

The VillageCrier

Old Town Village, Alexandria, Virginia

From the OTVOA Board of Directors

Jill Eicher, President

Board Update

We hope the community is beating the heat this summer and enjoying ample time at the pool. The Board did not meet in July but continued to work and approved several e-votes on contract renewals and policy and maintenance proposals, as well as addressing individual resident requests.

Request Roundhouse Fobs from CFM Management

CFM Management is now handling the distribution of fobs to access the Roundhouse. Please contact **Donna Newman** (dnewman@cfmmanagement.com) or Phyllis Richardson (prichardson@cfmmanagement.com) by email with your request. They may require you to complete the **Resident Information Form** which we will have available on the website. Fobs will be mailed to you or you can pick them up at CFM's office during regular office hours.

OTVOA Resident Survey

The Board thanks the residents who participated in the recent **OTVOA Resident Survey**. The survey will aid this Board and the next in considering the selection of contracts, new projects, and operation changes. We plan to publish the results in the September issue of the *Crier*.

OTVOA 2026 Annual Meeting and Open Board Seats

It won't be long before CFM Management sends out a **Call for Candidates for Election to the Board of Directors**. We have three open seats up for election this year and hope that residents will consider running for one of these Board slots. This year's **OTVOA Annual Meeting** will be held on the first Thursday in November (**November 5, 2026**). More details on time and location are forthcoming.

Townhouse residents with questions or comments may contact the Board at otvboard@gmail.com. Board members' individual contact information is listed in the right-hand column ([Pg 2](#)) of the *Crier*.



Board Meeting

OTVOA Board Meeting
Thursday, August 20

7:00 pm - Roundhouse

All Townhouse members are welcome to attend.

OTV Content

OTV Townhomes

From the OTVOA BoD	1
ARB	2
Grounds & Services	3
Hardscape	4
Need Something in the OTV	4

OTV Condos

From the OTVCUOA President	5
Grounds	6
Attend Board Meetings	6
Common Hallway Temperatures	7
Community Feedback	7

OTV Joint Information

Management	8
Activities	9
Young Families	9
Book Club	10
Pool Schedule - 2026	11
Pool and Spa Rules	11
Calendar	12

End Notes

Alive! Food Drive Results	13
Progressive Dinner	14
Progressive Dinner Form	15
Progressive Dinner FAQ	16
Twig Community Drive	17
Beats Bites & Brews	18
Nation's First Post Office	19

Deck Maintenance: Protecting Your OTV Home, Family, and Community

A deck is often the centerpiece of outdoor living in Old Town Village, providing a place for family gatherings, cookouts, and relaxation. However, because decks are aging and exposed to the elements year-round, maintenance is essential to ensure they remain safe, attractive, and structurally sound. In some cases, OTV homeowners have found their decks to need full replacement. A quick reminder that deck replacement requires ARB approval, and the City of Alexandria requires a permit for replacement of certain external structural elements of our OTV homes.

One of the most important reasons to inspect your deck regularly is safety. Over time, exposure to sun, rain, snow, and temperature fluctuations can weaken deck materials. Homeowners should watch for loose railings, corroded fasteners, rotting wood, and boards that have become warped or damaged. These issues can create serious hazards if left unaddressed and will be cited by the Architectural Review Board (ARB) during annual inspection.

Particular attention should be paid to deep cracks in deck boards, support posts, beams, and joists. While minor surface cracks are common as wood ages, deep cracks can compromise the structural integrity of the deck. When cracks extend significantly into the wood or appear in load-bearing components, they can reduce the strength of the structure and increase the risk of failure. If you notice large or growing cracks, it is advisable to have the deck evaluated and repaired (or replaced) by a qualified professional. Routine maintenance can help prevent costly repairs. OTV homeowners should clean their decks to remove dirt, leaves, mold, and mildew that can trap moisture and accelerate deterioration. Promptly replacing damaged boards and tightening loose connections can significantly extend the life of the structure.

Beyond safety, maintaining decks helps preserve property values and the appearance of our community. Well-maintained decks enhance curb appeal and reflect the pride residents take in their OTV homes. Neglected decks, on the other hand, can become eyesores as well as safety risks.

The ARB encourages all residents to address maintenance concerns promptly. Second violation notices are being sent to OTV Homeowners who have not yet responded with a remediation plan for their 2025 ARB deck violations. Taking a proactive approach today can help ensure your deck remains a safe and enjoyable outdoor space for years to come.

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glr2.ota@gmail.com**Management**

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Phyllis Richardson | Parking, Remotes,

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Rosa Maradiaga | Account (HOA fee) or Resale

Certificate questions

rmaradiaga@cfmmanagement.com

Grounds & Services

Leslie Silkworth, Co-chair

Fighting Mosquitos Naturally

Tis the middle of the summer and time for some fun in the sun. Unfortunately, it is also the time of year when mosquitoes are out in full force, making such fun not so appealing, especially around our homes. There are pest repellent options one can buy to hopefully drive mosquitoes away, but how safe are they? Are there other options? Actually, there are other possibilities- flowers and plants that often already grow in your garden and can repel those annoying pests.

Examples of Mosquito-Repelling Plants

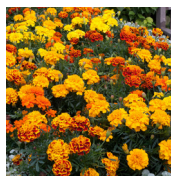
Plants that repel mosquitoes are usually easy to find in local gardening centers and nurseries. Below is a list of seven mosquito-repelling plants that are often used. These plants are easy to grow, require no special gardening skills and grow well in warm weather.



