

CONNECTION

Reston ♦ Oak Hill Herndon ♦ Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW

(Left back) The Carstens family of Herndon and their out-of-town friend, (front left and right) the Jaenicke family, joined Clean Fairfax and Aslin Beer Co. in Herndon on April 24, 2021, to celebrate the 51st Anniversary of Earth Day.

Mother Nature and Beer At Earth Daze in Herndon

NEWS, PAGE 8



County Dems Cancel April 23 HD-36 Candidates Debate

NEWS, PAGE 2

Kevin Davis Appointed Fairfax County Chief of Police

NEWS, PAGE 3

CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

PRSRPT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322
POSTAL CUSTOMER
EGR WSS

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
REQUESTED IN HOME 4-29-21

County Dems Cancel April 23 (HD-36) Candidates Debate

Incumbent perplexed as challenger 'is stepping back' from campaign.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Democratic Committee canceled its Friday, April 23, 7- 8 p.m. public debate to be held virtually between incumbent Kenneth "Ken" Plum and challenger Mary K. "Red" Barthel-son. They are candidates in the 2021 state primary for the Virginia House of Delegates District 36. FCDC planned the free virtual event open to the public to allow the candidates an opportunity to describe their experiences, share their visions for the District, and answer voter questions. Early voting for June 8, 2021, primary election began on April 23, the same day as the scheduled debate.

According to Plum, he was given two explanations by the Fairfax County Democratic Committee for the last-minute debate cancellation. Referencing a string of emails Plum provided to the Connection between himself and Jack Kiraly, Executive Director, FCDC, Plum said one explanation was that his opponent, Barthel-son, was "stepping back from her campaign and was not doing events at this time." Plum added, "I do not know what that means; is she quitting the race for good or just temporarily?"

The second explanation provided to Plum at the time he said was that his opponent was not available. "The debate had been scheduled for weeks. If she needed to be away, the debate was going to be virtual and could be accessed from wherever," said Plum.

Plum

Retired, education administration Fairfax County Public Schools 1966-1996; currently the longest-serving member of the House of Delegates., 40 years of service, (1978-1980) (1982-present). Comments: My vision for my district and for the Commonwealth of Virginia is a community where all persons are free from discrimination and have access to educational programs through which they can achieve their full potential; have access to healthy food and health services, housing, and safe neighborhoods; and where the challenges of climate change are addressed and the water and air are pure. |Membership & Affiliation Highlights: United Christian Parish of Reston, Virginia Literacy Foundation (charter board member), Retired Teachers' Association, and Dulles Corridor Rail Association (chairman)
<https://www.kenplum.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/kenneth.plum>
<https://twitter.com/KenPlum1>
Contact -Kenplum@aol.com



SCREENSHOT

Virginia House Democratic incumbent Kenneth "Ken" Plum (D-36), 79, of Reston.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES DISTRICT 36 CANDIDATES DEBATE



The debate that didn't happen.

Plum said he thought the debate should have been held as scheduled. If his opponent chose not to attend "after apparently agreeing to participate, there could be the empty chair." "That is not uncommon [in] debates when one candidate refuses to participate," he said.

Plum said he contacted people who signed up to ask questions and apologized to them. "(I) assured them that I had nothing to do with the cancellation. I encouraged them to contact me at kenplum@aol.com," he said. Reached for comment April 24, the day after the scheduled debate, Barthel-son wrote in an email, "I have not withdrawn."

Barthel-son added she had to "step back from actively campaigning to deal with a personal matter." She said that while she had hoped to be back and engaged in the debate, she could not. "I notified FCDC Thursday. I was uncertain of if or when I would be back to campaigning."

"As of me writing this now (April 24), I expect to be back in the next week," Barthel-son said.

The primary winner will face Republican Matthew Lang in the November general election.

Barthel-son

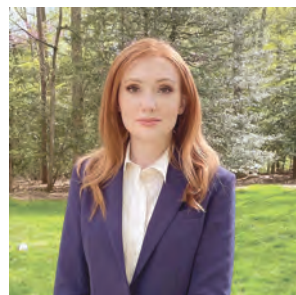


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Virginia House Democratic challenger Mary K. "Red" Barthel-son for District 36, 27, of Reston.

Early years in Fairfax County. Holds master's degree in systems engineering - George Mason University. Work- Data Analyst and Systems Engineer, Employed at M.C. Dean focused on operations research. Listed as an agent-PPE 4 NOVA LLC. Actions: Plans to create education and job opportunities for low-income families by reducing barriers to workforce entry; focused on green initiatives; pledged not to take money from (Richmond-based) Dominion Energy. Comments: My education and work experience as an engineer has prepared me to serve the community...To fight for those who are most vulnerable has always been a cornerstone of my personal beliefs...I would never allow anyone to go without a voice. I envision a future for my community where this is a reality, not talking points...discarded by politicians the next day. Membership & Affiliation Highlights: Former FIRST Robotics mentor. <https://twitter.com/Barthel-son4va>
<https://www.facebook.com/barthel-son4va>
https://barthel-sonforvirginia.com/?page_id=8
Contact-jeff@barthel-sonforvirginia.com

PHOTOS COURTESY OF NEXTSTOP THEATRE



Alex de Bard performing the role of Casey in NextStop Theatre streaming production of "First Date."



Taylor Witt performing the role of Aaron in NextStop Theatre streaming production of "First Date."

