

Alexandria Times

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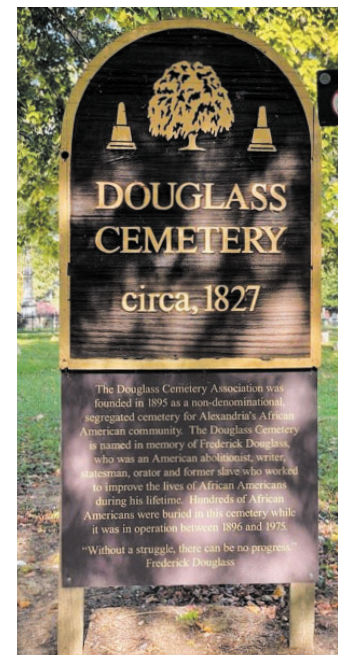
Juneteenth in Alexandria

On June 19, we celebrate Juneteenth which commemorates the end of slavery in the United States.

Join the Juneteenth celebration at the Alexandria Black History Museum with “Storytelling for Young Historians” at 10 a.m. Children ages 5 to 8 will enjoy a Juneteenth-themed story and craft. This is a repeat of the session held at Alexandria Library last Saturday.

Make a difference this Juneteenth. Families are invited from 9 to 11 a.m. to help clean up the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Penny Hill Cemeteries. Established in 1895 as a non-denominational African American cemetery, the Frederick Douglass Memorial Cemetery is the final resting place for 2,256 people. It is the largest African American Cemetery in Alexandria. In use through 1975, historical documents reveal that fewer than 700 grave markers are visible today. Cleaning the cemeteries will honor those who endured the many years of slavery while celebrating the freedom they fought for.

Meet at Frederick Douglass Memorial Cemetery, 1367-1473, Wilkes St., and walk to Penny Hill Cemetery. Come as you are or wear red, black and/or green to represent the Pan African Flag. The Department



PHOTOS/ALEXANDRIA BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM

The Frederick Douglass Cemetery in Alexandria (left). A sign at the entrance to the cemetery (right).

of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities will provide grabber tools and trash bags.

At a pre-Juneteenth remembrance ceremony slated for this Saturday from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Douglass Cemetery, supporters and volunteers are invited to place purple ribbons of remembrance on the gravestones and honor those buried. The event is in partnership with the Social Responsibility Group and the Friends of Douglass Cemetery.

Visit the Project Web Page at alexandriava.gov/historic-sites/douglass-

memorial-cemetery for more information.

Market Square will be filled with song from 2 to 3 p.m. on Juneteenth as the Washington Revels Jubilee Voices ensemble perform a free concert, weather permitting. Committed to the preservation of African American history and traditions, the audience will experience songs and stories of struggle and perseverance, trials, and triumphs, as expressed through a cappella music, drama and dance.

The Alexandria Black History Museum and the Freedom House Museum will have spe-

cial Juneteenth hours from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Stop by and see the new Black Lives Remembered exhibition and the re-worked Before the Spirits are Swept Away exhibition featuring paintings by Sherry Sanabria at the Alexandria Black History Museum.

Learn about the tragedy of the domestic slave trade and see the second half of the Sanabria exhibition at the Freedom House Museum.

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