

Alexandria Visitors Center Grounds Pop with Color, Thanks to Garden Club

Renovation was a model public/private partnership, with the city and garden club working together at every phase of the project.



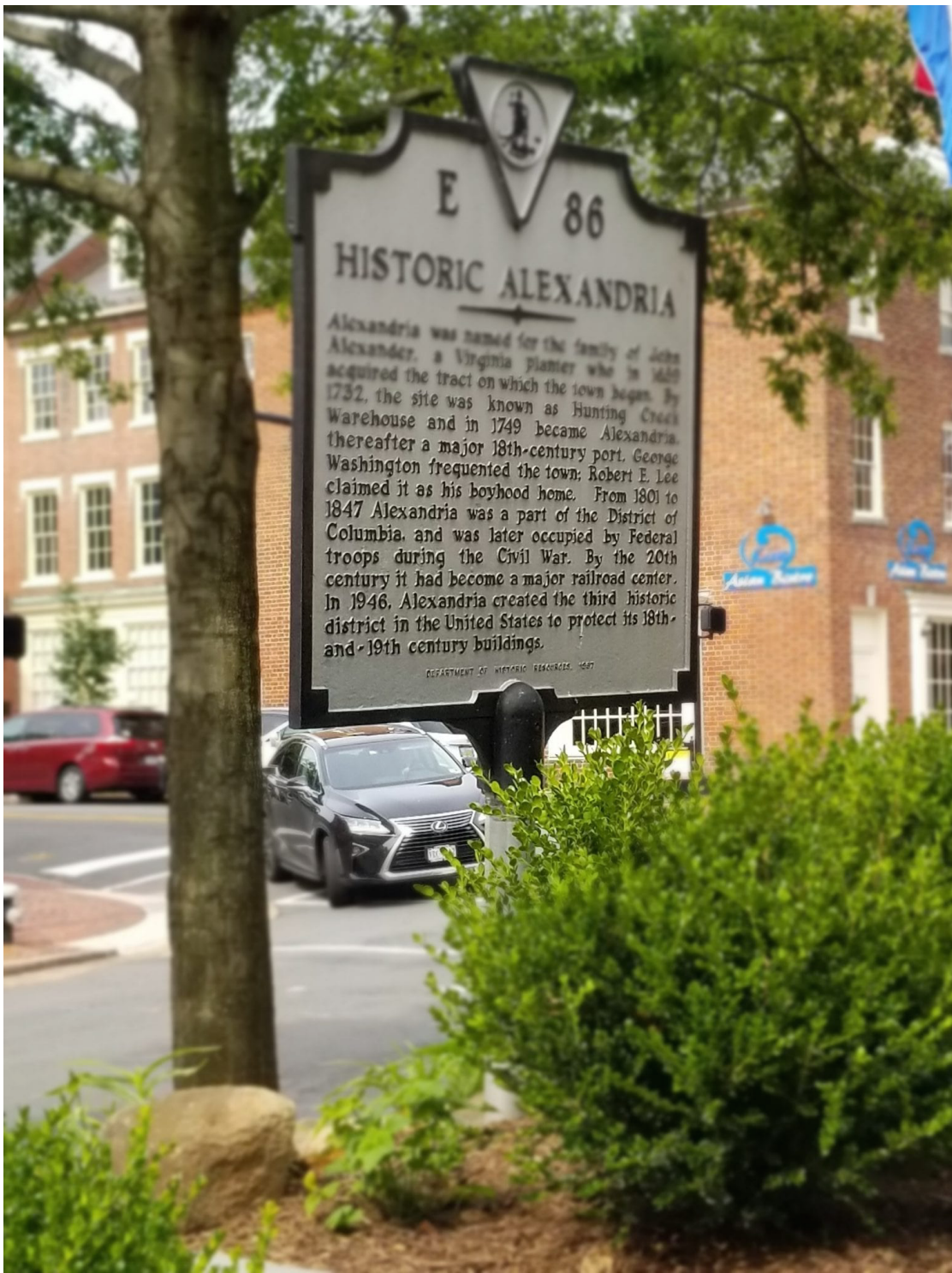
Mary Wadland  • June 18, 2019

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ALEXANDRIA, VA – **The Garden Club of Alexandria** celebrated the completion of the Alexandria Tourist Center, Ramsay House garden renovation with a ribbon cutting ceremony on sunny Wednesday, June 12.

The garden project began over three years ago as a gift to the **Alexandria Visitors Center**. The completed garden includes new patios with memorial bricks, an accessible pathway and patio, native and sustainable plants to provide year-round color and the only cell phone charging station in Alexandria's parks.