Lavender

- Lavender is a flowering plant that gives off a pleasant fragrance. This fragrance, while relaxing to humans, is also effective in warding off mosquitoes.

Lavender plants can be grown in pots, love warm weather and require lots of sun and good drainage in the soil. Once the plants are established, they are quite hardy and resistant to dry weather. However, there are different types of lavender, and you should choose one with a scent that has higher camphor properties as it will be more effective. Some examples of such plants are Grosso, English Lavender or Spanish Lavender.



Marigolds

- Marigolds are annual flowers that repel mosquitoes by emitting a scent that mosquitoes don't like. These flowers are so effective at repelling insects that they

also keep away aphids, thrips, whiteflies, Mexican bean beetles, squash bugs and tomato hornworms. Plant them in pots near your patio.



Citronella Grass

- This lemon-scented plant has the most commonly used ingredient in natural mosquito repellants. Plant this low-maintenance plant in large planters.

However, Citronella cannot withstand frost and needs

to be brought indoors during winter. Be sure to buy *Cytopogon nardus* or *Citronella winterianus* to get true citronella that will repel mosquitoes.



Catnip

- Catnip or catmint is a weed known for its strange effect on housecats. It's part of the mint family and emits a strong, mint-like odor. It can live in a wide variety of places and very effectively repels mosquitoes. When planting it, be sure to keep it contained because it can easily invade other areas.



Rosemary

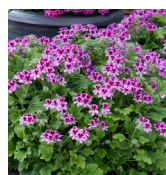
- Rosemary is a popular cooking herb, but it also repels mosquitos. Rosemary grows best in hot, dry climates and thrives in containers. When used to repel mosquitoes, it is believed to be particularly effective when burned or crushed.



Basil

- Basil is another mosquito-repelling herb. As with other plants on the list, basil's strong scent keeps mosquitoes and flies away. There are different varieties of

basil that grow best under different conditions, so ask the nursery for a plant that works best in your area. To keep basil thriving, keep it damp and give it plenty of drainage and also direct sunlight. It can be planted in containers or gardens.



Scented Geraniums

- There are several varieties of geraniums that can also repel mosquitoes. However, not all have the same type of scent and therefore do not repel, so

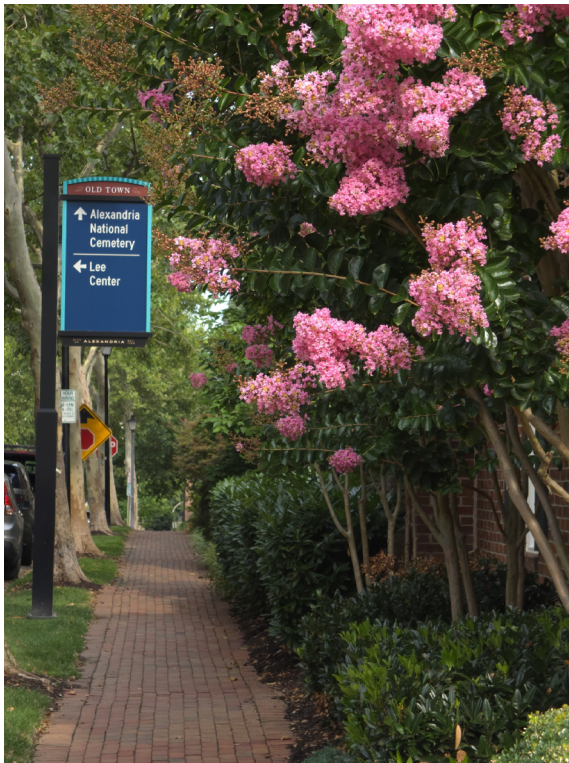
you should consult with someone at a nursery. The most effective type is believed to be the citronella geranium. These plants produce beautiful flowers and grow best in warm, sunny and dry conditions. They can be grown in planters and be brought indoors for winter.

Hardscape

Graham Ruggie, Chair

As we are now well in to the second half of summer, the Hardscape Committee has completed the sidewalk survey and is looking for quotes from masons that will undertake this work. We typically have a challenge finding contractors that will execute this work, due to the relatively small scope in nature the need for this specialty is in limited supply. We will continue looking but please reach out in case you know of a mason!

Additionally, Hardscape is collaborating with **Grounds and Services** on a potential tree removal next to **1231 Roundhouse Lane**. The tree has overgrown this area, and the roots have upended the sidewalk making it a consistently hazardous condition. It is expected that the Board will review and vote on the tree removal and stump grinding. There are no plans to replace the tree at this time.



Need something in the OTV?

Here is who to ask

Website for self service needs

Note: Log in to <https://otvtownhomes.net/>

- Viewing Calendar of events
- Meeting Minutes
- Directory
- Scale Map
- ARB Rules and Regulations
- Policies, Rules, and Regulations
- Governing Documents

Townhouse or Condo Mgmt Company

Townhouses - Donna Newman dnewman@cfmmanagement.com

Condos - Christie Beruete cberuete@sentrymgt.com

- Parking Stickers / Tags
- Gate Remote
- Request a Roundhouse key fob
- Ask for access
- Setup fee payments
- Request to rent the Roundhouse

Management Committee Chair

- Pool or spa issues
- Roundhouse issues
- Tot Lot issues
- Shared facilities policies

