

## President's Report

*By Michael Sullivan*

At last, our swimming pool is open and we can once again enjoy this popular amenity at Alexandria Knolls West. We will continue to follow the CDC guidelines regarding mask wearing ... a small price to pay for more normalcy in our lives.

As you can see (and hear), the garage work continues as planned. Again, thank you for your cooperation and tolerance of the inconvenience during this project. We are grateful for your patience and understanding and your continued adherence to the new temporary parking rules.

Solicitations for bids have been made for the renewal (facelift) of our common hallways including new flooring and lighting. We are looking forward to these upgrades, as they will certainly improve our building aesthetics and marketability.

Rick Treviño (of landscaping committee fame) has joined our Board of Directors since Quade's departure left an opening. Rick has been a very active and involved member of our community and we are honored to have him serve us in this way.

We are all hopeful that more of the CDC and government restrictions due to the pandemic will be lifted prior to the July 4th weekend. It would certainly be nice if we could, once again, plan a party and all get together to celebrate!

*Stay well and safe,*

## Board Meeting Highlights

### Reported Financials

	April	March
Total Cash and Investments	\$2,238,258	\$2,235,469
Year-to-Date Income	\$708,292	\$532,052
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$698,183	\$495,829
Delinquencies \$	\$33,463	\$27,860
Delinquencies %	1.5%	1.36%
YTD Reserve Expenditures	\$(39,703)	\$(39,703)
Total Reserves	\$1,759,127	\$1,721,877

Seven accounts totaling \$31,891 account for 95% of total delinquencies, with 8 accounts of less than \$1,000 (\$1,572) making up the 5% balance.



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## Board Actions

- Ratified an eVote to AquaSafe for \$750.00 for required electrical inspection prior to pool opening.
- \$1,020.66 to Densel to replace the motor on exhaust fan #1
- \$2,264.25 for pipe repairs on boiler #2.

The Board is currently reviewing Proposals for Design Services to beautify, restore, and add design elements to the Upper Floor Hallways of the building to more align with the renovations made on the Main Entry Level. Stay tuned for more details.

## COVID Corner

New Executive Order Took Effect at Midnight, May 28), [Executive Order 79](#) replaced the existing [Executive Order 72](#), removing Virginia's mandates for physical distancing and capacity restrictions. This change comes as a result of the state's rising vaccinations and falling COVID-19 rates. Organizations retain the ability to choose to require masks in their establishments, and individuals are still permitted to wear masks if they choose to. Anyone who is not yet vaccinated should wear masks in all settings. Masks are still required in K-12 settings, given low rates of vaccination among children. The federal government continues to require that masks are worn when using [public transportation](#), including on buses, trains, and airplanes.

For the time being, AKW will still require masks in all common areas of the building, restrictions to two people or one household in the elevator, and social distancing in tight quarters (like the Office). When this changes an email will be sent from the Office.



## Thanks, and Farewell

*By Sharon Grant*

As I leave AKW for a new home in Central VA, I've thought about my 7+ years as a resident and time as a Board member.

I have enjoyed my time here as an owner and meeting residents through notary services. (Unfortunately, notary credentials cannot be transferred to another, so residents will need to seek those services elsewhere.) I've also enjoyed bringing the current **Knolls News** to the community. Going forward, Terri Hansen will take on the role of publisher for the newsletter.

As a Board member, I'm proud of the accomplishments that've been made. The work the Board does is important, unremitting and can be disagreeable and thankless. Things do go wrong, and mistakes happen; please remember that Board members are owners, too, and each of us is human.

I take with me the kindness of the many neighbors I've come to know and the prize of some lasting friendships. Best wishes to you all.





**Senior Services of Alexandria** partners with these services for your benefit:

**AniMeals on Wheels - Senior Services of Alexandria** and the **Alexandria Animal Welfare League** have partnered for years to provide a program for eligible seniors to have pet food delivered to their residence at no cost. These monthly deliveries occur on the second Thursday of each month. Participants have the option of being delivered 10 cans of wet food OR 10 lbs. of dry food. For more information about the program click on ["AniMeals" on Wheels - Senior Services of Alexandria \(seniorservicesalex.org\)](https://seniorservicesalex.org).

