

CONNECTION

Reston ♦ Herndon ♦ ^{Oak Hill} Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW

Haley Watson and Molly Hwang join Public Art Reston and Sagetopia to create the screening mural surrounding the ice rink and celebrate the community at the Tephra ICA Festival.

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

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30,000
Flock to Reston
Arts Festival

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MAY 25-31, 2022

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OBITUARY



Robert Ewell Greene, 90, of Reston

Greene dedicated his life to speaking of the Black experience.

Robert Ewell Greene, 90, passed away on May 15, 2022 in Columbia Maryland. He was born in Washington D.C. on July 18, 1931 to parents Arthur Alonzo Greene and Ruth Conway Greene.



Robert Greene

Robert spent his early childhood in Washington, D.C. before the family moved to St. Louis Missouri where his father opened a small convenience store. He attended University of Illinois, graduated from Lincoln University, and received his Master's degree from Howard University.

He dedicated his life to speaking of the Black experience in the United States and the world. He wrote and self-published over 25 books, many of which are available at the National Library of Congress, including "Black Defenders of America 1775 to 1973," "Swamp Angels," and "Who Were the Buffalo Soldiers."

He served for 20 years in the US Military where he started the Race Relations School for Europe before retiring at the rank of Major. He was also a teacher at high schools in Washington DC, and a professor at Howard University, Morgan State University and Northern Virginia Community College. He spoke German, Korean, and some Japanese.

He dedicated his life to speaking of the Black experience in the United States and the world. He wrote and self-published over 25 books, many of which are available at the National Library of Congress, including "Black Defenders of America 1775 to 1973," "Swamp Angels," and "Who Were the Buffalo Soldiers."

Services for Robert Ewell Greene will be held at The Church at Severn Run 8187 Telegraph Road, Severn Maryland. Friends and Family may visit on Thursday June 2nd from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m..

These are only a few of his accomplishments.

The funeral service and wake will be held on Friday June 3 at 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to: 922 S. Wieker Rd, Severn, Maryland 21144.

Robert Ewell Greene is sur-

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

Plan Includes 330 More Parking Spaces

KCPC wants to add athletic field, more parking.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Korean Central Presbyterian Church (KCPC) opened along Route 29 in Centreville, a decade ago. And with 2,100 seats and 1,200 parking spaces, it's arguably the largest place of worship in the area.

No changes are currently proposed to the building itself, but plans are in the works to add more uses to the grounds. Representing KCPC, attorney David Houston explained the details during a recent meeting of the joint Sully District Council and WFCCA (West Fairfax County Citizens Association) land-use committee.

"The whole property is 84 acres, and the church now owns 5.73 more acres than originally," he said. "KCPC is seeking a special-exception amendment to add outdoor recreation facilities and pavilions to conduct meetings and for people to meet and have fellowship together."

Houston said KCPC wants to build a multipurpose athletic field and basketball court, as well as add more parking. "On Sundays, it's a very vibrant church, with about 5,000 people attending five different services," he said. "And the grass parking field to the right can't be used in bad weather."

So KCPC wants to create about 330 more parking spaces which would be permanent. Having these additional spaces, plus an outdoor pavilion, would enable the congregation members to stay longer and mingle with each other, after their particular service is over – instead of having to quickly drive away so people coming to attend the following service would have places to park.



Diagram showing the location of the proposed athletic field on the church property and its proximity to Route 29 (Lee Highway).

"The recreational facilities would be shared with the public, as well," said Houston. He also noted that the athletic field would be natural grass and would not have lighting, so it wouldn't be used at night. Furthermore, he added, "The church wants to possibly build an administration building in the future. It would be 10,000 square feet and two levels."

Sully District Council (SDC) member Jay

Johnston asked about the traffic impact the new field and pavilion could bring, and Houston replied that there'd be "just a modest increase. They're for church members already on the site."

"How about those not part of the church but coming there in the evening for a soccer game?" asked Johnson. "This would directly affect me, so what's to prevent a soccer camp from happening there? That would put more

traffic on already-congested highways."

"That's not the intention," answered Houston. "We wanted to do this to be a good neighbor."

But, argued SDC's Lewis Grimm, "As more people learn about it, they'll want to come there and use it." So SDC President Jeff Parnes said KCPC will have to post a notice saying that no one would be allowed to use the athletic field without the church's permission.