Grounds and Services Chair

- Trash and recycling
- Sprinklers
- Grass
- Landscaping
- Trees

Hardscape Committee Chair

- Roads
- Brick sidewalks, walls, columns, steps, and curbs
- Ground painting
- Benches
- Gas Lights
- Stormceptor and Sewer Mains
- Fire Hydrants
- Fences
- Mailboxes

Architectural Review Board Chair

- Requests approvals for exterior changes
- Inquiries about annual inspection

Communications Chair

- Getting an OTV Directory



The VillageCrier

Condominiums

Old Town Village, Alexandria, Virginia

From the OTVCUOA President

Barbie Frank, President

I hope everyone is having a good summer. In anticipation of September, I want to put a plug in for the **Progressive Dinner**. This adult-only event is scheduled for **September 19** and the deadline for submitting your reservation is August 24. The cost is just \$12 per-person and it is a **fun** event. I have attended every year that I've been available since moving in and have met neighbors from both communities with whom I would normally not cross paths. The Progressive Dinner is a great opportunity to make connections within the entire OTV community!

I would love to see a strong turnout from the Condos and hope you all will consider attending. The response forms are located in each building's lobby; your check and completed form can be dropped off in the box just inside the Roundhouse entrance.

Siding Concerns: A few months ago, it was brought to our attention that some of the siding was buckling on several of our buildings. Katchmark looked at the situation, but their resulting proposal was not acceptable to the Board. We then voted to bring in Falcon Engineering to conduct a thorough assessment

and provide options and projected expenses. Falcon expects to begin this project in early August.

I know that many residents are aware that the siding on all of the buildings was replaced about 10 years ago to address the fact that moisture barrier wrap was not installed during initial construction. The current issues are related to some of the materials and methods used during those replacements. We certainly hope that, this time, the repairs will not be significant and can be managed within our budget. Part of what Falcon is providing includes recommendations on what repairs are critical and what can be planned for over time. All unit owners will be kept informed as we receive relevant information.

Building 4 Decks: The Carlson Group has inspected all of the ground-floor decks in Building 4, and provided the specifications required to solicit bids and obtain the required permits. The decks have been sinking as a result of improper supports that were installed at time of initial construction. Bids have been sent to several qualified contractors and we should have those results in time for consideration at the August Board meeting. Upper-level decks are not impacted as they are part of the building infrastructure.

OTVC Condominium 2026 Board of Directors

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Vacant

Welcome

Vacant

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Grounds

The Grounds Committee has become more hands-on these last two months to **help preserve our landscaping**. The extreme heat and drought have taken its toll on our trees, shrubs, and ornamental plantings. **Francisco's** watering three times a week is insufficient to combat the drought, so the Committee members are hand-watering new plantings. So far, our efforts have been successful. If other community members have time and interest to help us with this watering, please contact **Christie** cberuete@sentrymgt.com and a member of the Committee will get in touch with you.



Further complicating our stewardship of our grounds, we have been **challenged with a blight** that killed a cherry tree on South West and Jamieson Streets and also infected a red maple tree adjacent to it (see photo). After consulting our community forester and tree contractor, we are investing the Committee's limited resources to remove the

tree immediately in the hopes that doing so will contain the blight. Our struggling red maple will be cut back and injected with antibiotics in an aggressive attempt to save the mature tree. Blight is rampant in blocks around OTVC, and you may observe that The Duke's curb trees on West Street have lost all of their leaves--likely killing about five of them.

To help our mature trees survive the weather extremes, we will be **recommending the addition of a plant growth regulator to the 2027 maintenance budget**, which will help trees fight off disease that follows tree distress. Tree removal and replacement is expensive, so this is a prudent investment.

To encourage new shrub growth, Committee members are hand-pruning dead branches within our mature shrubs. This should encourage "fill-in" growth in the spring and hopefully reduce our shrub replacement requirements. Our landscapers seasonally trim the shrubs, but they do not do that as precisely as is now required. We realize that some building fronts need

attention, and are working diligently to preserve the health of the landscaping...but, it takes time for nature to heal.

More of our time and resources are being directed to maintenance to improve tree and shrub survival. We are now evaluating the impact on the tree and shrub replacement budget and plans for 2027. Owners who are interested in donating funds for shrub replacement are encouraged to contact Christie. We ask that no one plant anything independently in the community common property beds.

Our next Grounds Committee meeting on August 5 at 6:30 in the Roundhouse. We encourage residents to attend our open forum. If you are unable to attend and want to comment/contribute, please email **Christie** and she will forward your message to the Committee members cberuete@sentrymgt.com.

When was the last Board Meeting you attended?

Do you know how your money and the HOA fees are being managed?

Please come to our monthly **Board of Directors Meetings**, held on the **3rd Tuesday of the month at the Roundhouse**; you can also listen to the meeting virtually. Stay informed about the operational conditions in our buildings and how decisions are made regarding the financial management of keeping systems running. Our units are a financial investment with an eye on keeping our HOA fees stable.

New members are always sought for Board of Director positions and Committees. Bring your skills and interests to our Committees: Grounds, Finance, and Activities. We'd love to have your involvement. You can find out more about how these Committees run at the Board Meetings as well as information regarding how to contact the leaders, if you wish to join.



Common Area Hallway Temperatures

Jim Sinnette

At the July meeting, the Board voted to temporarily raise common area hallway temperatures from 70 to 73 degrees. We will maintain this temperature through August 18, the date of the next Board meeting, and then gather and review resident feedback on this change.

Why Did We make This Change?