NextStop Theatre to Stream Musical 'First Date'

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Where and When

NextStop returns theater to area audiences after more than a year dealing with the consequences of the pandemic. "We are beyond excited to be producing a full-scale production again!" said Evan Hoffmann, artistic director, NextStop Theatre.

"One of the most painful things about the pandemic for artists has been feeling like our ability to create art was almost completely destroyed. Obviously, so many creative workarounds have been developed over the past year," said Hoffmann. "But for everyone working on this project, actually going back into a real theater, developing characters, and telling a complete story has been so incredible."

"First Date" is the musical tale of Casey [played by Alex De Bard] and Aaron [played by Taylor Witt], two young singles who are set up on a blind date by friends and family. They might be seeking something that will last, yet they seemingly have little in common. With the influence and unsolicited advice of their friends and family (that the characters play out in their imagination), along with a matchmaking waiter, and, of course, social media at their fingertips, their first date might be right out of the Washington Post's "Date Lab." Will there be destiny or doom?

The musical "First Date" has nearly twenty musical numbers performed by its six member cast. Paige Rammelkamp is the NextStop music director.

Hoffmann indicated the

NextStop Theatre presents the musical "First Date." This production is a filmed musical that will be available for streaming virtually, April 30 to May 16, 2021. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$25 General admission, one per household. For tickets and information go to www.nextstoptheatre.org. Box Office: 703-481- 5930. "First Date" is Co-Sponsored by Northwest Federal Credit Union & Griffin Owens Insurance

NextStop production of "First Date" has been reimagined for a film/theater hybrid. It is a production to put "a smile on your face and we all need more of that these days...the show features two people having dinner in a restaurant and having an intimate conversation with someone outside of their bubble". What could possibly sound more appealing right now!" added Hoffmann.

The NextStop technical team includes Nicole Maneffa in the newly created position as Covid-19 Compliance Officer as well as Charles Belt who is Director of Photography capturing the live staged production on film that will then be streamed virtually.

"Audiences will be able to feel this show through the screen," said Alex de Bard. "We performers definitely crave a physical audience as much as the audiences crave a live show. We really put our hearts into this one as if there was really a live audience there with us, and viewers will be able to see that. This is the safest and closest thing to a live performance right now."

Kevin Davis Appointed Fairfax County Chief of Police

Supervisors respond to a new era of policing.

By **MERCIA HOBSON**
THE CONNECTION

Coming out of a closed-door session on Friday, April 23, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors prepared, as Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason) said, “to select one of the most important hires it undertakes.”

“I am pleased to move the appointment of Kevin Davis, as the next police chief, effective May 3, 2021, with an annual salary of \$215,000,” Gross said. The motion unanimously carried. Davis is a Maryland native.

“After thorough interviews, the entire board is confident that Kevin will continue Fairfax’s work on police reform, build on the deep community involvement and relationships with stakeholders, and improve morale within the police department,” said Jeffrey McKay, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, in a statement.

Davis called in to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors’ meeting. He heard as McKay officially welcomed him in his new capacity to Fairfax County, saying that they were delighted to have him on board after the “long exhaustive process.” McKay added that the Board looked forward to working with him on this new journey.

DAVIS spoke directly to the supervisors. “This is a humbling moment for me. I take it very seriously, and I promise not to let you down,” he said. “I look very much forward to working with the women and the men of the Fairfax County Police Department and several employee groups. You guys are a great agency; I want to say that loudly and clearly.”

Questioning if there was room for improvement in the Fairfax County Police Department, Davis said absolutely. He acknowledged change is sometimes hard and challenging.

“But if you didn’t know you were in a difficult position, you wouldn’t be here. So, we have to seize this moment and continue to get better,” he said. Davis added he looks forward to working with the diverse communities in Fairfax County.

As his first step, Davis said, the Department must establish legitimacy to earn trust, which takes hard work. “It takes showing up every day and doing the work, and we have to pay keen attention to vulnerable communities, underserved communities, and communities of color. We have to meet you where you are. We have to be better listeners. We have to be less defensive, and we have to, quite frankly, see you. ... You have my word that I am committed to doing that on behalf of Fairfax County.”

As for accountability, Davis said he would call “balls and strikes.”

“No one hates a bad cop more than a good cop (does). You have my word that those accountability systems will be in place,” he said.



Kevin Davis calls in to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting following the Board’s unanimous vote of approval to appoint him the next Fairfax County police chief effective May 3, 2021.

Biography

Kevin Davis is fourth-generation public safety, born and raised in College Park, Md. Most recently, Davis worked as Director of Consulting Services at GardaWorld. Davis served as City of Baltimore’s 39th police commissioner from 2015 to 2018 after the in-custody death of Freddie Gray and the riots that followed. According to a Fairfax County press release, he established a Department of Justice Compliance and Accountability Division and a fully implemented body-worn camera program during Davis’s tenure at the Baltimore Police Department. Davis worked to build trust with the community and foster transparency, providing information about internal policies and all police-involved shootings. He expanded the Department’s police chaplains’ program, which trained more than 100 faith community leaders to serve as ambassadors in the community.

Before that, Davis served as Anne Arundel County police chief from 2013 to 2014 and as assistant police chief of the Prince George’s County, Maryland police department, 1992 to 2013. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the FBI National Executive Institute. Davis holds a master’s degree in Management from Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor’s degree in English from Towson University.



