

 **Alexandria Celebrates Women**

 **JULY 2021 Newsletter**

 **Editor:** Gayle Converse

**“The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”**

 ***- 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution***

 **Welcome** to the July 2021 newsletter of Alexandria Celebrates Women (ACW). As summer gets into full swing, the month of July features a variety of national observances. American Independence Day, July 4th is also [National Barbecued Spareribs Day](http://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-barbecued-spareribs-day-july-4/) and [National Caesar Salad Day](http://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-caesar-salad-day-july-4/). July 24 celebrates Amelia Earhart. July 25 is National Parent’s Day. As the nation (hopefully) continues its emergence from the COVID-19 pandemic, July is designated as National Family Reunion Month.

Because it became necessary to postpone most commemorations in 2020, *National Women’s Suffrage Year* is being celebrated from August 2020-August 2021. ACW will keep historic information, including the milestones in the fight for women’s suffrage, in our newsletters this year – **including the Alexandria Celebrates Women August 18, 2021 dedication of the new historic marker at South Saint Asaph and Prince Streets**. Additional information regarding this upcoming outdoor event can be found in this newsletter, along with details regarding Alexandria’s women of past and current history in the ACW monthly *Alexandria Times* column and on the ACW Website [Alexandria Celebrates Women](https://alexandriacelebrateswomen.com/)

We hope that you, your family and friends are well and safe during this time and we hope the and educational links and stories that follow can serve as a part of a plan to encourage your family’s enthusiasm for American history.

 **History**



[**Equal Pay Act Becomes Law**](https://www.bing.com/search?q=equal%20pay%20act%20of%201963&FORM=OTDHYL)

On June 9, 1963, in an attempt to end [gender-based wage discrimination](https://www.bing.com/search?q=gender%20wage%20discrimination&FORM=OTDHYL), President Kennedy signs the [Equal Pay Act of 1963](https://www.bing.com/search?q=equal%20pay%20act%20of%201963&FORM=OTDHYL) into law. The Act states that gender may not be used as a basis for paying lower or higher wages jobs performed under similar working conditions and requiring equal skill, effort and responsibility.

**Twenty-sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution**

Fifty years ago, the 26th Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified -- prohibiting the states and the federal government from using age as a reason for denying the right to vote to citizens of the United States who are at least eighteen years old. It was proposed by Congress on March 23, 1971, and three-fourths of the states ratified it by July 1, 1971.

**U.S. Quarters to Feature Women**

Starting in 2022, notable women will be the face of U.S. quarters, including Maya Angelou, Wilma Mankiller (the first female elected to serve as Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation) and Sally Ride.
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2021/06/18/us-mint-quarters-feature-maya-angelou-sally-ride-notable-women/7744158002/>

 **Events & Items of Interest**

**New Women’s History Walk Coming this Summer!**

Discover where Alexandria’s women of the past and present have lived, worked and made history on Alexandria Celebrates Women’s new Women’s History Walk! The extensive self-guided journey is designed to enable history seekers to explore as little or as much as you like at your own pace. The new Walk includes an extended tour. ACW will post the route soon!

**Replay of Celebrate Women Awards**

Alexandria Celebrates Women was proud to host the first *Celebrate Women Awards* March 29, 2021.The virtual event honored women who have had a hand in caring for all Alexandrians during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Awards show benefited the Alexandria Domestic Violence Safehouse – a place of refuge for many women impacted by the pandemic. When women and their families are able to leave the shelter, **there is a need for housewares -- silverware, pots and pans, dishes.  You can help by clicking here** <http://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/effb54910b8145f2ba507c26a79eb5a6>

A replay of the Awards show can be found at [Alexandria Celebrates Women](https://alexandriacelebrateswomen.com/).

 **Historic Marker Dedication!**

*South St. Asaph and Prince Streets*

**Alexandria Celebrates Women** is honored to have worked with the Office of Historic Alexandria for the creation and recent installation of a new “tabletop” marker in Old Town. The marker is designated as part of the *Alexandria Heritage Trail* and is located on the site which housed the Federal District Court in the early 20th century. The third-floor courtroom was located in the old Customs House which stood on the corner of South St. Asaph and Prince Streets in Alexandria. Information is live at Visit Alexandria [Twitter (thread)](https://twitter.com/AlexandriaVA/status/1366508027650711552) and [Instagram Stories](https://www.instagram.com/stories/visitalexva/2520006934241974947/). Please take a moment to visit this exciting piece of our city’s history! A formal dedication is being planned for August 18, 2021 -- the 101st anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. You are invited!

Event time and additional details in upcoming ACW newsletters!