This change is part of an effort to reduce utility costs and prevent wear-and-tear on common-area HVAC units that cool the hallways. It has the following benefits:

- **Cost Savings:** Modestly increasing thermostat settings during the summer months is one of the most effective ways to lower our utility bill in those months.
- **Equipment Longevity:** Running AC units at a slightly higher temperature reduces the strain on the system, thereby minimizing maintenance needs and extending operational lifespans.
- **Energy Guidelines:** Even at 73 degrees, this setting is 5 degrees cooler than the U.S. Department of Energy's recommendation of 78 degrees for optimal summertime energy efficiency.

Next Steps & Feedback

The Board wants to hear your thoughts! We are interested in resident views on the impact of this temperature change during this trial period and whether the 73-degree setting should be made permanent for future summers, or not.

Please attend the next meeting and share your views!

If you are unable to attend the August 18 Board meeting, please send your feedback to SinnetteJ@aol.com before the meeting; please use "73 degrees" as the Subject Line. I will present your comments to the Board during the meeting.

Feedback On Community Issues

We want to hear from you! We welcome your attendance and conversation at the monthly **Board of Directors** and **Committee meetings**. There are also other venues for information and your voice to be heard. You can contact the **members** of the **Board of Directors** via their emails, and you can tune into the virtual meetings offered by a link through **Sentry Management**, which appears in your email prior to the monthly meetings. Please refer to the *Crier* calendar for meeting dates and times.



NextMeeting

OTVC Grounds Meeting
Wednesday, August 5
6:30 pm, in the Roundhouse

All OTVCUOA residents are welcome to attend.

BoardMeeting

OTVC Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 18
6:30 pm, in the Roundhouse

All OTVCUOA residents are welcome to attend.

NextMeeting

OTVC Finance Meeting
Wednesday, August 12
6:30 pm, in the Roundhouse

All OTVCUOA residents are welcome to attend.



OTVJoint Information

Management Committee

Old Town Condominium Unit Owners Association

Old Town Village Owners Association

Cheryl Van Coverdan, Chair

The Management Committee is in the budget process for next year, 2027. With several yearly contracts to renew and predictions on possible projects for next year, we are well on our way to establishing a budget to present to both Board of Directors by September 1, in accordance with the Cost-Sharing Agreement.

Swim lessons were one of the topics discussed at our most recent meeting. The President of the OTV Board provided the Committee with a list of four questions/scenarios that were given to the OTVOA's insurance representative regarding swim lessons at the RH pool. The response was: "The Association would have coverage under all four scenarios." In addition, the representative: "Recommend[s] the Association obtain evidence of liability coverage from all instructors approved by the Association to provide swim lessons." The MC will be exploring some guidelines and outlining a process for swim lessons for the 2027 pool season. Our goal is to ensure the pool remains safe, organized, and enjoyable for everyone.

As mentioned in last month's *Crier*, the Activities Committee presented a request to the Management Committee to purchase and install a TV/Monitor in the RH lounge. The Activities Committee developed a document that described the benefits of the TV/Monitor to the OTV communities. The Committee reviewed the request and has asked the Activities Committee for more specific information regarding, pricing, installation, and a process that can be implemented to secure the remote and lock/switch for the TV/Monitor. With this additional information, the Committee will develop a recommendation for consideration by both the OTVOA and the OTVCUOA Boards of Directors.

We invite everyone to join us at our Management Committee meetings. There is a link provided on the agenda if you are unable to come in-person. Volunteering to serve on a Committee or the Board of Directors is one way that you can take an active part in protecting your investment here at Old Town Village.

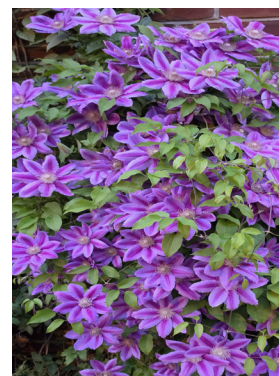
Next Meeting

Management Committee

Tuesday, August 11

6:30 pm, in the Roundhouse

All Old Town Village community members are welcome to attend.





Activities

Marjorie Cole, Co-Chair

Planning continues for the **Progressive Dinner** on **Saturday, September 19**. The registration deadline for this event is **August 24 - Yes, This Month!!!** The committee works hard for this event and a lot of planning goes into determining who is hosting what (happy hour or dinner) and who else is bringing what (wine and appetizer for happy hour OR salad, bread and wine for dinner OR dessert for the after party at the Roundhouse) and going where and when (different locations for happy hour and dinner), so be sure to submit your registration on time if you want to attend. For more details and to register, see the flyer in this issue.

The **First Friday TGIF** is **August 7**. All TGIFs are informal adult gatherings held each Friday at the Roundhouse, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Those who attend may choose to bring a potluck item to share, but participation in the potluck is not a requirement; you can simply show up and hang out. BYOB if you would like to sip and socialize. Because it's an informal gathering, attendance can be unpredictable.

NextMeeting
Activities Committee
Wednesday, August 12
5:00 pm, in the Roundhouse

All Old Town Village community members are welcome to attend.

Young Families

Mina Wu, Chair

Co-Chair Needed: OTV Young Families Group for 2027

We're looking for a co-chair to help lead our Young Families Group! This volunteer role partners with the OTV activities chair to plan and run 4-5 events a year — think Easter egg hunt, Halloween parade, and Christmas cookie decorating. It's a fun, low-lift way to get involved and connect with other families in the neighborhood.

Interested? Reach out to **Mina Wu** at mina.kim213@gmail.com or **214-784-0162** to learn more.

Save the date for the final events for the OTV Young Families Group!