Supervisor Penny Gross (D-Mason) introduces the motion to appoint Kevin Davis as the next Fairfax County police chief.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors appointed former Baltimore Police Commissioner Kevin Davis as the new police chief effective on May 3, 2021.



Jeffrey C. McKay, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, calls the vote on the appointment of Kevin Davis as the next Fairfax County police chief.

Davis added that Fairfax County already had common sense police reform underway, but it would be a constant conversation. Davis said reform is something done for police officers, not to them. “It makes you better. It earns you a better relationship with the community,” he said.

Davis said he looked forward to the journey. It would be an opportunity to work with the community, residents, elected officials, and community leaders in the agency.

AMONG HIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, Davis thanked the Board for their trust in him, County Executive Bryan Hill for his continued leadership, interim Chief of the Fairfax County Police Department, David M. Rohrer, and his predecessor Fairfax County Police Chief Edwin C. Roessler Jr. for his leadership. Roessler stepped down in January 2021.

According to World Atlas, the Fairfax County Police Department, which has roughly 1,400 full-time sworn-in officers, is Virginia’s largest police department and ranked 33 in the top largest police departments in the United States in August 2020.

“No one hates a bad cop more than a good cop (does). You have my word that those accountability systems will be in place.”

— Kevin Davis,
New Fairfax County Chief of Police

Braddock District Supervisor James R. Walkinshaw issued the following statement regarding the Board of Supervisors’ selection of Kevin Davis as Chief of Police.

“Many law enforcement leaders have learned to talk the talk of police and criminal justice reform, but very few have actually done it. In Kevin Davis, we have selected someone with a proven track record of implementing meaningful reforms in the face of fierce resistance. That’s why the Open Society Foundation -- an organization working to develop policing systems that treat everyone equally -- asked him to write the book on consent decrees and police reform. With Chief Kevin Davis, Fairfax County is poised to build on the accountability measures already in place here and lead the nation in ensuring that the law is employed as an instrument of justice.”

Board of Supervisors Appoints Kevin Davis as Fairfax County’s New Chief of Police. - YouTube can be found online <https://youtu.be/Ii020GkUzvM>

'Creative, Funny Show Flips Disney on its Head'

Centreville High presents musical, 'Disenchanted.'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

If the Disney princesses could tell people what they really thought about their lives, what would they say? That's the premise of Centreville High's musical, streaming May 7-8, at 7 p.m., and May 9, at 2 p.m. For ticket information and the show link, go to www.theatrecentreville.com.

Since it'll be shown online, the students' performances are being filmed and edited, and the sound layered on, just like a movie – which is way more work than an in-person show. They're also working with a new director, Christie Blewett, who replaced the retired Mike Hudson and is the school's first-ever female theater director. But she and they are up to the task.

"We've never done this before – there's no guidebook," said Director Christie Blewett. "And yet, you can't stop these kids. They're fearless in their creativity and bold in facing any challenge. And their camaraderie offstage became a catalyst for helping them shine onstage."



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

(From left) Disney princesses Josie Puckett, Caroline Jareb and Katie Wood strike a "Charlie's Angels" pose for Centreville High's musical, "Disenchanted."

THERE'S A CAST AND CREW OF 25, and scenery for the musical vignettes was filmed at various locations. "They've come up with all these creative solutions, and I'm really proud of them," said Blewett. "Audiences will love seeing a new version of their favorite, Disney tales, with a message they didn't realize they needed to know."

Senior Brianna Reeves plays Belle from

"Beauty and the Beast" and said most of the princesses sing one song each, plus participate in group numbers. Belle's song is called, "Insane," and, said Reeves, "She's talking about how Disney changed her story to make her seem crazy. She went from a character in classic literature to someone who talks to inanimate objects and falls in love with a beast."

Reeves loves that song because "It's a full-cast number, the music is lively and the choreography energetic. This show is creative and funny; and especially at this time, people will enjoy seeing a show again, even virtually. We've all enjoyed acting again."

Portraying Snow White is senior Caroline Jareb. "She's a mature leader, controlling and confident in who she is, as an individual," said Jareb. "She's finding herself after being a Disney princess. She and the others have learned that being a princess isn't as enchanted as it seems – it's more disenchanted."

"It's fun playing her," she continued. "And audiences will like the show's comedy, singing and entertaining dance numbers."

Sophomore Josie Puckett plays Sleeping Beauty. "She's spunky and loud and doesn't want to follow the norm for a princess," said Puckett. "She's had to meet expectations of perfection but, when she sings the song, 'Perfect,' she learns she's perfect as she is. She can make mistakes and be herself. And

in today's age of social media, it's important to not copy anyone else, but to love and be yourself, instead"

Puckett said audiences will enjoy "seeing Disney flipped on its head. The princesses [dispel] society's expectations about them and show that's not the way they really are."

Sophomore Evan Williams is in the ensemble, dancing and playing various roles, such as a prince who falls off a boat and has to swim offstage. "It's enjoyable because of the community here and the way the cast members support each other," he said. "And we improve with each rehearsal."

PORTRAYING CINDERELLA is sophomore Katie Wood. "She's a vibrant soul," explained Wood. "But she's so consumed by the 'Princess Complex' that she feels she needs to be perfect. Inside, she knows that's not who she is, but Disney put her in the spotlight so much that she's trapped. In the song, 'All I Want to Do is Eat,'

I sing about Cinderella being so pressured to be thin that she can't enjoy eating.