Regarding the new parking spaces, SDC's Jim Neighbors asked Houston, "So you're just turning the [grass] overflow lot into a paved lot?"

Houston said there'd be some permeable pavers plus some impervious surface. That way, he explained, "The church members could use it [for parking], instead of having to take a shuttle to a nearby lot at Bull Run Elementary."

"On Sunday mornings, Route 29 doesn't work very well, and several churches are along that road," said Virginia Run resident Jim Hart. "Part of the problem is that there's a high-speed weaving movement by drivers coming too fast from the quarry [area] and weaving past the [Centreville] Baptist Church and KCPC traffic."

"If the field activity is off-peak [traffic hours], it shouldn't be a problem," he continued. "But it should not be allowed on Sunday mornings. Also, where does the stormwater runoff from the new parking lot go?"

"There's an existing stormwater pond there now, and about three-quarters of an acre of pavers," replied Houston. "And we'll be putting in new, underground stormwater facilities that conform with the latest, government standards."

This matter is scheduled to go before the county Planning Commission on Sept. 28, so Parnes asked Houston to return to the joint land-use committee again in May to provide the members with further information and an update on how these plans are progressing.

Meaningful Impact for Hungry Families

5K race in Chantilly raises money to feed hungry families.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

In Fairfax County, these two disparate things are true: It's the third-wealthiest county in the U.S., but one in every six children doesn't get enough to eat. So a race in Chantilly raised money for some local nonprofits that help feed them.

The second annual Feed Fairfax 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run was held Saturday, May 14, in Chantilly's Greenbriar community. Put on by Expectation Church in Fairfax, it benefited WFCM (Western Fairfax Christian Ministries) and Food for Others – and most of all, the families they feed.

More than 500 people participated in the early morning event, and every penny of



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEN TARR

Runners at the starting line of the Feed Fairfax 5K in Chantilly's Greenbriar community.

their entry fees went directly to these and other organizations providing food for local, hungry children. Last year's race raised \$24,000, and this year's goal was \$40,000. Donations may still be made to the 5K at <https://feedfairfax.com/>. So far, the total raised is \$43,645. WFCM and Food for Others each received \$12,000.

The Feed Fairfax 5K is also special because it enables the participants to do something tangible and hands-on to help their neighbors in need. After people in the most recent event finished running or walking the course – which began outside Planet Fitness in the Greenbriar Towne Center and continued within the

Greenbriar community – they helped pack the food funded by their entry fees.

They and other volunteers assembled

SEE 5K RACE, PAGE 12



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS
Bernard Kocis, staff at Green Lizard Cycling in Herndon, shows a new cyclist how to rest her bike on the stand.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS
Kathy Gomez and Boris DeLeon of Herndon at the 2022 Bike to Work Day

2022 Bike to Work Day: Get Out of the Car

Planned trail additions coming to Capital Trail Network.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

On Friday, May 20, thousands of Fairfax County residents rode their bikes to work on the region's streets and trails as part of the 2022 Bike to Work Day. Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association organized the event at

the regional level, with local support from towns, cities, counties, non-profits, commercial organizations, and others. They all had the same goal: to encourage more people to commute by cycling to work instead of driving.

Registered participants Kathy Gomez and Boris DeLeon of Herndon were among the first to arrive at the Herndon Town Hall Green pit stop just after 7 a.m. Located at Mile 20 of the 45-mile shared-use W&OD Trail, it is a popular stopping point for commuting cyclists. Herndon Parks and Recreation, which sponsored the pit stop, provided Gomez and DeLeon with their 2022 Bike to Work Day t-shirts.

Gomez, who was on her way to work in

Tysons, said she and DeLeon ride 20 to 40 miles three times a week. Pedestrians, according to Gomez, were a significant challenge for her on the trail.

"They have their headphones on with the music so loud they cannot hear me. Sometimes it can be dangerous," Gomez said. DeLeon said that he was new to using cycling shoes with cleats but was having fun.

The paved W&OD is a two-lane trail and is an integral part of the Capital Trails Coalition's over 800-mile multiuse trail network in the Washington, D.C. area. According to the Coalition's website, "Started in 2015, the Coalition has worked with each jurisdiction to identify planned trails that, once complete, will connect our region. The trails will

be accessible to people of all ages and abilities and will be developed and distributed equitably."

