



Alexandria's Official Resident Newsletter

OCTOBER 2012



City Seeks 2012 Holiday Tree

It's not beginning to look a lot like Christmas just yet, but the search has already begun for the City's 2012 Holiday Tree. If you have an evergreen tree, 25-35 feet tall, you think would be a stunning holiday tree, consider donating it to us! The City will remove it and grind the stump at no cost to you. The tree will be beautifully decorated and displayed at Market Square, 301 King St., for all to see throughout the holiday season. Does your tree have what it takes?

If you live in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area and are interested in donating a tree, contact City Arborist John Noelle at 703.746.5499.

Stay Connected with Your City

-  Call us at 703.746.4800
-  Find us on Facebook
-  Follow us on Twitter
-  Watch us on YouTube
-  Email fyi@alexandriava.gov
-  Comcast Channel 70 and online videos

The Annual Walk to Fight Breast Cancer

Throughout the month of October, you can support the Alexandria Breast Cancer Walk Fund by purchasing a pink Breast Cancer Awareness t-shirt from the Alexandria Fire Department.

All proceeds from the t-shirt sales will be donated to The Fund, and Alexandria Fire Department employees will wear the shirts as part of their uniform in October. Shirt sizes range from Adult Small – 3X; short-sleeve shirts sell for \$15 and long-sleeve shirts sell for \$20.



Stop by a fire station anytime to purchase your shirt. You can also purchase a shirt in City Hall, Room 1900, or online at alexcancerwalk.com. All proceeds benefit the Walk to Fight Breast Cancer.

The Walk supports the Alexandria Breast Cancer Walk Fund, which has helped over 7,000 uninsured Alexandria women receive free mammograms and other diagnostic screenings since its inception in 1994.

For more information, visit alexcancerwalk.com.



Roberta Flack, who is performing at the Kennedy Center October 25–27, is promoting and endorsing The Walk and the t-shirt at her October 25 concert.

COME OUT AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

What's Next, Alexandria?

A Community Conversation about Civic Engagement and Planning for the Future

"What's Next, Alexandria?" is a City initiative to begin a conversation about how Alexandrians can best participate in shaping Alexandria's future. Together, we will embark on a process to develop citywide principles of engagement to guide future City initiatives.

The project will begin with a community poll, hosted by ACTION Alexandria, to get your input on what you think about civic engagement, both in terms of your personal experience and your suggestions for improvement. The poll was launched September 19 and is open until October 25. The community will discuss feedback from the poll as well as best practices in civic engagement at a community dialogue on November 15 at First Baptist Church Activity Center, 2932 King Street. Discussion at that meeting will shape the remainder of the process.

Staff have briefed the Transportation Commission (September 5), Planning Commission (September 6), and the Park and Recreation Commission (September 21) to obtain their initial reactions and encourage their participation in the effort. Similar briefings will be provided to the Federation of Civic Associations (September 26), the ACPs School Board, and others.

How the effort will be approached:

- We will be reaching out to the entire city
- We will be asking the community, not telling the community
- We will meet in person to facilitate meaningful conversations among community members about problems and solutions
- We will offer alternative non-meeting options for those who can't come to meetings
- We will be learning from experts and best practices in other parts of the country

Your participation makes this meaningful. What you can do now:

- Tell us what you think by taking the poll.
- Join the conversation! Add your ideas to the community forum on Action Alexandria.
- Stay informed and keep in touch. Sign up for eNews or visit alexandriava.gov/WhatsNext for more information.

Late Night Train Noise Due to CSX Track Work



CSX transportation company is performing overnight railroad track work between Alexandria and Woodbridge, Sunday through Thursday, between 8:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m., until project completion scheduled for November 1. Part of

the federal safety requirements for this work is the sounding of train horns, for which the City has received multiple noise complaints. Although the City has no authority to alter or influence the sounding of horns for rail operations due to interstate commerce regulations, residents may express their concerns directly to CSX online, at www.csx.com, or by calling 1.877.835.5279.

Fire Station 210 and Impound Lot Project Breaks Ground

Breaking ground on the Fire Station 210/Impound Lot Project on October 13, 2012: From left to right: Alexandria Fire Chief Adam K.Thiel, Transportation & Environmental Services Director Richard J. Baier, Deputy City Manager Michele Evans, State Senator George Barker, Councilwoman Redella S. "Del" Pepper, Vice Mayor Kerry J. Donley, Councilman Frank H. Fannon IV, Mayor William D. Euille, Councilman Paul C. Smedberg, Councilwoman Alicia Hughes, and Councilman David G. Speck.