OTV Halloween Parade
Sunday 10/25 at 4 PM

OTV Children's Holiday Party
Sunday, 10/6 at 4 PM

WiFi at the Roundhouse

Name: OTVRH
Password: RoundHouse343



Mah Jong Club!

Even if you've never played before, we'll be happy to teach you the ins and outs. We're very easy-going and enjoy chatting as we play, so don't worry about a high-stress situation.

We play Tuesdays at 1:30 pm in the Roundhouse. You can just show up or if you have questions, email Shannon Collins shannon.g.collins@gmail.com

Hope to see you soon!





The book for July was *Atmosphere: A Love Story* by Taylor Jenkins Reid. This historical fiction novel follows Joan Goodwin, a brilliant physics professor who joins NASA's Space Shuttle Program in the 1980s. Told in dual timelines, the book alternates between her rigorous astronaut training and a present-day catastrophic space shuttle crisis where she races to bring her crew home. In 1980, NASA opened its astronaut candidacy program to female scientists and pilots for the first time. Joan left her teaching job and arrived at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. There, she trained alongside a talented, dynamic group of colleagues, including pilots, scientists, and aeronautical engineers. Alongside the high-stakes physical and mental preparation, the narrative explores Joan's personal life. She navigated the intense sexist attitudes of the era and balanced her ambitions with family obligations. During her training, she met and fell in love with Vanessa Ford, a magnetic aeronautical engineer and fellow

astronaut candidate. The book is described as a "slow-burn, tender" romance, focusing on connection, identity, and sacrifice.

The group really enjoyed this book. We would describe it as a love story about people who are astronauts – not astronauts in love. The characters develop strong and loving relationships of all types within the group; however, the main love story is between Joan and Vanessa. Joan also has a strong relationship with her niece and several in the group appreciated how the author portrayed it. We did note how the author seemed to make a point of illustrating how emotions between heterosexual and homosexual relationships are no different. We were expecting to have more scientific information provided but found it was emphasized more in the beginning of the novel and the focus shifted more to the love story.

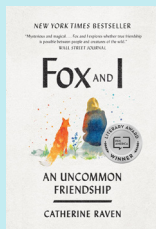
The group rated the book 5 out of 5 stars.



There is no meeting in August.

Next Meeting

The September meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 pm in the Roundhouse.



The book for September is *Fox and I* by Catherine Raven.

Reminder: The Book Club maintains the OTV library. We accept books that have been published in the last 10 years. We do not have room for cookbooks, travel books or self-help books. Books that we do not have room for can be donated to The Alexandria Library, 717 Queen Street, Discover Books which has a bin in the parking lot of Safeway, 500 S Royal St, or any thrift shop.

2026 Reading List



The **full** reading list for 2026 is posted on the community website: [Book Club Reading List for 2026](http://BookClubReadingListfor2026.org)



OTV Pool Hours - Summer 2026

Mon, June 15 – Fri, September 4

Lap Swimming	Mon - Fri	10:30 am – 11:00 am
AquaFit* (Water Aerobics)	Mon, Wed, Fri	11:00 am – 11:50 am
Open Swim & Spa	Mon, Wed, Fri	12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Open Swim & Spa	Tues & Thurs	11:00 am - 8:00 pm
Open Swim & Spa	Weekends & Holidays	10:30 am – 8:00 pm

Sat, September 5 – Mon, September 7

Lap Swimming	Mon - Fri	10:30 am – 11:00 am
Open Swim & Spa	Mon - Fri	11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Open Swim & Spa	Weekends & Holidays	10:30 am – 8:00 pm

Post Labor Day: Tues, Sept 8 – Sun, Sept 13

Lap Swim	Mon - Fri	11:30 am – 12:00 pm
Open Swim & Spa	Mon - Sun	12:00 pm – 7:00 pm

The daily schedule includes the lifeguard's 10-minute break each hour and a 1/2-hour lunch break daily at 2:30 p.m.

Pool Management Process

Alexandria City Code 11-11-63 stipulates that a maximum of 25 individuals is allowed inside of a pool enclosure (the fenced area surrounding the pool) when only one lifeguard is present. Please be advised that when the number of attendees starts to exceed the 25-person limit, the lifeguard will ask the most recent arrivals to wait in either the Roundhouse or the patio until pool attendees leave, reducing the number below 25. Your cooperation with this procedure is greatly appreciated.

Use Of The Pool And Spa

1. The pool and spa are for the exclusive use of OTV residents and their guests. Each townhouse and condominium unit may have **no more than four guests** regardless of the number of residents in that unit. All guests must be accompanied at all times by a resident.
2. The pool and spa are not for rent and may not be used in conjunction with any reserved activity in the Roundhouse community room and/or Patio.
3. Residents and guests must sign in and sign-out on the sheet provided. Access to the Roundhouse is controlled via a key fob.
4. All residents and guests must enter and exit the pool and/or spa through the main Roundhouse door and then the door to the spa. Residents and guests may not enter the pool and/or spa via the gate to the patio.