*Suffragist Prisoners at Occoquan:*

*in November 1917, 32 suffragists were arrested in Washington, D.C. for allegedly “blocking traffic” on a Pennsylvania Avenue sidewalk. They were sent to the District of Columbia workhouse at nearby Occoquan, Virginia. The women were subjected to undue hardships and torture, resulting in the infamous November 14, 1917 “Night of Terror.” A number of women prisoners were threatened, beaten and hurled against walls and floors. A few days later, force feedings began. The suffragist prisoners were eventually freed from Occoquan following a hearing in Alexandria’s federal courthouse.*

ACW greatly appreciates your help in achieving recognition of the women who bravely endured imprisonment and brutality in their efforts to gain the vote for all women – across the nation and here in Alexandria.

**We would like to take this opportunity to thank the American Association of University Women (AAUW) for its generous $200. donation to help make this historic marker a reality.**

***THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DONATED!***

**From the National Women’s History Museum (NWHM)**

Enjoy the NWHM free virtual museum at [www.womenshistory.org](https://click.everyaction.com/k/31733035/293584819/-1447255758?refcode=NWHM_EM_TY_1MO_210701_1_1&refcode2=d859415a-87da-eb11-a7ad-501ac57b8fa7&nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9FQS9FQTAwNy8xLzkwNTYxIiwNCiAgIkRpc3RyaWJ1dGlvblVuaXF1ZUlkIjogImQ4NTk0MTVhLTg3ZGEtZWIxMS1hN2FkLTUwMWFjNTdiOGZhNyIsDQogICJFbWFpbEFkZHJlc3MiOiAiZ2Nwcm9kQGJlbGxzb3V0aC5uZXQiDQp9&hmac=13KeBiFkmjlF9t4zpeP82YGosXbOxOENZp88MRjGu5U=&emci=ccbf312f-86da-eb11-a7ad-501ac57b8fa7&emdi=d859415a-87da-eb11-a7ad-501ac57b8fa7&ceid=13040861)

 **NEWS**

***Alexandria Times*, June 24, 2021 –** “A Loathsome Place” [06\_24\_2020-Alex\_Times\_WEB.pdf (alextimes.com)](https://alextimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/06_24_2020-Alex_Times_WEB.pdf)

***Business Insider*, July 1, 2021 --** [A pregnant heptathlete competed in Olympic trials in nearly 100-degree heat to show what women are capable of (msn.com)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/sports/golf/a-pregnant-heptathlete-competed-in-olympic-trials-in-nearly-100-degree-heat-to-show-what-women-are-capable-of/ar-AALFvzC?ocid=msedgdhp&pc=U531)

***Washington Post*, June 8, 2021 – “**7 Ways to Better Juggle Work and Family”

[7 Ways to Better Juggle Work and Family (washingtonpost.com)](https://jobs.washingtonpost.com/article/7-ways-to-better-juggle-work-and-family/)

***New York Times,* June 7, 2021** – “In Her Words: ‘Painfully slow’” [Surprise: Women and Minorities Are Still Underrepresented in Corporate Boardrooms - The New York Times (nytimes.com)](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/06/07/us/women-minorities-underrepresented-corporate-boardrooms.html)

 **COVID-19**

**From the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office on Women’s Health**

For the latest COVID-19 guidelines, please visit:

[Office on Women's Health | womenshealth.gov](https://www.womenshealth.gov/office-womens-health)

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html)

[Choosing Safer Activities | CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.html)

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 **Career**

**Most** **essential** workers in the United States are *women*. If you are experiencing changes in your routine – whether currently working from home or being asked to return to your workplace, you might be worrying about finances and quarantine fatigue. Additional worry about mental health and risk of exposure to COVID-19 have affected most of us.

We salute those of you who work in essential industries, including cleaning services, grocery and drug stores, farmer’s markets, transportation, federal, state and local government, active-duty U.S. Military and Reserves, teaching, U.S. Post Office, and other delivery businesses. We thank the region’s brave first responders and their equally brave families: medical personnel, firefighters, law enforcement, and City and County maintenance crews and volunteers – everyone!

**If you are looking for employment:** The City of Alexandria's Workforce Development Center (WDC), a partner of the American Job Center network, offers staffing solutions that provide businesses with employees who are skilled and ready to work. As a certified One Stop Center, WDC serves a variety of skill levels from those with advanced degrees and years of experience to those with limited education and experience. It provides services and resources for job seekers including access to the WDC Career Center, career readiness workshops, career assessments and customized hiring events. <https://www.alexandriava.gov/WorkforceDevelopment> <https://www.vec.virginia.gov/alexandria>

**If you are a business looking for employees:** The WDC provides a range of business services at no cost to businesses, including job placement, recruitment, labor market information and certified Business Services Specialists to assist in workforce planning. WDC operates the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare (VIEW) Program, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA - Adult Employment, Dislocated Worker and Youth and Young Adult), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment Training (SNAPET), TeensWork! (public and private programs), Refugee Employment Program, Disability Employment and Veteran Services. <https://www.vec.virginia.gov/alexandria>