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HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA

Alexandria was named for the family of John Alexander, a Virginia planter who in 1689 acquired the tract on which the town began. By 1732, the site was known as Hunting Creek Warehouse and in 1749 became Alexandria, thereafter a major 18th-century port. George Washington frequented the town; Robert E. Lee claimed it as his boyhood home. From 1801 to 1847 Alexandria was a part of the District of Columbia, and was later occupied by Federal troops during the Civil War. By the 20th century it had become a major railroad center. In 1946, Alexandria created the third historic district in the United States to protect its 18th- and -19th century buildings.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES 1987





**This tree is for all
to enjoy.**

**Anne, Don and
Chance Kelly**









VICI & TOM
BOGUESS







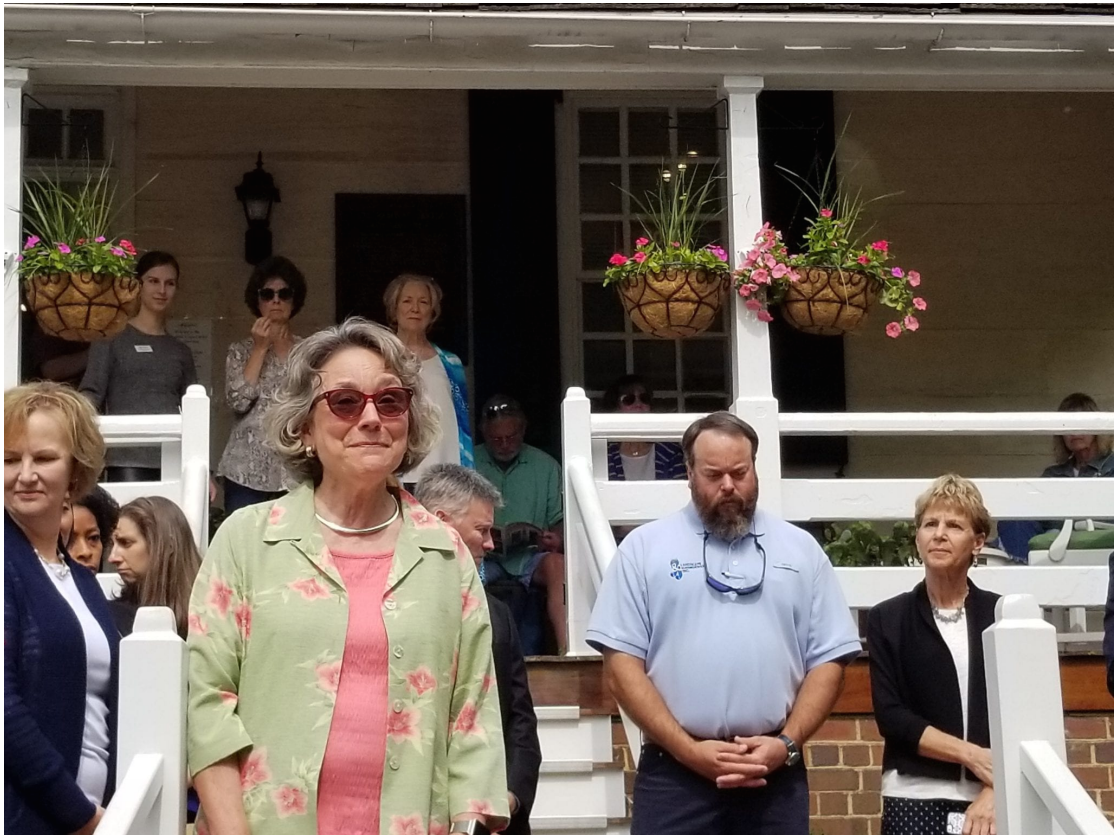




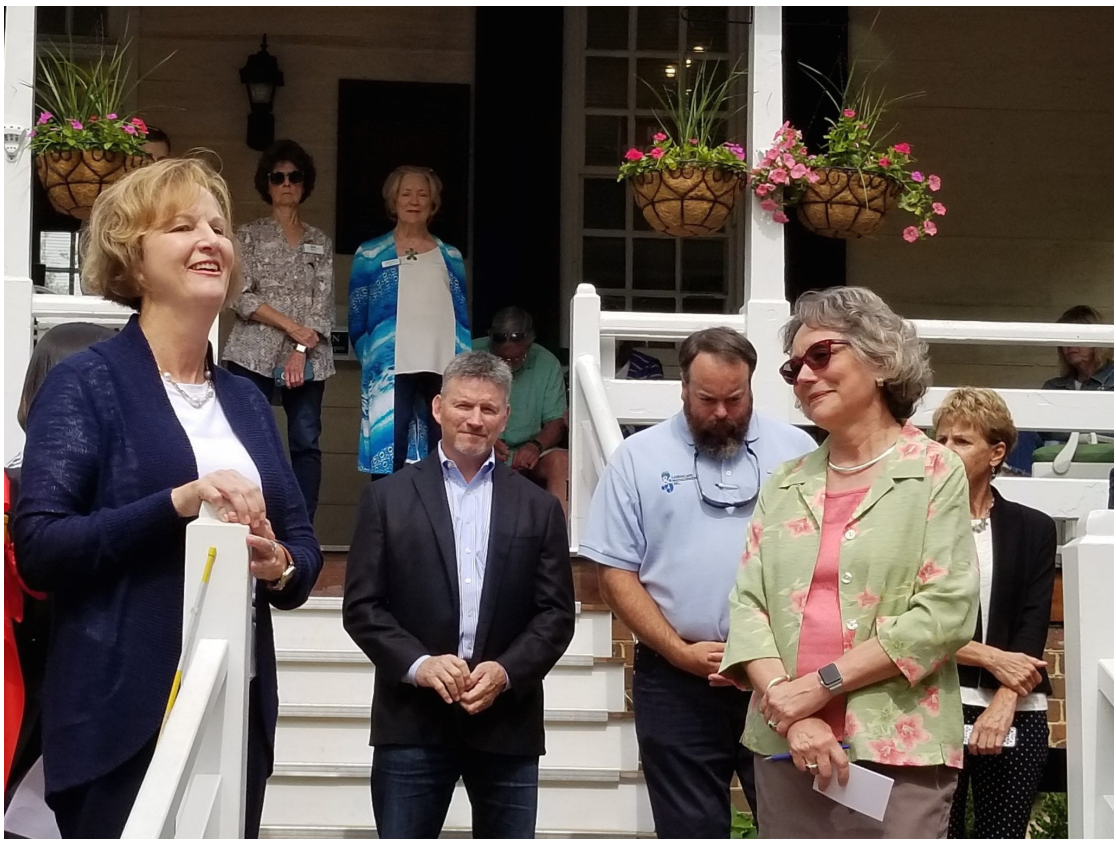
The
Enchanted Florist
Loves Alexandria



























Over 70 guests gathered to hear remarks from Vice-Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, Councilman Mo Seifeldein and Tom Kaiden from Visit Alexandria. They applauded the renovation as a model public/private partnership, with the city and garden club working together at every phase of the project, from approvals to installation and completion.