5. Residents and guests may use the pool and/or spa only when the lifeguard is on duty. Residents and guests use the spa at their own risk. When the pool is closed for inclement weather the spa is also closed.
6. Children aged 12 and under must be accompanied and supervised in the pool, spa, and surrounding areas by an adult (excluding the lifeguard) at all times.
7. No one under the age of 5 or anyone using alcohol or drugs that cause drowsiness shall use the spa.
8. All persons, including children, must shower before entering the pool or the spa.
9. The lifeguard is charged to uphold safety and health requirements and standards of conduct. All residents and guests within the pool and spa areas must: (a) follow the instructions of the lifeguard on duty; (b) respond courteously to the lifeguard's instructions; and (c) respond to the lifeguard's request to identify themselves or to sign-in or sign-out.
10. **Swim breaks:** The lifeguard will take a break every hour for ten minutes to accommodate the inspection of the pump room, the testing of the water, etc. In addition, the lifeguard is entitled to a 30-minute break for every four-hour shift worked. All swimmers must exit the pool when the lifeguard is on break, even if the lifeguard is poolside.
11. In accordance with the City of Alexandria Aquatic Health Ordinance as amended March 13, 2010, Article C, SEC 11-1 1-60, people with bandages, open sores, infections, or inflamed eyes are not permitted in the pool or spa. In accordance with the City of Alexandria Aquatic Health Ordinance as amended March 13, 2010, Article C, SEC 11-11-66, any person who is not toilet trained or who is incontinent must wear a swim diaper.
12. The maximum number of people allowed in the pool at one time is **25** due to the American Red Cross ratio of swimmers to lifeguards: **25/1**.
13. Spitting, running, pushing, rough play, and diving are not permitted.
14. At the lifeguard's sole discretion, kickboards, small flotation devices, and small toys may be allowed in the pool depending on the occupancy and age range of swimmers.
15. Play pens and wheeled vehicles, except for wheelchairs and strollers, are not permitted in the pool or spa areas.
16. Pets, except for service dogs assisting disabled persons, are not permitted in the pool or spa areas with the exception of the end of season pet day.
17. Alcohol and drugs, and those under the influence of either, are not allowed in the pool or spa areas.
18. Non-alcoholic beverages and snacks (in non-breakable containers) are allowed in the pool and spa area. Glass containers are prohibited.
19. Smoking is not allowed in pool and spa areas.
20. Sound generating devices (e.g., radios, CD players, and digital audio players) may only be used in the pool and spa area with earphones.
21. Pool furniture is to remain in the pool area. Patio and Roundhouse furniture must not be moved into the pool and/or spa area.
22. Resident comments regarding the pool and spa should be addressed to any member of the Management Committee or any member of the townhouse or condominium Boards. An updated list of Management Committee members can be found on the Roundhouse Bulletin board near the restrooms.



August

1	Saturday	Twig Community Drive 10:00 am - 1:00 pm	17	Monday	
2	Sunday		18	Tuesday	Mah Jong 1:30 pm OTVC Board of Directors 6:30 pm
3	Monday		19	Wednesday	
4	Tuesday	Mah Jong 1:30 pm OTVOA G&S 6:30 pm	20	Thursday	OTVOA Board Meeting 7:00 pm
5	Wednesday	OTVC Grounds 6:30 pm	21	Friday	TGIF Condo & TH 6:30 pm
6	Thursday		22	Saturday	
7	Friday	First Friday TGIF Condo & TH 6:30 pm	23	Sunday	
8	Saturday		24	Monday	
9	Sunday		25	Tuesday	Mah Jong 1:30 pm
10	Monday		26	Wednesday	
11	Tuesday	Mah Jong 1:30 pm Management 6:30 pm	27	Thursday	
12	Wednesday	Activities 5:00 pm OTVC Finance 6:30 pm	28	Friday	TGIF Condo & TH 6:30 pm
13	Thursday		29	Saturday	
14	Friday	TGIF Condo & TH 6:30 pm	30	Sunday	
15	Saturday		31	Monday	
16	Sunday	All events are at 7 pm in the Roundhouse unless otherwise noted.			

Celebrate on Friday and Socialize in OTV

Celebrate **TGIF EVERY Friday**
at the Roundhouse and most
especially the first Friday of
each month!

Please bring your own beverage.
Bring a dish to share if you'd like to
join a potluck and come to the
Roundhouse at 6:30 pm.



**All OTV Condo & Townhome
Residents Are Invited!**

This relaxed get-together is the
perfect opportunity to become better
acquainted with our neighbors!

This event is for adults only

Weekly

TGIF Condo & TH - every Friday
Mah Jong - every Tuesday

August events

8/7 TGIF First Friday

Future

9/19 Progressive Dinner
10/23 Oktoberfest
10/25 - Halloween Parade
12/4 Holiday Party
12/6 - Children's Holiday Party
12/11 Santa For Seniors

The VillageCrier

Old Town Village
Alexandria, VA 22314
August 2026

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Steven Winard | 206-619-6731
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END Notes



ALIVE! Food Drive

Active Member of Food Drive for Alive since 2018

Thanks to your incredible generosity and community spirit,

TOGETHER, WE DONATED:

619 pounds of food contributions & over \$470 in monetary donations

That's an incredible 871 meals that will help feed families in need this summer!

Every donation, big or small, helped make a meaningful difference.

Thank you to everyone who contributed, volunteered, and supported this year's food drive.

Your kindness continues to strengthen our community.

Your OTV Event Sponsor,
Lisa Groover



You are invited to the 24th annual OTV

progressive dinner

September 19, 2026

Join your Old Town
Village neighbors for
**Happy Hour, Dinner,
and Dessert!**

Sign-up by
August 24, 2026

Entrees prepared by



Sam Phao Thai

Est. 2009

this is an adults only event

Join us for the 24th Annual OTV Progressive Dinner!



