



Courtesy photo.

Alexandria's Legendary Acoustic Jam Band, **Free Flowing Musical Experience** with Scott Fallon and Gregg Park.

FREE FLOWING MUSICAL EXPERIENCE – ALEXANDRIA'S LEGENDARY ACOUSTIC JAM BAND

BY BOBBY FRANKLIN

A recent article by *Money* magazine brought newfound fame to Alexandria as a tourist destination. Known mostly for its boutique shopping, history, and proximity to Washington, DC, and Mount Vernon, Alexandria has not really stood out for its local music scene. It isn't easy for aspiring musicians to make a name for themselves with few established live music venues and limited performance opportunities, which is why the success of a local two-piece acoustic

band, **Free Flowing Musical Experience**, is testament to the value of hard work, passion, talent, and basic likeability.

What started as a simple two piece acoustic show has grown into one of the more unique acts around. The band jams. Hard. Despite being only a two-piece acoustic set the duo sounds more like a full five-piece band.

"Nobody does what we do," laughed the duo's Gregg Park.

What they do, as their

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LOCALLY-OWNED PAPER GOODS STORE CHALLENGES COMMUNITY TO PUT PEN TO PAPER FOR NATIONAL LETTER WRITING MONTH

Old Town Alexandria local paper goods store *Penny Post* is inviting the area to pick up a pen and paper and take a few minutes to write a letter to someone in April. Why? Because April is National Letter Writing Month – a national campaign that encourages individuals to reconnect with the old art form while promoting joy, creativity, expression, and connection through hand-written correspondence.



Penny Post owner Amy Rutherford

The Alexandria paper store, which offers witty, sophisticated, and quality paper goods, writing materials, desk and office supplies, and wrapping paper, and is owned by Amy Rutherford who also is the owner of popular home décor boutique, Red Barn Mercantile, is launching a series of letter writing pop-up events and activities throughout Alexandria during the month of April. The goal is to

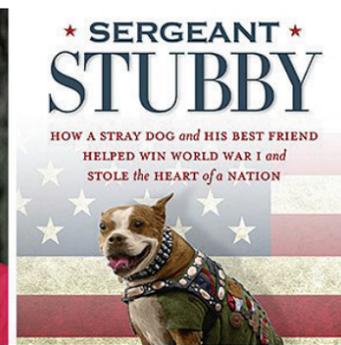
help raise awareness about the power of letters and how they can bring people together in a meaningful way that electronic communication is unable to achieve. Penny Post's hope is to improve writing skills and literacy, as well as to preserve the tradition of writing, sending and receiving letters, postcards and greeting cards. The boutique en-

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ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY WELCOMES ANN BAUSUM DURING ALL ALEXANDRIA READS 2018

The Alexandria Library invites you to take part in our annual one book program, ALL ALEXANDRIA READS. This April, we are reading "Sergeant Stubby: How a Stray Dog and His Best Friend Helped Win World War I and Stole the Heart of a Nation" by Ann Bausum. "Sergeant Stubby" chronicles the life of Stubby, a loyal and lovable stump-tailed terrier, and his human companion, Private James Robert "Bob" Conroy. Everyone is invited to read the featured title and the companion books for younger readers. Check out a copy today and join the conversation!

Author Ann Bausum will join the community on Thursday, April 5 at 7 pm. This free event will take place at the Lee Center, located at



AUTHOR TALK WITH ANN BAUSUM
Thursday, April 5 at 7 PM | Lee Center
(1108 Jefferson Street)

1108 Jefferson Street.

Exciting events for all ages include:

- Lectures
- Story times
- Craft Programs
- Music Programs
- Film Screenings
- Mobile Museum
- Book Discussions

Visit <http://bit.ly/AAR2018> for more information about ALL ALEXANDRIA READS 2018. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming programs and encourage you to let us know what you think of "Sergeant Stubby."