the White House was constructed largely by slave labor, but Allison Kelley from the Carlyle House explained to the children that the house behind them was similarly constructed by slaves. The programs at the Carlyle House focus on helping children understand what life was like for early Alexandrians, and teaching children about the realities of slave labor as a part of that is important.

After the book is read, Prince and Kelley help the children construct a paper White House. Every Monday in July, the library and the Carlyle House will host a free reading program and activity tied to the history of the house. The program runs from 2 to 3

SEE FREE SUMMER, PAGE 15



Allison Kelley (left) and Diana Prince read to local children at "Read, See, Do."

Free Summer Program

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p.m. on the Magnolia Terrace behind the house.

"It's about blending fun and history," said Kelley.

"It's about learning new things," said Prince. "We've had magicians and travelling zoos for the children. When Allison [Kelley] approached us about this program, we were immediately interested. It's fun to learn about history and colonial life."

Prince said her favorite experience with the program was putting together a satchel of herbs colonial people would carry to ward off bugs, which she was surprised to find was very effective. Kelley said they will be making the satchels again next month as the lessons move into colonial plant life.

Susan Schwerdtfeger said it was the fact that the program is about Alexandria's history, and that it was free, that interested her in the program.

"They've really liked learning about history in Old Town," said Catherine Estes, attending the program with her children. "We went last summer and it's really a worthwhile program for families."



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES/GAZETTE PACKET

Diana Prince reads to local children at "Read, See, Do."

Drop-off your unwanted medications

SATURDAY

JULY 28, 2018

10:00AM-2:00PM

PRESCRIPTION FOR DANGER

PROPERLY DISPOSE OF UNWANTED MEDICATIONS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- Alexandria Police Headquarters
3600 Wheeler Avenue
- First Baptist Church
2923 King St
- Alexandria Fire Station 210
5255 Eisenhower Ave
- The Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray
2204 Mt Vernon Avenue

CAN'T MAKE IT TO DRUG TAKE BACK DAY?

The Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray recently launched the first-ever permanent prescription drug drop-off box in the City of Alexandria. The drug drop-off box provides year-round access to safe drug disposal for all Alexandria residents and is located inside the pharmacy at 2204 Mt. Vernon Ave.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Many people believe prescription drugs are safer than illegal drugs because a doctor prescribed them—they're not.
- More people die accidentally from prescription drugs each year than all types of illegal drugs combined.
- Combining pain killers or anti-anxiety drugs with alcohol multiplies the effect—your heart or your breathing can stop.
- Drug-induced deaths now exceed deaths from motor vehicle accidents in more than 17 states.
- Most kids who abuse prescription drugs report they get them from their home medicine cabinets or from friends.
- Proper disposal of unwanted medication prevents environmental contamination of our waterways and soils.

SYMPTOMS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG OVERDOSE

- Abnormal pupil size
- Agitation
- Convulsions
- Paranoid behavior
- Difficulty breathing
- Drowsiness
- Hallucinations
- Nausea and vomiting
- Non-reactive pupils
- Staggering or unsteady gait
- Sweating or extremely dry, hot skin
- Tremors
- Unconsciousness
- Violent or aggressive behavior

SUSPECT AN OVERDOSE? CALL 911



Visit www.PreventItAlexandria.org to learn more.
Visit www.alexandriava.gov/Opioids for information and help with opioids.
Another **Alexandria Gazette Packet** Community Partner

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