The dinner entrées this year will be prepared by the local business Sam Phao Thai Cuisine. The evening will start with wonderful appetizers and end with delicious desserts made by your neighbors. Please read through the information below and the FAQs on the back for all the details.

The adult-only evening begins with appetizers and wine at the home of an Old Town Village neighbor. We then move to sit-down dinners in small groups at the homes of various hosts. It is a perfect time to get to know those at the table. Then comes the grand finale as everyone comes back together at the Roundhouse for a variety of desserts. Hopefully, we will be able to be out on the patio this year!

Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026

Times:

Happy Hour 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Dinner 6:40 pm – 8:30 pm

Desserts 8:40 pm – 9:30 pm

Dinner Entrée Options

Broccoli Ginger with Chicken or

Vegetarian Pad Thai

Please complete this form by the deadline of **August 24, 2026**. Place it in the box in the foyer of the Roundhouse with cash or a check payable to OTVOA for **\$12 per person**. Please check here ☐ to indicate if you have difficulty using stairs and we will try to accommodate.

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Cell Phone _____

Select Entrée(s): **Broccoli Ginger with Chicken** _____ **Vegetarian Pad Thai** _____

Indicate below how you would like to participate in the Progressive Dinner. **Please rank 1-3 from the list.**

_____ Host Happy Hour and provide 2 bottles of wine

_____ Host Dinner and provide 2 bottles of wine. My/Our dinner table can seat people.

_____ Bring an Appetizer for **8–10** people and 2 bottles of wine for Happy Hour _____

_____ Bring Salad, Bread, and 1 bottle of wine to dinner

_____ Bring a Dessert to the Roundhouse for **10–12** people



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Progressive Dinner?

It is the signature event at Old Town Village that builds community as everyone contributes to an evening of food and wine. The dinner begins with appetizers at one house, moves to dinner at another house, and concludes with dessert for all participants at the Roundhouse.

Who is invited to attend?

The Progressive Dinner is for Old Town Village Townhome and Condo residents only. This annual event is an OTV tradition celebrating its 24th year. In 2025, we had 68 participants, so it is a popular way to meet your neighbors!

How will I know where to go and what to bring?

Once all registrations are received, the committee will work to equally distribute everyone for appetizers and dinner. No later than September 9th, you will receive an email from a committee member telling you what to bring and your assigned locations for Happy Hour and Dinner. Dessert is at the Roundhouse.

How do I sign up?

Just complete the information on the front of this flyer and return it to the mailbox in the Roundhouse by **August 24th. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your request.**

What is my contribution as a participant?

You will be asked to bring an appetizer, wine, bread, salad, or dessert based on your registration and our overall needs. Or you may choose to host either a Happy Hour or the sit-down dinner portion of the evening which would include your contribution of **two bottles of wine.**

What does it mean to agree to host?

If you sign up to **host a Happy Hour**, you will open your home to approximately 16 people and provide two bottles of wine. That's it! Those coming to your home will bring the rest.

If you sign up to **host a Dinner**, you indicate how many your table will seat. Have two bottles of wine on hand, set your table, pick up the dinner from the committee, pop it in the oven and serve. Attendees assigned to your home will bring the rest!

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Please contact Carol Chiasson at cechiasson@hotmail.com with any questions or if you are interested in assisting the Progressive Dinner committee with preparation logistics.



Community Clothing & Housewares Drive

Saturday, August 1, 2026 | 10AM–1PM

Old Town Village Roundhouse | 343 S Fayette Street

The Twig, the Junior Auxiliary of Inova Alexandria Hospital, is proud to support the healthcare needs of our community.

At its Annual Luncheon, The Twig presented a \$450,000 donation to Inova Alexandria Hospital, fulfilling its three-year \$500,000 pledge ahead of schedule and launching a new six-year, \$2 million commitment. Funds support the future hospital campus, Level 3 Trauma Care, and scholarships for aspiring healthcare professionals.

We are thrilled to celebrate our \$450,000 donation during the 2025–2026 fiscal year, over \$6 million overall. With your support, we can do even more!

YOU CAN HELP THE TWIG ACHIEVE THEIR FUNDRAISING GOAL BY DONATING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Gently worn apparel for men, women & teens (no baby/toddler clothes)
- Housewares (kitchen utensils, pots and pans, vases, dishes, tools)
- Decorative accessories (artwork, frames, lamps, no bedding or pillows)
- Handbags, shoes, ties, hats, jewelry
- Books, luggage and so much more!



All items will be sold at affordable prices at The TWIG Thrift Shop
(106 N Columbus Street). Proceeds will be donated to Inova Alexandria Hospital.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

*or to drop off your donations
before or after the event*

Please contact your Old Town Village
event sponsor and active TWIG
Lisa Groover, cell 703.919.4426
or lisa.groover@corcoranmce.com

** Receipts will be provided*

LEARN MORE AT [THETWIG.ORG](http://thetwig.org)



2018



2022



2023



2025



2024

*Polaroid
in Memory.*



CHIC EVENTS DC PRESENTS

THE ULTIMATE SUMMERPICNIC EXPERIENCE!

BEATS BITES AND BREWS



AUGUST 1, 2026 | 11AM - 6PM

📍 JOHN CARLYLE SQUARE

300 JOHN CARLYLE STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

Pack your picnic blanket and bring your friends and family to Beats, Bites, and Brews at John Carlyle Square Park in Old Town Alexandria! This laid-back, fun-filled event is the perfect way to enjoy a beautiful summer day with live music, delicious food, refreshing drinks, and plenty of local art and crafts.