I'm ecstatic to play her; I love characters breaking out of their shells and not being stereotyped."

"Theater's my passion, so I'm excited to be back onstage," added Wood. "Audiences will like how honest this show is, plus the heart and dedication we've put into it, in such a hard time."

'Audiences Will Come Along With Us on the Adventure'

Chantilly High's new children's show is 'Judy Moody & Stink.'

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Offering both virtual and in-person shows, Chantilly High presents the children's show, "Judy Moody & Stink: The Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad Treasure Hunt." Tickets are \$8 at www.chantillyhsdrama.com, as is the link to the online version.

Live-streamed shows will be May 7, at 7 p.m., and May 8, at 2 p.m. In-person shows will be May 8, at 7 p.m., and May 9, at 2 p.m. The auditorium will be 30-percent capacity, and actors, crew and the audience will wear masks.

The story's about third-grader Judy Moody and her younger brother, Stink, whose moms take them on vacation to an island where they find mysteries, surprises and adventure. There's a cast and crew of 35, and the actors will wear see-through masks so the audience can see their expressions.

"I'm so happy to be back working with my kids because they're taking small steps back to normalcy doing something they love," said Director Shannon Spicer. "A lot of them grew up reading Judy Moody books, so it's special for them to

perform this one as a live play. And it lets families enjoy a fun evening at the theater in a safe environment."

She said making realistic blocking choices while maintaining social distance challenged the in-person cast. And the online cast must maintain its energy and enthusiasm without hearing a live audience's laughter. But, said Spicer, "I'm extremely proud of them being underclassmen and having such dedication to our theater department. It's really admirable; and after teaching 20 years, it makes me remember why I do it."

PORTRAYING JUDY is freshman McKenzie Hopkins. "She's funny, sassy, outspoken and energetic," said Hopkins. "But she wants things to stay the same as in second grade and not change. I like playing her because she has two sides. When talking to her brother and classmates, she doesn't care what anyone thinks. But when addressing the audience, she's softer and shows her true feelings."

Excited to play the lead, Hopkins hopes to someday act professionally. So, she said, "Getting this role's responsibility is a great opportunity. Audiences will like coming along with us on the adventure and will enjoy laughing with us."



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

The Moody family in Chantilly High's children's show: (From left) are Grace Drost (Mom), Alex Lesnik (Stink), McKenzie Hopkins (Judy) and Samantha Massi (Mama).

Freshman Grace Drost plays Mom, one of the family's two mothers. "She wants what's best for her kids and makes sure they do their homework and get to school on time," said Drost. "I draw inspiration from my own mom and recognize some of the things she'd say."

In a children's show, she said, "You make big, animated motions so the kids understand it and are entertained. It might even get them involved in theater. It's a fun, pirate adventure with brightly colored costumes, and people will be able to see themselves in the characters."

PLAYING SMART GIRL, an island tourist, is sophomore Lucy Sherrier. "She's nicknamed 'Smart Girl' because she wears glasses and looks smart," said Sherrier. "She and her brother compete against Judy and Stink to find 16 gold pieces and bring them to Scurvy Sam, the pirate. And Smart Girl's a little smug because she and her brother have done this treasure hunt before."

Sherrier likes playing supporting roles and "know-it-all, confident characters." She also said children will identify with the characters who, in the first scene, don't want to get out of bed and go to school. And throughout the play, she said, "We act over-the-top to make them laugh."

Sophomore Alex Lesnik plays Stink. "He's impulsive and clueless and can't pick up on social cues very well," she said. "He's also curious and likes to explore. Stink just wants to have fun and be happy. I enjoy this role because it's slightly out of my comfort zone, since he's very open and doesn't hold back. He'll sometimes embarrass himself accidentally, but all these things make him fun to play."

Lesnik said both children and adults will enjoy the show's jokes and "out-there" costumes. "People who know this book series will want to see how we do it," she said. "And for kids unfamiliar with it, it'll be something new and fun."

CAPPIES REVIEW

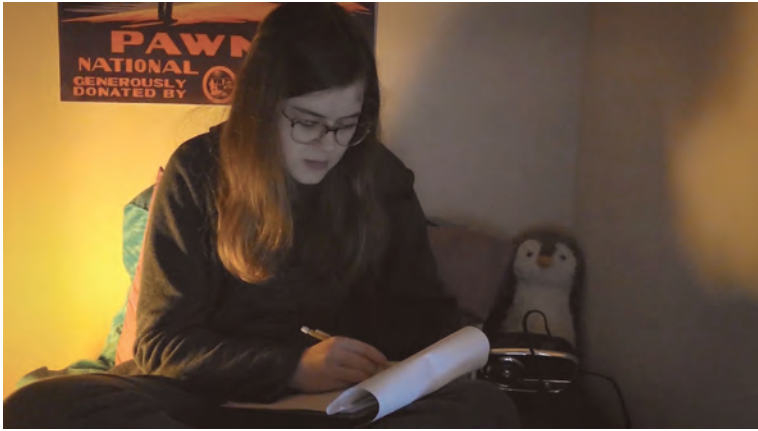


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Zoe Brennan as Jane in Westfield High School's production of '4 A.M.'

More Connected than We Think

Westfield High School's production of '4 A.M.' represented the unspoken stories realized in the midst of the night.

