

# Silver Streak

Vol. 5 No. 3

Senior Services of Alexandria

Fall 2004

## Eileen Longstreet Takes the Helm at Senior Services

The Board of Directors of Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA) has announced the appointment of Eileen Longstreet as Executive Director of the organization, effective August 30. This announcement has been made with considerable pleasure and satisfaction by Board President Bill Harris and Search Committee Chair Gary Selmeczi. Ms. Longstreet will replace the interim acting director, Moya Atkinson, who "stepped into the breach" when needed and whose service has been deeply appreciated.

Ms. Longstreet brings to the position a wealth of experience in health care, insurance, communications,



strategic planning and business development. A key to her success is an understanding of demographic variances in needs, attitudes, and income levels which, when applied, promises to have a positive effect on older Alexandrians.

A successful business-woman, she has long planned to find means with which to "give back," and states: "Senior Services of Alexandria, with its reputation for quality services and its deep roots in the community, offers just the opportunity of which I have dreamed: to use knowledge and skills acquired in business to serve seniors, a population I enjoy serving and for whom I have enormous respect." Ms. Longstreet said further that she undertakes her new role as Executive Director with zest and enthusiasm to serve SSA's mission of dedication to the well-being and independence of Alexandria's seniors.

---

## Money Management Program

Under SSA auspices, June Hoyer directs the Arlington Money Management Program, which is grant-funded and designed to assist residents 60 years and older who need assistance with money management. This includes such things as writing checks, establishing various financial accounts, balancing checkbooks, sorting and paying bills, and managing basic living

expenses. The program targets those people who are in the greatest economic and social need. It is not designed to give advice on investments, trusts, etc., or to provide tax advice or preparation.

As funds for the Guardianship Program in Alexandria have dwindled, a money management program for Alexandrians, such as the one described above, is

considered all the more crucial for those in need. Efforts by SSA will be made to institute such a grant-funded program for the City's older citizens. The instances where this program has benefited the elderly in Arlington are well-documented and indicate the value of this assistance for those who cannot manage their financial affairs for themselves.

Contributions have been made to Senior Services in the name of the following friends and loved ones.

In Memory of  
Samuel Elliot  
By Mrs. Ernestine List  
Karen Duncker  
By Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. Parsons  
Karen Duncker  
By Mrs. Claire R. Parsons

In Honor of  
Judy Drewry  
By Capt. & Mrs. Wm. C. Zobel

### Unforgettable gifts

I/We are enclosing a gift for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is from:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

To honor \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

To remember \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your gift to

Senior Services, 121 North St. Asaph Street,  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

For more information, please call 703-836-4414  
or visit [www.seniorservicesalex.org](http://www.seniorservicesalex.org)

## Medicare-Approved Drug Cards

Seniors: To get help in choosing the Medicare-approved drug discount program card that is best for you, call 1-800-MEDICARE any time day or night to get answers to questions you may have. Calls will take an average of 10 to 15 minutes. Then you will be sent an enrollment form along with instructions.

## The Alexandria Calendar 2005



December, 2005

Production of The Alexandria Calendar 2005, including thirteen new pen-and-ink drawings of Old Town scenes, is underway. There is still time to have names imprinted as Patrons and Benefactors, though the Page Sponsorships have all been committed. The deadline for such imprinting is October 1, 2004. Produced annually by Senior Services as a fund-raiser since 1980, the Calendar will be available in November for holiday gift giving and will be sold for \$10.00 each -- much less in quantity. For information as to specific costs and availability, call Calendar Coordinator, Judy Drewry at (703) 370-1948.

Seniors are invited to attend the Senior Circle at Landmark Mall -- the last Thursday of every month at 10:00 a.m. in Center Court -- Sept. 30, Oct. 28 and December 23. (Because of Thanksgiving, date for November will be announced.) Enjoy seminars and events focused on senior living -- and refreshments! For further information, call Landmark Mall Management Office at (703) 354-8405

## Dealing with Elder Abuse

Elder abuse, in nursing homes as well as in private situations, is one of the most shocking crimes of our times and apparently on the increase. In acknowledgement of this fact is the new Virginia State law, introduced by Alexandria Delegate Brian J. Moran and signed into law by Virginia Governor Warner, which raises punishment for elder abuse to a

Class 4 Felony. In this connection, the Governor launched a "Protect and Respect" initiative to educate seniors as to ways to maintain their personal safety.