Cycling to work is good for the environment, doesn't produce any pollution, and is a healthy way to get around, but it depends on time, energy, and access to safe riding routes.

Augmenting cycling with riding Metrorail and Connector buses as part of a multimodal trip is a solution for longer commuting distances and lessens traffic congestion in metropolitan areas. With the expansion of new trails, many of which connect to Metro stations and Connector bus stops, cycling, formerly seen as a means of transportation unto itself, is offered more flexibility for long distances.

New Herndon Arrowbrook Trail Opens Near Innovation Station

Connectivity fosters community and multimodal transit commutes.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

On May 19, the day before 2022 Bike to Work Day, two sections of the new multi-use Arrowbrook Trail opened. Located near the Herndon exit of the Dulles Toll Road, the trail is accessible.

"This path connects the Town of Herndon with the Innovation Metro Rail Station, giving residents and visitors along the route a safe and convenient way to connect to transit and to use for recreation," said Supervisor John W. Foust, who represents that section of Herndon on the Fairfax County Board



SCREENSHOT PHOTO
Ribbon-cutting opening two portions of the Arrowbrook Trail at Innovation Station in Herndon.

of Supervisors. Innovation Station in Fairfax County is located in Herndon along Sunrise Valley Drive near the Dulles Toll Road and Route 28.

The ten-foot-wide asphalt path is equipped with nine trail lights and a High Intensity Activated CrossWalk (HAWK) beacon signal crossing Sunrise Valley Drive. The HAWK only activates when the pedestrian crossing button is pressed.

The yellow-red-flashing HAWK lights indicate to drivers that pedestrians must cross the street.

According to Jeff Fairfield, manager of Arrowbrook Centre and executive director of The Ruth and Hal Launders Charitable

OPINION

Honesty Gap

BY DELEGATE KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), also known as The Nation's Report Card, measures the educational achievement and progress of the nation's students at established grades and ages with data that can be used to compare educational programs across state lines. According to NAEP, in 2019 the last year for which numbers are available because of the interruption of programs by COVID, Virginia students at the fourth-grade level scored third highest in the nation for math performance and at the eighth-grade level scored

seventh highest in the nation. Virginia students ranked ninth in the country in reading performance. Appreciation is due to the parents, teachers and administrators who have made Virginia public schools among the best in the nation.

Rather than getting a shout out of appreciation from the new administration in Richmond for the work being done in our public schools, a new 34-page report issued by the Department of Education does all it can to erode confidence in public schools and to create a false narrative that our schools are failing. Governor Youngkin presented the report flanked by his Secretary of Education and

SEE PLUM, PAGE 11

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Magic Wand Unavailable

To the Editor,

I read with interest your recent article about Herndon's Comstock redevelopment project ("No Motion on Comstock's Downtown Redevelopment Parcel," May 18-24).

Despite Vice Mayor de Aguilera's quotes that "we [the Town of Herndon] don't have leverage..." and "starting sooner rather than later is my goal," this is not a situation where the Town Council can just wave its magic wand and force Comstock to start digging. This project has essentially been a victim to COVID and the continued poor economic conditions. When COVID first hit it was harder to find labor and the price of materials skyrocketed. And now the markets are even worse, with supply chain issues and the price of things (gas, construction materials, etc.) even higher, causing the price of

the project to go through the roof.

Comstock can put out all the bids they want, but if the bids don't come back at a reasonable price, Comstock is not going to take a loss on the project to the tune of many millions more dollars. Nor is the Town of Herndon going to pony up many millions more dollars to pay into the project. The contract that the Town signed with Comstock - while the Vice Mayor was sitting on the Town Council - included a "market pause" clause that said the project could be delayed for up to two years if the delay is due to things like adverse changes in the market.

Both Comstock and the Town of Herndon want to see this project completed. However, I think the bottom line is that we will have to wait for the market to cool off until we see the shovels go into the ground.