BY KEYA UMESH
LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Things seem different at 4 A.M., don't they? Some have the motivation to exercise whilst others have philosophical thoughts. The nighttime silence brings out the best, and worst, in people, and their inner monologues shine through the darkness. The play "4 A.M.," written by Jonathan Dorf, emphasizes these themes and highlights the nuances of this magical hour.

Westfield High School's production of this play represented the unspoken stories realized in the midst of the night. Frankie, a radio DJ with an audience of close to none, would dedicate his early hours of the day to his radio

show that just so happened to save Jane's life. At the same time, literally, two friends, Monica and Anne encountered tests to their friendship during their virtual sleepover. A modern day Romeo and Juliet pondered the question "to call or not to call", while Sleeper Kid finally confronted the monsters under her bed. Among several other teenagers, this play focused on the questions and answers sought while the world was silent.

All actors in this production gave extremely authentic performances that made it seem as if one was recording their actual thoughts at 4 in the morning. Though filmed virtually, the chemistry displayed by all actors created the illusion of watching a genuine FaceTime

SEE CAPPIES, PAGE 7



Home-field advantage.

Kyle Knight Ins Agcy Inc
Kyle Knight, Agent
11736 Bowman Green Drive
Reston, VA 20190

ACROSS FROM RESTON TOWN CTR.
WWW.KYLEKNIGHT.ORG
703-435-2300

I understand you work really hard for your home and car, and I'm here to help protect them
STOP IN OR CALL ME TODAY.



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
Bloomington, IL

PRINT AND DIGITAL OPTIONS TO REACH YOUR TARGET MARKET

- Email Blasts
- Print
- Digital Billboards
- Sponsored Content
- Exclusive Front Page Shoutout
- Social Media



THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online

For Advertising:
Call 703.778.9431
or email
advertising@connectionnewspapers.com

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9. This year we will continue to publish submissions through the May 5th and 6th editions. Photo submissions are due by Sunday, May 2, 2021.

THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online

Alexandria
Gazette Packet

Mount Vernon Gazette

POTOMAC
ALMANAC

Please complete a submission form at www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday and send us your photo(s). You may also email the requested information and photo(s) directly to editors@connectionnewspapers.com

Mother's Day Photo Submission

Publishes: May 5, 2021



This edition also creates a wonderful advertising opportunity for local businesses.
For Advertising: Call 703-778-9431 or Email advertising@connectionnewspapers.com

Same Company, Same Employees,
Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Since 1999



10% down
nothing until the job is complete for the past 17 years

Free Estimates 703-999-2928

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level
<http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

ABSOLUTE LAND AUCTION

Fri, May 21, 12:30PM at 5141 Lexington Tpke, Amherst, VA

3,000' of River Front!

Fields • Mountains • River • Rocky Stream • Trails • Views

173 Acres on the Buffalo River

Offered In 2 Tracts

Details at TRFAuctions.com

434.847.7741 | info@trfauctions.com



LAKEFRONT LAND AUCTION

Wed, May 12, 12:30PM at 414 Washington St, Altavista, VA

Bedford Co.

4,142' of Lake Front!

Property located on Stony Creek Rd, Lynch Station, VA

228 Acres on Leesville Lake

Offered In 3 Tracts

Details at TRFAuctions.com

434.847.7741 | info@trfauctions.com



TRANSFORM YOUR BATH OR SHOWER IN AS LITTLE AS ONE DAY



CALL NOW

FOR **\$500 Off** OR
NO PAYMENTS & NO INTEREST UNTIL 2022
Offer Expires 6/30/2021

BCI BATH & SHOWER Military & Senior Discounts Available
"We make bathing safer!"
844-945-1631

*Includes product and labor, bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires June 30, 2021. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2021 BCI Acrylic Inc.

Leaf Filter GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

15% OFF & **10% OFF**

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE
SENIORS & MILITARY!
+ 5% OFF TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!
WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!

Promo Code: 285

*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

1-877-614-6667

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. †The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. CS:BF 1035795, DD:01, #10783658-5501, License# 7656, License# 50149, License# 41354, License# 39338, License# 128344, License# 218294, WA:US# 609-233-9777, License# 210217986, License# 2105212946, License# 2705132153A, License# LEAFENR822JZ, License# WV056912, License# WC-29998-H17, Nassau H.C. License# H01067000, Registration# 176-447, Registration# HIC.0649905, Registration# C127229, Registration# C127230, Registration# 366920918, Registration# PC6475, Registration# IR731804, Registration# 13VH09953900, Registration# PA069383, Suffolk H.C. License# 52229-H, License# 2705169445, License# 26200022, License# 262000493, License# 0086990, Registration# H-19114

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411



Are you at risk for stroke or cardiovascular disease?

Call Life Line Screening at 844-588-4478

Special Offer for Readers
5 screening package for \$149

Prepare for unexpected power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
844-947-1479

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid February 15 - June 6, 2021

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



AN ORGANIZED HOME IS A HAPPY HOME

Add space to your kitchen and time to your busy schedule with ShelfGenie's custom pull-out shelves installed in your existing cabinets



ShelfGenie
EVERYTHING WITHIN REACH
a neighborly company

50% OFF INSTALLATION*

*Limit one offer per household. Must purchase 5x Classic/Designer Shelves. EXP 6/30/21



Schedule Your FREE Design Consultation:
(866) 982-2260

Hours: Mon - Fri 9am-9pm, Sat 10am - 4pm EST

Past issues of

THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

back to 2008 are available at

<http://connectionarchives.com/PDF>

MR. WINDOWS

Window Washing & Powerwashing



- Specializing in:
- Window Cleaning
- Soft Powerwashing
- Gutter Cleaning

PPE protocols followed

20 years experience the community.