The city's **Parknership program** provided a grant that contributed to the fund-raising effort from the project beginning. **Visit Alexandria's** steady support was an effective force for the garden's transformation. The Garden Club of Alexandria was honored to receive support from Historic Alexandria Foundation and the Virginia Sargeant Reynolds Foundation, both of which were crucial to the success of the Ramsay House garden renovation.

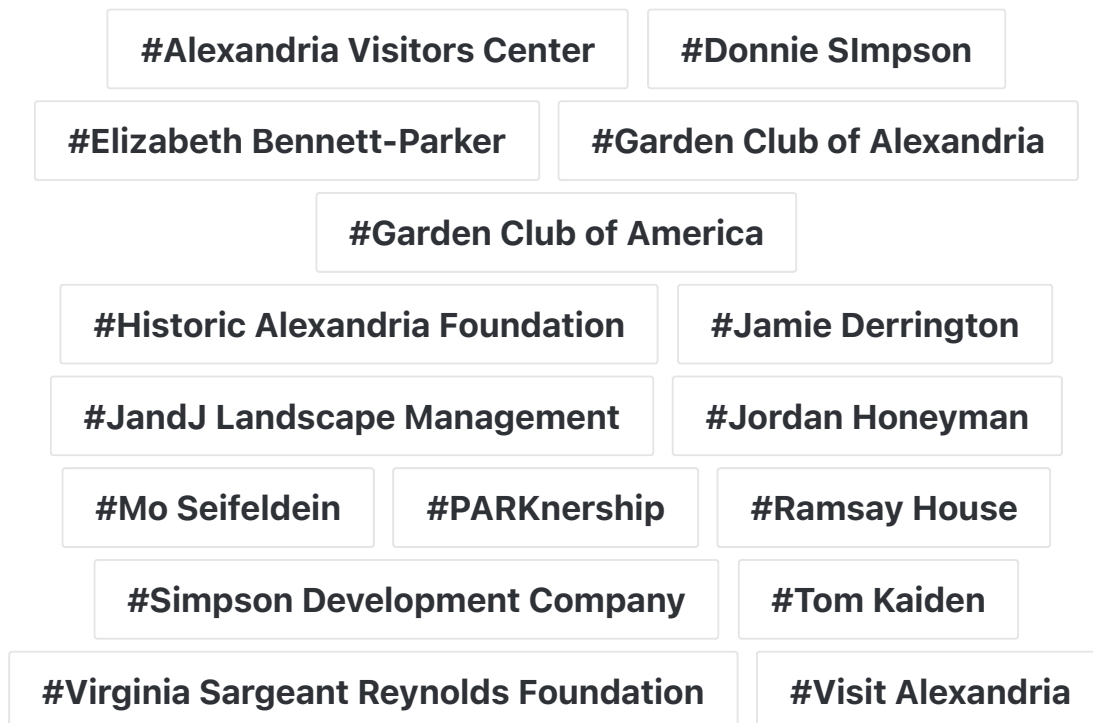
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The ribbon cutting ceremony concluded with awards from the **Garden Club of America** to the renovation's professional team. Jamie Derrington of **JandJ Landscape Management** received the GCA's Club commendation for Horticulture and Joan Honeyman of **Jordan Honeyman, LA** received a Club award for Historic Preservation. Donnie Simpson of **Simpson Development Company**, whose grandfather and father had both worked on Ramsay House renovations, received the GCA Club Commendation for Civic Improvement.

The City of Alexandria along with the Garden Club of Alexandria welcomes residents, visitors and guests to visit and enjoy the Ramsay House Garden at the Alexandria Tourist Center.



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