Barbara Glakas
Herndon, VA

Let Us Know Your View

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30,000 Visit Tephra ICA Festival

Artists and sponsors of distinction for 31st festival, formerly Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

During the 31st Tephra ICA Festival at Reston Town Center, over 200 artists, including some from the local region, sold their original fine art and craft works. Free and open to the public, the festival attracted an estimated 30,000 visitors, reported Jaynelle Hazard, executive director and curator of Tephra ICA. Attendees walked through the town center's closed-off streets lined with art stalls featuring unconventional and classic techniques. Artists chatted freely with patrons, explaining their processes and inspirations.

"The innovation and quality of the artists' work was equally, if not more, impressive than ever this year," Hazard said. "We welcomed a lot of new, first-time festival artists, volunteers, and sponsors, like our title sponsor Peraton, that really renewed and refreshed the event."

Jonah Green of Richmond noted in his artist statement that he utilized his body weight against the resistance of the wall or floor. "I spread paint onto the canvas and scrape away partially dried layers to reveal portions of the colors underneath," Green said. As seen in his painting "Metropolitan," his work as a designer and builder of artisanal homes influences his art.

On the other hand, Dana Ann Scheurer, a Reston-based watercolor artist, block-painted her urban architecture and added figurative content. Scheurer's paintings are fantastical and story-driven. They use single and dual perspectives to show familiar local buildings. Scheurer anchors her structures firmly in the ground and, using only a brush, adds fanciful elements in an Alice-in-Wonderland-like style that draws viewers into her wordless narratives.

The performing arts headliner Trisha Brown Dance Company featured three performance art events.

In addition to festival's visual art sales and a mural painting project, a Family Art Park enticed visitors. Attendees at the festival could sense the vibrancy and excitement of the artists and art enthusiasts who gathered there, according to Hannah Barco, festival director and assistant curator.

"This festival truly is an incredible platform for direct engagement with contemporary artists and an opportunity for visitors to bring artwork home to be part of their everyday lives," Barco said.

In a news release shared by Tephra ICA, Peraton told how it showcased its Remotec robot systems, offered giveaways, and provided opportunities for festival visitors to interact "with the convergence of technology and art at the company's festival booth."

"Peraton is proud to be the title sponsor of the Tephra ICA Festival, which is happening right outside our future Reston headquarters," said Matt McQueen, chief communications and engagement officer at Peraton. "In a world where boundaries are blurring between traditional and non-traditional security concerns, it is important to support those who encourage us to think creatively."



Chatting up the fine art and craft artists from across the United States at the 31st Tephra ICA Festival.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



The 2022 Tephra Institute of Fine Art Festival, formerly the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival.



Trisha Brown Dance Company.

SCREENSHOT



Michael Behr, fine art landscape photographer captures color and texture like no one else.



Jaynelle Hazard, executive director Tephra ICA.

SCREENSHOT



Patrons at the 31st Tephra ICA Festival recharge on the lawn before viewing more artwork.



David Savage of Vienna shows off the original stamped artwork he created at the craft table and the artist business cards he is considering for possible purchase opportunities.



Michael Gard and his metal sculptures created using a wire weaving technique.



The Festival offered contemporary art across mediums- Michele LeVett Designs, fine jewelry.



Reston artist Dana Ann Scheurer displays her urban landscapes at the 31st Tephra ICA Festival. Pictured with Scheurer is the Honorable Katherine K. (Kate) Hanley of Reston, member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, former chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, former Secretary of the Commonwealth, and many other positions.

Compton Road Shared-Use Path Fairfax County

Virtual Design Public Hearing

Monday, June 27, 2022, 7 p.m.
<https://www.virginiadot.org/ComptonRoad>

Find out about plans to construct a ten-foot-wide shared-use path along northbound Compton Road (Route 658) from the Bull Run Special Events Center Access Road to just south of the I-66 bridge, and from just north of the I-66 bridge to a connection with the existing Cub Run Trail. The project also includes widening the Compton Road bridge over Cub Run to accommodate the new shared-use path. The portion of the shared-use path under the I-66 bridge is being constructed separately as part of the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project.

The public hearing will be held as a **virtual/online meeting**. Information for accessing and participating in the virtual meeting is available at <https://www.virginiadot.org/ComptonRoad>. The project team will make a short presentation beginning at 7 p.m. and answer questions for about an hour after the presentation.

Review project information and meeting details on the webpage above or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Please call ahead at 703-259-2907 or TTY/TDD 711 to make an appointment with appropriate personnel.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR 771, a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE) is being prepared under an agreement with the Federal Highway Administration. Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places will be included in the PCE.