10% off

all services for first time clients

(703) 447-8268

For appointments
www.Mrwindowsinfo.com
Mrwindowsllc.com

Services

PRESSURE WASHING PROS

In Business for 25 Years



- Soft Wash
- Deck Cleaning/Staining
- Fences
- Driveways

pwwashingpros.com

(703) 378-8645

Call the licensed and bonded pros with the best pricing in the NoVA area today.

Yard Sale

YARD SALE - Saturday, 5/1, 8am-12pm (rain date 5/2). MCLEAN HAMLET neighborhood, conveniently located near Tysons Corner, just miles from DC and accessible from 495, 66 and 267. Tons of items from multiple houses! Furniture, household items, children's toys, bikes, books, car seats and more!

Employment

Engineer 3, Product Development Engineer - Comcast Cable Communications, LLC, Reston, VA. Deliver platforms that allow subscribers to use & interact w/ products. Reqs: Bach in CS, Eng or rtd; & 2 yrs exp admin Linux systems; deploy & maintain apps in public (AWS) & 1 of these private clouds: Openstack, VMWare ESX, or CloudFoundry; tune apps; perform IP networking, incl TCP/IP packet analysis, DNS, DHCP, NAT, & SNMP; use Ansible, Perl, & Python; use Kafka, RabbitMQ, & Redis to support message tech platforms; & support NoSQL DBs on Cassandra & Couchbase. In lieu of Bach degree, emp will accept add'l 2 yrs exp in above. Apply to: John_Moran2@comcast.com. Ref Job ID #0327

Find us on Facebook and become a fan!

www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers



The Connection to Your Community

www.connectionnewspapers.com

CALENDAR

NOW THRU JUNE 26

Ken Britz, Artist of the Year. At VAS Gallery in the Village Green, 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society is thrilled to present a collection of "Favored Subjects", artworks by Artist of the Year Ken Britz. The exhibition is open April 12 through June 26, Mon. - Sat., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Discover more about Ken on the website: www.ViennaArtsSociety.org

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 28

(The) Unruly Theatre Project's Virtual Improv Show. Virtual. Sponsored by the Alden. 7 p.m. Join them for (the) Unruly Theatre Project's virtual spring improv shows from the comfort of your couch. You can register for one show or as many as you like, but participants need to register at least two hours in advance of a show to see it. A Zoom link and password for the show will be emailed to registrants. For more information or to register, visit: www.aldentheatre.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 28

Topics in Astronomy Webinar: Stargazing. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Virtual Program. Grab your binoculars and pull up a seat for April's "Topics in Astronomy Webinar." These monthly webinars explore everything from space missions to planets, stars and galaxies. See how much can be seen in the night sky, even if you don't have a telescope. These presentations are for the general public and do not require any specific knowledge of astronomy. This virtual program will be hosted in an online Zoom meeting by staff and volunteers of the Analemma Society. The cost is \$8 per person. Call Colvin Run Mill at 703-759-2771.

APRIL 30 TO MAY 16

"First Date". NextStop Theatre Company announces the premiere of the Broadway musical comedy, "First Date," streaming through ShowTix4U.com. Filmed at NextStop Theatre and around downtown Herndon, this light-hearted musical romantic comedy tells the story of Casey and Aaron, two young singles set up on a blind date by friends and family, even though they seemingly have absolutely nothing in common. Performances will have scheduled start times on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. from April 30 to May 16, 2021. Tickets are \$25 each (plus processing fees) and are

good for one stream per household. Visit www.NextStopTheatre.org. "First Date" tickets are \$25 per household/stream. Visit for more information and to book: <https://www.nextstoptheatre.org/shows/first-date>.

FRIDAY/APRIL 30

Old Firehouse Friday Night Trip -- Top Golf. 4-10 p.m. Come eat, drink and golf like a pro! Experience a new state-of-the-art Angry Birds golf game. Golf, food and a free Top Golf membership is included. Come have fun and perfect your golf swing with us. For more information or to register, visit: www.oldfirehouse.org or call 703-448-TEEN (8336).

FRIDAY/APRIL 30

Father-Daughter Silent Disco Dance. 7-8:30 p.m. Join MCC for a socially distanced, outdoor, Father-Daughter Silent Disco Dance with DJ BigCourt. We will transform the MCC parking lot into a dance floor with each father-daughter group having its own space. Price includes the use of headphones with the option of one of three family friendly music genres, snack bags and glow products to add to the fun. Get outside, get moving and spend some time with your little princess. For more information, visit www.mcleancenter.org or call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.