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/WorkforceDevelopment>

**If you are looking for emergency child care:** The Alexandria Emergency Child Care Collaborative supports all families in need of child care and works to match them with open providers. [COVID-19 Emergency Child Care: Information for Parents and Providers | City of Alexandria, VA](https://www.alexandriava.gov/dchs/childrenfamily/default.aspx?id=115165)

 **The Basics**

The **19th Amendment to the United States Constitution** (Amendment XIX – often referred to an the “Susan B. Anthony Amendment”) granted American women the right to vote, a right known as women’s suffrage. The Amendment prohibits the states and the federal government from denying the [right to vote](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suffrage) to citizens of the United States on the basis of sex. When the Amendment was ratified August 18, 1920, it ended almost a century of protest. <https://www.history.com/topics/womens-history/19th-amendment-1>

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***National* Key Dates:**

* **1848:** **Seneca Falls Convention – National-level launch of the movement for women’s rights**
* Following the Convention, the demand for the vote became a centerpiece of the women’s rights movement. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott, along with Susan B. Anthony and other activists, raised public awareness and lobbied the government to grant voting rights to women.
* **August 18, 1920: Tennessee legislature ratifies 19th Amendment**
* Tennessee becomes the last of the necessary 36 states to secure ratification.
* **August 26, 1920: 19th Amendment officially certified by the U.S. Secretary of State**
* U.S. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby **certified** the 19th Amendment and made the adoption of the Amendment official. Every year on this date, we celebrate ***Women’s Equality Day*** in commemoration.

***Virginia* Key Dates**

* **November 27, 1909** - A group of women, including Ellen Glasgow, Mary Johnston, Kate Langley Bosher, Adèle Clark, Nora Houston, Kate Waller Barrett, and Lila Meade Valentine, found the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia.
* **1917-- Women suffragists force fed at the “Occoquan” Workhouse**
* **November 23, 1917 -- Suffragist prisoners released from Workhouse to attend hearing in Federal Court in Alexandria, VA** Judge ruled those women protesters had been unlawfully imprisoned at Workhouse
* **August 1920** - Virginia women gain the right to vote after the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution becomes law.
* **1924** - Kate Waller Barrett of Alexandria serves as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention.
* **February 21, 1952** - The Virginia General Assembly ratifies the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, thirty-two years after it became law.

**Resources**

* **Virginia Museum of History and Culture** [https://www.virginiahistory.org/what-you-can-see/story-virginia/explore-story-virginia/1876-1924/virginia-and-women’s-suffrage](https://www.virginiahistory.org/what-you-can-see/story-virginia/explore-story-virginia/1876-1924/virginia-and-women%E2%80%99s-suffrage)
* **Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association** <https://suffragistmemorial.org/suffragist-memorial-site-surroundings/>
* **Women’s Suffrage Museum (Lucy Burns Museum)** **“From the White House to the Workhouse to the Franchise”** <https://workhousemuseums.org/history/importance-of-womens-suffrage/>
* **Encyclopedia Virginia** “**Woman Suffrage in Virginia”** <https://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Woman_Suffrage_in_Virginia>
* **William & Mary (W&M) Women's Law Society “**[**Women's Suffrage in Virginia”**](http://wmpeople.wm.edu/site/page/wmws/womenssuffrageinvirginia) <http://wmpeople.wm.edu/site/page/wmws/womenssuffrageinvirginia>
* **League of Women Voters of Fairfax Area (LWVFA)** <https://www.lwv-fairfax.org/>
* **League of Women Voters Centennial** <http://www.lwvnca.org/Centennial.html>
* **The National Women’s History Museum** “Crusade for the Vote: Suffrage Resource Center”

 https://[www.crusadeforthevote.org/educational-resources](http://www.crusadeforthevote.org/educational-resources)

 https://[www.crusadeforthevote.org/partners](http://www.crusadeforthevote.org/partners)

 <https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/online-exhibits>

 <https://www.womenshistory.org/exhibits/creating-female-political-culture>

* [**Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cconverse%5CDocuments%5CAdobe%5CWomen%27s%20Suffrage%20Centennial%20Commission) <https://www.womensvote100.org/about>
* **Suffrage Sisters***media@womensvote100.org*
* **General inquiries** | staff@womensvote100.org
* **Virginia History** <https://wmpeople.wm.edu/site/page/wmws/womenssuffrageinvirginia>

*Alexandria Celebrates Women (ACW) recognizes the accomplishments and contributions of Alexandria, Virginia’s women of the past, present and future. The volunteer 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organization acknowledges the distinguished history of Alexandria’s heroines while celebrating the empowerment of Alexandria’s modern woman.* [*https://alexandriacelebrateswomen.com/*](https://alexandriacelebrateswomen.com/)

For more information contact Pat Miller at AlexandriaCelebratesWomen@gmail.com

 