Give your comments during the meeting, or by July 11, 2022 via the comment form on the project website, by mail to Ms. Hong Ha, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 or by email to meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "Compton Road Shared-Use Path" in the subject line.

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State Project: 0658-029-461, B652, C501, P101, R201
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In case an alternate date is needed, the meeting will be held Thursday, July 14, 2022 at the same time.

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SCREENSHOT PHOTO
Jeff Fairfield, manager, Arrowbrook Centre



SCREENSHOT PHOTO
Mayor of the Town of Herndon, Sheila Olem

Arrowbrook Trail Opens

FROM PAGE 4

Trust, the trail was developed over two decades. The trail was built through a collaboration between different entities, a public-private partnership, Fairfax County, and Arrowbrook Centre. Arrowbrook Centre is a planned, mixed-use community on the Dulles Toll Road and a few minutes' walk from Metro's new Silver Line Innovation Station.

Arrowbrook Trail is in far western Fairfax County, expanding the flexibility of cycling commutes. "This is going to be awesome because it is going to give people in the Town of Herndon the ability to have access to the Metro and to have access to Northern Virginia and the Washington Metro area," said Sheila Olem, mayor of the Town of Herndon.

Fairfield persuaded the Landers Trustees that investing \$1.5 million in public infrastructure was a wise decision. "To their credit, they always understood the importance of creating good transit connectivity to the rail station," Fairfield said.

After years of delays, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority is expected to open the Silver Line Extension in 2022. "There will be Metro Rail service down here in our lifetime, I'm confident," Fairfield said.

Richard Golinowski, Dulles Airport manager for Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, projects like the trail and Metro stations "take a long time, twelve to fifteen years, but will be here at the end of the day."

"It really makes an improvement for the community. It helps our constituents; it enhances the Dulles Corridor," he said.

The rail extension provides 11.4 miles of new track from Wiehle-Reston East Station through Washington Dulles International Airport and into Loudoun County. Last week, the transit stations, notably Reston Town Center, Herndon and Innovation Center, switched on their lights, although none of the stations are open for passengers.

Bicyclists across Fairfax County and the Washington metropolitan area can use an interconnected network of multi-use trails, the Capital Trails Network, to commute.

Expanded multimodality perks such as the option to transport bikes on the Metro since 2019 and the long-standing free use of front-mounted bike racks on all Fairfax Connector buses are lengthening the home-to-work and general travel routes for cyclists. The adaptability of a multimodal commute, including bicycle, train, and bus transportation, makes it a viable choice in terms of distance since it offers more flexibility and often less time than driving. Cyclists may also lower their carbon footprint, reduce urban traffic congestion, and prevent the need to build additional parking spaces.



SCREENSHOT PHOTO
Fairfax County Supervisor John Foust (D), Dranesville District



SCREENSHOT PHOTO
Richard Golinowski, Dulles Airport manager, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED
The tri-directional signpost for the new shared-use Innovation Trail leading to Metro's Innovation Station, Arrowbrook Centre, and the Town of Herndon is ready for bicycle/pedestrian commuters and recreational users.

Friends of Reston Regional Library Celebrate The Year of Literacy with over \$250,000 in Planned Funding Initiatives

The Friends of the Reston Regional Library (FRRL) announced this week they are aiming to give away over \$250,000 this year, to benefit both the Reston Branch and Fairfax County Library system as a whole. Timed to coincide with the Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) theme for 2022, "the Year of Literacy," FRRL is also planning further related gifts aligned with their mission of promoting and encouraging literacy in the community.

The first initiative is a large grant of \$200,000 to the Fairfax County Public Library system to be used for the purchase of printed and digital materials for the library collection. This is the largest single gift the organization has ever given to the library.

FCPL has a high circulation rate – they have over 2.1 million items in their collection and around 30 million checkouts per year – making their collection one of the hardest working collections in the country.

A spokesperson for the Friends said, "The truth is, between the hard wear and tear on highly circulated print materials, the increased demand for digital materials, and the increase in total checkouts and library card holders, the County budget to the Library for collections just hasn't caught up to the need... After talking with Director Hudson and the head of Technical Operations, Dianne Coan, we know the Collections Development team will work hard to make the most out of every dollar to strengthen and expand the collection to best serve all of its patrons."