**AWLA** is, of course, another of Alexandria's *essential services*, taking in wonderful pets who've had to be given up, or those from a disaster area. As such, it is able to take cash/credit donations in addition to things like fluffy towels and cotton blankets (all this has to be easy to wash!), and food donations. They are also able to work with you if you'd like to Foster one of these animals so they can be away from cages and continue good social skills. They're on Eisenhower Ave., about a mile beyond the Van Dorn Metro. Give them a call at 703-746-4774 to find out what they need that you can offer. *You can make such a difference to an animal!*

### **2021 Senior Law Day via Zoom – June 4, 11, 18 at 10 am – “Estate Planning and Life Choices from a COVID-19 Perspective”**

Senior Services of Alexandria and the Alexandria Bar Association are co-hosting this year's Senior Law Day via Zoom. This annual event brings experts from the legal, financial and healthcare fields to talk about the importance of planning as we age. This couldn't be more important during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The event will take place over three Friday mornings, June 4, 11 and 19 from 10 to 11 am via Zoom. Presentations include: **Lessons Learned** – hear from Goodwin House, a continuing care community and Inova Alexandria Hospital about “lessons learned” from the COVID-19 pandemic; **Housing Options and Technology Tools for older adults**; and a discussion about **changes in certain laws around housing, bankruptcies and personal injuries**. There will also be a **session on what legal documents** we should have in place and what we should consider in the aftermath of COVID-19. Other panelists include members of the Alexandria legal community, Legal Services of Northern Virginia and local elder care experts. The event is open to the public and free! Here is a link to a recent *Zebra* Newspaper article and a link to register. Click on [SSA in the Zebra - May 2021! - Senior Services of Alexandria \(seniorservicesalex.org\)](https://seniorservicesalex.org).

### **June 8th (Tuesday) at 10:30 am: Effective Communication Strategies**

Communication is more than just talking and listening-it is also about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. This workshop explores how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's. Learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia and identify strategies to help connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.

**Location: Social SPACE Social Play Achieve Create Edu-tain ZOOM Platform**

**Meeting ID: 901 875 2818      Passcode: 8727**

**Direct Link: [bit.ly/VCAASocialSPACE](https://bit.ly/VCAASocialSPACE)**

**Call in Number: 1-301-751-8592; 901-875-2818#; 0#; 8727#**

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## June 15th (Tuesday) at 2:00 pm: Senior Services of Alexandria's Senior Ambassador Volunteer Training via Zoom

Senior Services of Alexandria is hosting a virtual training for those interested in being a volunteer Senior Ambassador to your respective community. The training will last about an hour and will give you an overview of services and programs available to older adults in Alexandria and tips on how to communicate these services. It is a very flexible volunteer opportunity! For more information contact MaryAnne Beatty at [communications@seniorservicesalex.org](mailto:communications@seniorservicesalex.org).

## Weekly Featured Jobs and Workshops

Residents who have lost employment due to COVID-19 are encouraged to review the [list of employers who are hiring](#), which is updated weekly. The [Alexandria Workforce Development Center](#) (WDC) offers several workshops to help residents train and prepare for employment, including [networking skills](#), [transferable skills](#) and [breaking into cybersecurity for youth](#). WDC also offers coaching and financial assistance for job searches and career development. All resources take place online, are free, and registration is requested. Visit the WDC's job board for a [complete list of job opportunities](#).



**Volunteer Alexandria Opportunities** – Volunteer Alexandria inspires and mobilizes people, six years and older, to volunteer for a stronger Alexandria community. If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity, please visit Volunteer Alexandria's website at [Volunteer Alexandria](#).



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### Contractors ... or Do-It-Yourself?