On the national level, both Senator John Warner of Virginia and Congressman Jim Moran of Virginia's 8th District have joined in sponsoring legislation to "promote Elder Justice." Both

Senate Bill 333 and House Bill 2490, providing federal sources to help communities deal with this problem, have been bogged down in committees of the Senate and House for a year. Senior Services has urged these Members of Congress to do whatever they can to see that the bills are reported to their respective Floors for positive action.

---

## Board Member Honored

The Alexandria City Commission on Aging honored Board Member Judy Drewry at its annual award ceremony in May by presenting her with its highest award, the Annie B. Rose Lifetime Achievement Award. Ms. Drewry was recognized not only for her eighteen years of service in promoting employment opportunities for seniors, but also for coordinating, producing and selling the



Alexandria Calendar, now a traditional fund-raising feature of the organization.

When accepting her Lifetime Achievement Award, with typical humor and energy, Drewry commented, "Lifetime achievement? Does that mean it's over? I still have a lot to do." Far from being over, as a member of the Board and an officer on the Executive Committee, she continues to bring vitality, continuity, respect and dedication to a unique service in Northern Virginia.

Story by Moya Atkinson

---

## New Voting Machines for Alexandria

When Alexandrians go to the polls on November 2nd they will encounter new voting machines called "eSlate." These will replace the aging optical scan system and meet federal mandates included in the "Help America Vote Act" passed by Congress.

In the earlier Alexandria primaries this year none of the 225 new machines malfunctioned and election officials reported few problems experienced by voters in using them. Each precinct opened on time and reported results within

30 minutes of poll closing. The machines are backed up with 18-hour batteries in the event of power failure. For more information, or to request an absentee ballot, call (703) 838-4050, or use web address [www.alexandriavoter.org](http://www.alexandriavoter.org).

---

## SSA Annual Meeting

The Senior Services Annual Meeting and election of officers was held June 23, at which Vice Mayor Del Pepper addressed the members and special guests, summarizing eloquently the ten most significant concerns and actions of City Council during the past year. The luncheon meeting

took place at Goodwin House, under the auspices of Board Member Gary Selmeczi with Event Chair Susan Winn, where the assembled were treated to especially delicious food.

In conducting the election of officers, President Bill Harris welcomed new Executive

Committee members Susan Winn and Mary Jane Nugent. He also welcomed four new members to the Board of Directors, presented by Nominating Committee Chair J. Howard Middleton: Councilman Paul Smedberg, Constance Frogale, Claudia Kostel and Ruby Tucker.



121 North St. Asaph Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ALEXANDRIA, VA  
PERMIT NO. 253

**Our Mission:**

As Senior Services of Alexandria, our mission is to provide accessible, comprehensive and affordable services to seniors within the City of Alexandria and adjacent areas, and to promote the independence and self-sufficiency which enable seniors to age with dignity in their own community.

Please designate Senior Services in the United Way and Combined Federal Campaign. Agency #8311



**Whom to Call for Senior Services**

Senior Services of Alexandria ..... 703-836-4414  
(Fax) 703-836-1252  
(e-mail) directorssa@pop.net  
(web site) www.seniorservicesalex.org

Executive Director: Eileen Longstreet ..... 703-836-4414 Ext. 2

Administrative Assistant: Marie Joiner ..... 703-836-4414 Ext. 0

Employment and Home Care ..... 703-894-0311

Employment Counselor: Mary Alice Butler-Brown

Guardianship/Conservatorship ..... 703-836-4414 Ext. 4

Program Director: Moya Atkinson

Transportation

DOT ..... 703-836-5222

Program Managers: Mary Louise Simpson and Tom Smith

Reservationists: Dorothy Carter, Addie Frundt, Verdine Holmes, and Camilo Marquez.

Senior Taxi ..... 703-836-4414 Ext. 1

Program Manager: Marie Joiner

Reservationists:

Dorothy Carter, Charlotte Drummond, Camilo Marquez and Beatrice Taylor

"The Alexandria Calendar"

Judy Drewry ..... 703-370-1948



**Board of Directors 2003-2004**

**Officers**

William P. Harris  
President

Susan Winn  
Vice President

Mary Jane Nugent  
Secretary

Judy Drewry  
Corresponding Secretary

Paul Van de Water  
Treasurer

**Members**

Sandy Calhoun

John Davies

Alfred P. Duncker

Arnold G. Fink

Constance Frogale

Poul Hertel

Claudia Kostel

Sabrina L. Reilly

Paul Smedberg

H. Arthur Sauer

Gary B. Selmeczi

Dorothy Thomas

Ruby Tucker