APRIL 30-MAY 14

Art as Life Vale Arts. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. More than 160 works of fine art will be on exhibit in the virtual "Art as Life" ValeArts show April 30-May 14, 2021. Normally held at the Vale Schoolhouse in Oakton, the online show will show all types of abstract, representational, and impressionist art. Guest Artists Deb Keirce and Andrea Cybyk join the core Vale-Artists Laura Barringer, Linda Bullen, Lorrie Herman, Kim Richards, Diana Eichler and Jenna Klimchak. Visit www.valearts.com

MAY 1 AND MAY 2

"Twelfth Night." 5-7 p.m. At Arts Herndon Lawn, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Herndon Community Arts Lab, in association with Arts Herndon and Dark Horse Theatre on Arts Herndon Lawn Stage, starts Friday at 7 p.m. Pay what you can (but reserve 'Bubble') Saturday, May 1, Sunday, May 2 - all at 5 p.m. Book tickets now www.darkhorseva.com. Cost: \$50 per 4 person Bubble, \$15 Single.

CAPPIES REVIEW

FROM PAGE 5

call or viewing an actual conversation between two people. The technical elements, from the lighting to the editing, created a cohesive and engaging play, and the passion poured into this production from the cast and crew was clearly evident.

Even through a screen, Frankie's (Brian Purtell) excitement towards his radio show was apparent while Jane's (Zoe Brennan) more somber yet grateful approach to his show displayed the intricate depths and dark sides to her character. Monica and Anne, played by Payton Kuhlman and Rachel Neil respectively, had extremely contrasting characters that utilized their history together to create discernable chemistry. Monica's exhausted energy complemented Anne's hyper personality to create a yin and yang duo.

The editing, sets, and lighting, executed by Rachel Neil and Krishna Purohit, enabled a well-balanced narrative with no dead air. FaceTime calls looked like FaceTime calls. The clean editing between scenes pulled the story together, through the use of zooming in and out of windows to view separate scenes and monologues. The sound effects and music scores that were used complemented the drama unraveling onscreen. When a character had an epiphany, the music would reflect that tone. The lighting made each room look

as though the time was actually 4 A.M., and the visual editing utilized clipart images, animation, and the work of Neil to create the illusion of paranormal beings flying around Sleeper Kid's room.

Although the world may seem distant and far away these days, tales like "4 A.M." remind us that the world is more connected than we think. From strangers to close friends, someone is always out there. Maybe stay up past your bedtime to find out who.

CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

@RestonConnect

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004
FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

ELECTRICAL	ELECTRICAL
K&D ELECTRIC	
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE	
Family Owned & Operated	
Recessed Lighting	Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Ceiling Fans	Office 703-335-0654
Phone/CATV	Mobile 703-499-0522
Computer Network Cabling	lektrkman28@gmail.com
Service Upgrades	
Hot Tubs, etc...	

LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
Quality Tree Service & Landscaping	
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.	
Summer Cleanup...	
Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.	
25 years of experience - Free estimates	
703-868-5358	
24 Hour Emergency Tree Service	

LANDSCAPE DRAINAGE	LANDSCAPE DRAINAGE
ProDrainage	
A JES Services, Inc Company	
Eco-Friendly Landscape Drainage Experts	
Drainage, Erosion, Landscaping, Hardscaping, Patios, Retaining Walls & More	
Your Neighborhood Company since 1987!	
703-772-0500 www.ProDrainage.com	
VA. Licensed Class A Contractor	



Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE



"My Thoughts to Your Thoughts"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

You know the expression: "Can't walk and chew gum at the same time;" a disparaging characterization of a person, company or municipality unable to multi-task or even tasl at all? Fortunately, I've not had much interaction in any of these categories (myself included). I do however, have a similar description of yours truly: I can't write a column and eat at the same time. I can drink (not alcohol) and write. And back in college - in the 70s, while writing a weekly column for "the diamondback" (the college newspaper) at The university of Maryland, I could partake, recreationally, and still write my column. In fact, I still remember what I thought was one of the funniest lines in a column I wrote about my inability to use tools (while under said influence): "The only power tool I ever used was a hammer." Ah, the good old daze.

Fast forward and I mean fast, to 2021, approximately 45 years, since I was a weekly columnist for the campus newspaper. Time hasn't merely flown by, it has broken all former land speed records. In fictional fact, it hasn't been mach, it has been at "warp" speed, for those of you regular readers who are still trying to "Live long and prosper" while watching cable channel "H&I" Sunday through Friday, off and on between 8pm and 1am. For us "Star Trek" fans, these five hours of nightly programming fill a void that no replicator can match.

Spock could certainly multi-task. How else could he master three-dimensional chess? Perhaps some of his skill set had its origins in the "Vulcan mind-meld" which enabled him to read other's thoughts and gain unique insights into previously unshared experiences. As I think back over the years of previous "Star Trek" viewing (and my current re-infatuation), I can't recall ever seeing Spock eat, or even drink for that matter. Maybe he couldn't eat and be First Officer/second in command at the same time? Not that I'm equating myself with Spock, he was way more intelligent and accomplished than me. But maybe we did share a common affliction: an inability to eat and simultaneously perform other tasks?

And though Spock never seemed any the worse for the wear and tear he endured while rarely eating, I, as a red-blooded human, need to eat. I just can't eat while I'm writing. It seems to take away from my focus and blunt the creative process. Maybe if I were able to "narrow the confinement beam," I could put more of my thoughts down on paper before they're lost in my head. Thoughts which occasionally are fleeting, but usually are pertinent to the column I'm writing. Unlike Spock however, my thoughts are not always logical and though I try to embrace his Vulcan philosophy: "The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few," I think I'm too needy to do so. (My nephew bought me Star Trek pajamas for Christmas. It didn't exactly fill a need but it sure has made me happy to wear them. If you're at all curious they are Spock's rank and color: blue top with black pants, with proper Star Trek insignia.)