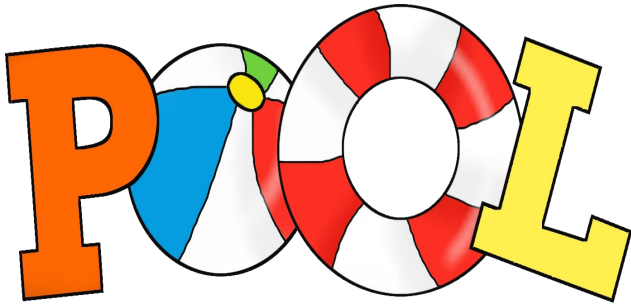
We all have things in our apartments that need doing. Upgrades and renovations, necessary upkeep and maintenance: from time to time the work just has to be done. When it comes time to do it, keep in mind that any contractor you hire must be *licensed, bonded and insured* to do the work they are performing on your unit. Why? Well, if someone performs work in your unit and a problem arises from that work, you are responsible for any damage caused to your neighbors' units. This is especially important to remember if you have a friend or relative who is "helping you out." A licensed, bonded, insured contractor is liable for any damage their work causes; your brother-in-law's or friend's work is ... well, it's *your* problem!

So, when you're having work done, make sure your contractor is a professional and is licensed, bonded and insured. *The Board has passed a policy and guidance document on the subject and it's available to you in the Office and in the BuildingLink library.*

And remind them that there's no parking in the 30-min spaces at the canopy (*and darned little Visitor/Vendor parking otherwise until the end of July!*).

## Pool Committee

By Stephen Colodner (Partially reprinted from the May, 2021 Knolls News.)



2021 Pool Season started Saturday, May 29th. The great news is that the pool will be open this summer from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. To maintain a safe environment and to comply with the governor's orders, there are some temporary changes from how we've managed the pool in the past. A full copy of the Board resolution and the 2021 Pool Rules will be distributed shortly, but I wanted to give you a brief list of the changes you'll notice.

1. **Registration:** Paper pool passes are no more. We will be using BuildingLink to make an amenity reservation for the pool. You will only have to do this one time to get access to the pool all summer.
2. **Check-in:** The sign-in table this year will have a safety checklist to screen for people with any recent symptoms or risk indicators for COVID-19.
3. **Social distancing:** There is a minimum distance of 10 feet between people who are not of the same household. Pool furniture has also been spaced out and there will be marked areas where the furniture should remain.
4. **Masks:** Masks will be required in the pool enclosure unless you are in the swimming pool.
5. **Hygiene:** Cleaning supplies will be available to wipe down the loungers or chairs before and after use. Extra cleaning will be taking place to sanitize any high contact areas. There will be hand sanitizer stations near the check-in table. As always, we recommend people take a shower before entering the pool facility.
6. **No Spa:** Unfortunately, the spa/hot tub/jacuzzi cannot open this year.

Reduced capacity: Maximum capacity is 18 people in the pool area. First come, first served, but we've rarely been that crowded in the past.

Reservations: If you're looking forward to getting some sun or taking a dip, use either the BuildingLink app or [buildinglink.com](https://buildinglink.com) to reserve the pool for the summer. Steps:

1. Log in to the app on your phone or the site on your computer.
2. Click Amenity Reservations
3. Click Add New Reservation
4. Select the Swimming Pool
5. Set your start and end dates: May 29 and September 6
6. Read the liability waiver and agree
7. Click Submit Reservation or Save The Office can also assist with reservations for the season.



**Here's looking forward to a safe and enjoyable summer pool season.**



## Alexandria Drive-In Announces June Movies

[Alexandria Living Magazine](#), May 20, 2021

### Thrillers and superhero movies are included in the list for June.

The Alexandria Drive-In, in the parking lot of the Victory Center on Eisenhower Avenue, announced its line-up of movies for June. The movies include:

- Guardians of the Galaxy
- Jurassic World
- Black Panther
- The Avengers
- Pirates of the Caribbean
- Rogue One



Tickets are available now through [www.alexandriadrivein.com/movies](http://www.alexandriadrivein.com/movies).

Tickets are \$40 per car and food trucks will be on-site each night providing delish, savory, and sweet concessions with online ordering through [Goodfynd!](#)

Proceeds from the movie series will benefit local Alexandria charity, [ATHENA Rapid Response Innovation Lab](#).