Beats, Bites & Brews is your ticket to a day of good vibes, great food, and endless summer fun. See you there!

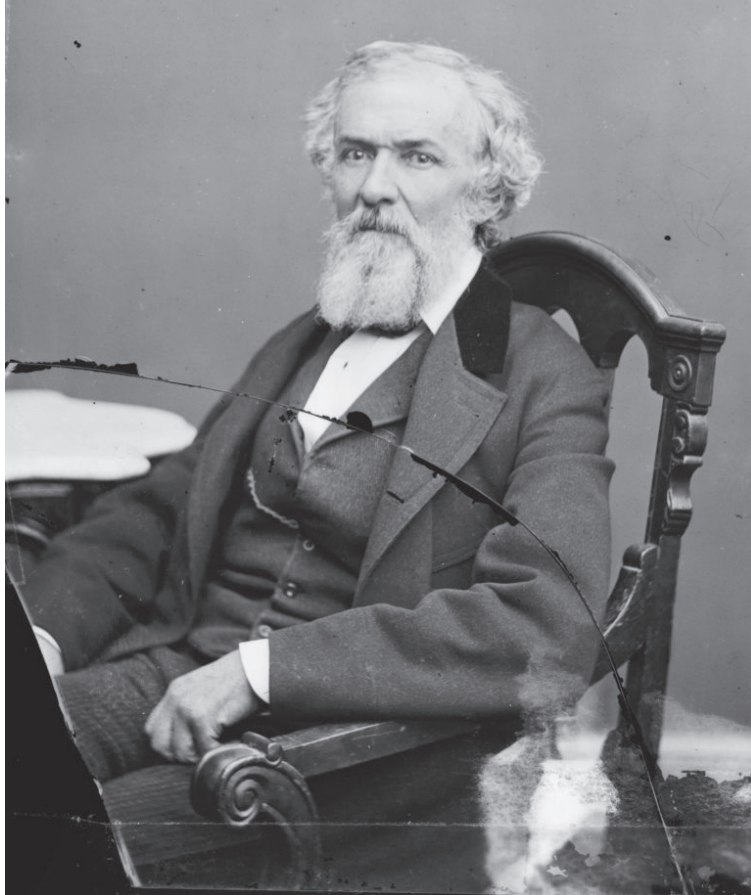
Experience the Summer Magic

- **Live Beats:** Groove to the sounds of summer with live music performances that will set the perfect tone for your sun-soaked day
- **Delectable Bites:** Indulge your taste buds with a variety of summer-inspired bites from local food vendors, ensuring a feast for every palate.
- **Refreshing Brews:** Quench your thirst with an array of cold beverages in our Beer Garden.
- **Summer Shopping:** Explore local artisans and vendors offering a curated selection of summer goodies, from fashion finds to unique crafts.
- **Fun for All:** Bring friends and family for a day filled with laughter, games, and a festive summer atmosphere.

Parking: Plenty of convenient parking nearby in public lots and garages.

Public Transit: Easily accessible by metro and bus for a hassle-free visit.

Out of the Attic: One of the nation's first post offices



Nicholas Trist. (Photo/Library Of Congress)

Readers may know that Alexandria predates the United States of America, but did you know that Alexandria had one of the first American post offices?

Alexandria's first postmaster was Robert McCrea, who served from 1776 to 1793. The son of some of the first settlers of Alexandria, McCrea served as postmaster until his death. His son John succeeded him at the appointment of President George Washington, and John McCrea served as postmaster until the end of John Adams' presidential term in 1801.

The significance of the post is reflected in the fact that it required a presidential appointment and that most postmasters in the pre-Civil War years had both a personal connection to the president who appointed them and military experience.

For instance, Col. George Gilpin served as postmaster during James Madison's administration. Gilpin had been the town surveyor for many years, but he had also been an honorary aide to Washington when he was appointed as commander-in-chief by Adams in the quasi-war with France.

Daniel Bryan served our city as postmaster longer than anyone else in the 19th century. First appointed in April of 1821, Bryan stayed in the position until 1853. This spanned the administrations of James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, James Polk, Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore.

Formerly a school teacher, he married the daughter of the Honorable Philip P. Barbour. Known as a quiet citizen and a devotee of literature, Bryan and his young family lived at the Lloyd House on the corner of Queen and Washington streets after Benjamin Hallowell left as a tenant.

Bryan was also the postmaster who issued the "Alexandria Blue Boy" provisional stamp to James Wallace Hooff. More than a hundred years later, that stamp was sold for \$1 million.

In 1858, the Alexandria Custom House and Post Office was built at the southwest corner of Prince and St. Asaph streets. It was a fireproof structure, made of granite with cast-iron doors, window frames and stairways.

In 1902, when a fire broke out in the basement, there was significant smoke but no damage to the building. In the fall of 1930, 72 years after it was built, the old custom house was razed.

A notable postmaster of Alexandria who served in the custom house was Nicholas Trist, who served from 1870 to 1874. Previously, Trist had been the assistant secretary of state and had negotiated the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ceded California and New Mexico to the United States from Mexico. Trist died in Alexandria in 1874.

The role of postmaster meant something much different in the 19th century than it does today. Just as, if not more important than getting communication to residents in a timely manner, political connections seem to have been a prerequisite for the position.

This article is part of an ongoing series celebrating Alexandria's participation in the America250 program. For more information on America250 events in Alexandria, please visit alexandriava.gov/America250.

Out of the Attic is provided by the Office of Historic Alexandria.