As is the case with my weekly column. I deprive myself of nourishment in order to write in a semi-coherent way. Sometimes I fail (perhaps the proof is right here in the words which you are reading), but it's never because I ate while I wrote, it's because the "inertial dampeners" (whatever they are) were not functioning within normal parameters. I just have to hope that my communicator doesn't malfunction or that an ion storm doesn't develop locally and knocks out the power to my house. I don't have a "Scotty" around to transfer power from one system to another. All I have is that hammer. And I know from limited experience, that a hammer is not going to solve my problem. I need a whole crew with all their own tools.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.



Earth Daze 2021, presented by Clean Fairfax and Aslin Beer Company, Herndon location.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/
THE CONNECTION

Mother Nature and Beer at Earth Daze in Herndon

Clean Fairfax and Aslin Beer Company, Herndon location celebrate the 51st Anniversary of Earth Day.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Looking to better the environment and celebrate the 51st anniversary of Earth Day, Clean Fairfax and Aslin Beer Company hosted Earth Daze on April 24 at the Elden Street Herndon brewery. The one-day event promoted sustainability in a fun and interactive environment, laid out in the fenced-in beer garden. Proceeds from the event allow Clean Fairfax to continue leading its charge on all things green and sustainable in Fairfax County. Highlights of the event included 15 to 20 vendors invited by Clean Fairfax.

Guests enjoyed the build-your-own garden and bourbon barrel kits, bike safety demos, locally sourced food, vendors, and exhibits. The all-day celebration helped spread awareness of the steps people could take to live a more comfortable, sustainable life, all while grabbing beers from the Aslin taproom and sausages and fries from Eugene's Food Truck.

Representative Don Cammarata, business manager at Covanta Fairfax, Inc., shared how the company provides the community an alternative to landfilling by taking municipal waste to Covanta as Fairfax County does.

"We turn that into power which provides enough electricity to supply about 67,000 to 70,000 homes every day," he said.

According to Cammarata, the other important aspect of the process is, it avoids taking waste to the landfill where it generates methane gas, a "big climate greenhouse gas issue."

"As a result of processing as Fairfax County does, we reduce greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere," Cammarata said.

In the fenced-in beer garden, children played, and dogs lounged under their owners' tables. In the taproom, manager Graham James said that to help the environment, they removed all kinds of plastic cups at the Herndon location.

"We're serving only in cans and, of course, glassware. We've planted trees and fresh plants around the beer garden. In the next couple of weeks we are inviting local vendors out. We also have the bazaar market times every other Sunday," James said.



Families honor Mother Earth at the one-day Clean Fairfax event to promote sustainability in a fun and interactive environment, enjoying vendors, workshops, and opportunities to learn at Earth Daze; a Clean Fairfax and Aslin Beer Company Celebration in Herndon.



A shopper pauses at a vendor table during the Clean Fairfax and Aslin Beer Company Celebration of the 51st Anniversary of Earth Day.

COMMENTARY

Return to Responsible Leadership

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



The highlight of last week along with Earth Day was the announcement by President Joe Biden that the United States is returning to the Paris Climate Agreement. The Agreement that was adopted by nearly 200 nations of the world came into being in 2016. President Barack Obama led the United States in joining the Agreement that united the world's nations for the first time in a single understanding on global warming and cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

The only other example of something like this agreement previously was the Montreal Protocol in which 197 countries agreed in 1987 to ban chlorofluorocarbons (CFC). Scientists had discovered that CFC was causing a hole in the ozone layer which if not stopped would lead to disastrous health results. All nations banned CFC as a result. The United States estimates that because of the ban by the year 2065 more than 6.3 million have been avoided and between 1985 and the year 2100 Americans avoiding suffering from cataracts would number 22 million.

With the Montreal Protocol the leaders of the world responded to scientific findings, prevented a huge amount of human suffering, and saved trillions of dollars in health-care costs. On the subject of climate change and global warming there are those who want to continue to debate scientific findings and ignore the evidence that is becoming even more apparent that the earth is heating up and the consequences are going to be devastating if action is not taken right away.

The Paris Climate Agreement commits nations of the world to take action to keep global temperature well below the pre-industrial level of 2.0C or 3.6F and endeavor to limit temperature rise to 1.5C. The Agreement limits the amount of greenhouse gases emitted

by human activity to the same levels that trees, soil and water can naturally absorb. Each country sets its own emission-reduction targets that are reviewed every five years. The Agreement has richer nations helping poorer countries with financing to switch to renewable energy.

While the United States left the Agreement for a short time under the previous president the announcement by President Biden restores the United States to its rightful role of being a leader in ending climate change. Many states and cities had pledged to seek these goals even when the country for a short time seemed not willing to. After all, the United States is the largest contributor to greenhouse gases exceeded only by China. Beyond re-joining the Agreement, the President is committing the United States to more aggressive actions to cut emissions by 2030 rather than 2050 that scientists now say is necessary if we are to avoid the worst effects of climate change.

Just as nations came together to rid the world of CFC and prevent major health horrors, I believe that nations can come together to provide responsible leadership and actions to stop climate change. It will cost money to do so, but the savings to the planet will be inestimable. We will end fossil fuel use, control carbon release, and adopt more alternative and resilient ways of living and doing things. Our country can and will be a leader in these planet-saving changes!