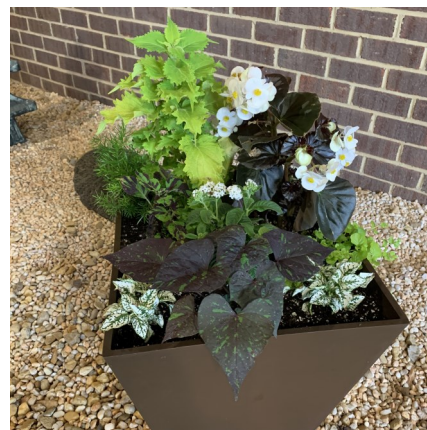
Since we don't have a July issue of *Knolls News*, we're reminding you now that our **Annual Meeting** will be on **Tuesday, September 21**. In early July, a letter will be going out to all, asking for nominations for new Board Members. (We'll also be asking again in our August issue.) Please think about those you'd like to nominate. Please consider that maybe YOU would be the best person! The Board doesn't run by itself; it needs a full complement of 7 volunteers, so we may need YOU, too! *Put on your Thinking Caps!*

## Landscape Update

By Rick Treviño

Think the landscape is limited to what's planted on the grounds?

- You can extend your enjoyment by planting a garden on your balcony.
- Even a couple of planters will help brighten up the space.
- Consider foliage plants like coleus which come in a variety of colors or petunias which bloom all summer long.
- There are many possibilities – take a walk through your favorite garden shop or nursery and see all the choices you have!



Just remember, take care water doesn't spill on the balcony below when watering your plants. Be on the lookout for an announcement of the next Landscape Committee meeting where we'll be discussing priorities and upcoming projects.

## [City Real Estate Projects Named “Best Deal of the Year” and “Best Redevelopment” for 2020 | City of Alexandria, VA \(alexandriava.gov\)](https://alexandriava.gov)

Two City of Alexandria development projects have been honored by the Washington Business Journal in its prestigious “Best Real Estate Deals” annual regional awards program. The City’s agreement with Inova Health System, in partnership with three development firms (Foulger-Pratt, Seritage Growth Properties and Howard Hughes Corporation), to redevelop Landmark Mall into a medical campus and mixed-use, walkable urban village has garnered 2020’s “Best Deal of the Year,” the Journal’s top commercial real estate designation. The Bloom at Braddock, a project to build a homeless shelter and affordable housing by Carpenter’s Shelter and Alexandria Housing Development Corporation, has been named “Best Redevelopment.”



“We are truly honored to have received these accolades,” said Mayor Justin Wilson. “Redeveloping the Landmark Mall area in concert with locating and establishing a new, state-of-the-art hospital center will generate economic growth for the West End, enhance the City’s ongoing plans for the area, and help increase access to health care for all Alexandrians.”

The City is providing public financing for the project, agreeing to issue bonds to fund \$76 million in infrastructure improvements and \$54 million to purchase three parcels at the Landmark site. The land will be leased to Inova for construction of the new hospital. Development plans will also include residential, retail, commercial and entertainment offerings integrated into a cohesive neighborhood with a central plaza, a network of parks and public spaces, and a transit hub serving bus rapid transit (BRT), DASH, and Metrobus.

For more information about these projects, visit the [Landmark Mall Redevelopment](#) or [Affordable Housing Projects and Partnerships](#) webpages.



**When we last reminded you, In May 2020,** it was to say that the deadline for obtaining your own REAL ID was extended to October 2021. Well, nothing is as constant as ‘change’ and here we are informing that the date has been changed to May 3, 2023. For those who have procrastinated, this will be a relief! Keep in mind that US air travelers will be required to present this credential to board a domestic flight. The [Real ID](#)

[Act](#) was a domestic security program to help prevent terrorist attacks and reduce the number of licenses granted to undocumented immigrants. Nationwide 118 million Real ID-compliant drivers licenses and identification cards have been issued. The delays of course are due to pandemic-related DMV closures. Virginia has still deemed this requirement as “not mandatory” – but do consider if you’ll ever want to fly again (after May 3, 2023). Still true: a US Passport and/or a Military ID are acceptable substitutes for a domestic flight. Everything in the Before Times seems to have been so much easier!!!

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## Amazon Fresh Grocery Store Opens Thursday

[Alexandria Living Magazine](#), May 22, 2021

**The Alexandria area's first Amazon grocery store opened May 27 and offers a different experience with app-based checkout.**

The Amazon Fresh grocery store in the Festival at Manchester Lakes Shopping Center in Franconia opened Thursday, May 27.

The grocery store is opened in part of the former Shoppers grocery store, which closed in early 2020.

Amazon described the shopping experience this way:

"Our checkout-free shopping experience is made possible by the same types of technologies used in self-driving cars: computer vision, sensor fusion, and deep learning. Just Walk Out Technology automatically detects when products are taken from or returned to the shelves and keeps track of them in a virtual cart. When you're done shopping, you can just leave the store. Later, we'll send you a receipt and charge your Amazon account. No lines, no checkout. (No, seriously.)"

Stay tuned for the next stores scheduled to open at Potomac Yards and Baileys Crossroads.

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## ***SUMMERTIME = LOTS OF SUNSCREEN***



In case you're planning to go to the beach this summer – and in case you didn't see the "Tips" from the Giant pharmacy .... (1) you need to reapply an ounce every two or so hours; (2) avoid sunscreens with "oxybenzone", a hormone disrupter and allergen; (3) the FDA says that sunscreens with SPF over 50 aren't worth the possible increased cost or your relying on their being "better;" (4) sunscreens actually have a "use-by" date! Check yours for an expiration (i.e., toss the one from last year!); (5) use a sunscreen that protects against UVA and UVB rays; (6) "sport" and "water resistant" are just labels; reapply as soon as you're out of the water; (7) sunscreen alone won't protect completely; wear protective clothing, too!

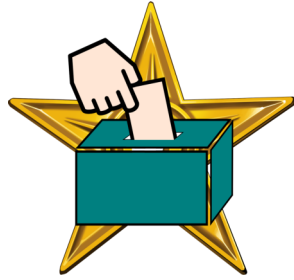
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## ***SUMMERTIME IS VACATION TIME !!***

It's that time of year – again! – when **Knolls News** takes a break. And well-deserved, if we may say so! Yes, we'll be back with an August edition, and return then for another year of reporting enthusiastically all of the things all of us need to know about living in and enjoying our wonderful life here at AKW. Even though most of us may be still in some isolation, try to have a joyful, safe and relaxing Summer and we'll talk to you again at the first of August.







**Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> 6:00 am – 7:00 pm**  
Democratic Primary  
The OLYMPUS Condominiums  
6301 Stevenson Ave, Alexandria, VA

**And another GREAT holiday for June!**

**World Giraffe Day!** (June 21) The longest day in the Northern Hemisphere is the day to celebrate the animal with the longest neck. The once-plentiful species is estimated to have lost about 30 percent of its numbers in Africa in the past 30 years. Visit the website [giraffeconservation.org](http://giraffeconservation.org) to learn more and spread the word about protecting these majestic animals!



Since we won't have a **Knolls News** next month, we're including your July Holiday .... (and don't forget to remember this!!)

**I Forgot Day – July 2** Did you forget to tell Gramma on her birthday, or return the soccer ball you borrowed from a friend a year ago? Today is a good day to clean the slate! Make a list of things you meant to do but forgot. Work through the list and don't get discouraged if you don't accomplish everything in one day. Just remember to keep the list in a place where you'll see it. Otherwise .... *You know what will happen!!*



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## Important Dates in June

- Budget and Finance Committee Meeting      Friday, June 4, 9:00 am\*
- Primary Voting (The Olympus)              Tuesday, June 8, 6:00 am – 7:00 pm
- Board Meeting                                      Tuesday, June 8, 7:00 pm\*

The Board Meeting agenda is available in the Office the Friday before the meeting.

\* Information on accessing the electronic meetings will be provided in advance.

## 2021 Board Meeting Dates

June 8	July 13
August 10	September 14
October 12	November 9
December 14	



## Important Phone Numbers

Guard Mobile	571-565-5591
AKW Office Phone	703-751-7541
AKW Office email	<a href="mailto:office@akwcondo.com">office@akwcondo.com</a>
AKW Fax	703-751-2136
A-1 Towing	703-971-2600
CMC Emergency	301-446-2635
Police Non-Emergency	703-746-4444
Police Emergency	911
City of Alexandria Info	311 or 703-746-4311



## Board of Directors

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