Fran Millhouser, Chair of the FCPL Board of Trustees recently appealed to the County for an increase in funding for the collection. "Now that we're fully open and the libraries are almost back to our pre-pandemic foot traffic, we need to be able to fill our shelves and displays with beautiful new books, so people can browse to their hearts' content, and kids can find that perfect story or get excited about a new science book on the shelf."

The Friends also announced they will be awarding one-time grants in the coming years to local organizations that support and promote literacy in the community. These grants, ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000, will be given to organizations with hands-on programming that directly impacts literacy in Reston, Herndon, and the County at large. Interested parties can contact the Friends for more information on grant applications and criteria for the program.

Finally, the FRRL Board of Directors also formally reaffirmed their commitment to set aside a large block of their savings for needs associated with the planned future building of a new library building in Reston.

A bond for a new library was originally approved by voters in 2012. Since then, the anticipated costs of such a building have grown significantly.

FRRL President, Brian Jacoby said, "The Reston Friends have learned over the years from watching the construction of new branches in Oakton, Tysons-Pimmit, and others around the country, that the 'last mile' is often the hardest in these projects. Every branch has its own unique requirements. New furniture, materials and equipment, or facilities space specific to the needs of our local community may not be covered by either the developer's plans or the County's funding. ... We're hopeful the Friends will be able to help make our new library a truly special destination."

The Friends of the Reston Regional Library have been supporting the Reston community since the regional branch first opened in 1985. Incorporated as an independent 501(c)(3) in 2001, FRRL is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that raises funds, primarily through book sales, to support and promote the Reston Regional Library, the Fairfax Library system, and literacy programming and materials in the community.

For more information visit: www.RestonLibraryFriends.com
Contact: RestonFriendsPR@gmail.com

Reston District Police Reports

- ROBBERY:** 12000 block of Pinecrest Road, 5/14/22, 6:29 p.m. A man approached the victim, displayed a knife, and took property. The man left the area. No injuries were reported.
- STABBING:** 1800 block of Cameron Glen Drive, 5/15/22, 11:33 p.m. Three men got into a verbal argument that escalated to a physical assault. During the assault, a knife was produced, and all three men received stab wounds. The men were all taken to local hospitals with injuries that were not considered life threatening.
- ROBBERY:** 1651 Reston Parkway (Home Depot), 5/17/22, 4:16 p.m. A man exited the store with merchandise without paying. When confronted by store employees, he displayed a firearm and ran away. No injuries were reported.

ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAYS UNTIL DECEMBER

The Reston Farmers Market (sponsored by the Fairfax Co. Park Authority) will take place at Lake Anne Village from 8 a.m.-noon. SNAP beneficiaries receive up to \$20 match. Visit <http://restonfarmersmarket.com/>

NOW UNTIL MAY 30

"Natural Habitats" Art Show. Open on weekends, 12 - 5 p.m. (also by appointment). See the beauty of nature in scenes of wildlife in their own locales in Sandra C Dovberg's newest paintings. Reston Art Gallery and Studios, located on Lake Anne Plaza by the lakeside "ART" sign, 11400 Washington Plaza West, Reston. Facebook @RAGSReston ; Instagram: @RestonArtGallery ; Web RestonArtGallery.com.

NOW THRU DEC. 31

Crafts for Kids. 10 a.m. to 12 noon. At Reston Art Gallery and Studios, 11400 Washington Plaza W at Lake Anne, Reston. Free, themed art projects for children (with guardian) are offered at Reston Art Gallery and Studios every Saturday from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Visit the website: www.restonartgallery.com

MCLEAN FARMERS MARKET

The McLean Farmers Market opened for the 2022 season on Fridays at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The market will run every Friday from 8 a.m. to noon through Nov. 11. Local farmers and producers will sell fresh produce and fruits; breads and pastries; prepared foods; meats; herbs; flowers, and more. All products are grown or produced by the vendors and come from within 125 miles of Fairfax County. Visit: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/>

HERNDON FARMERS MARKET

Thursdays through Nov. 3, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



The Herndon Carnival will take place June 2-5 in Herndon.

765 Lynn St., Herndon, VA, 20170 <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/herndon>

NOW THRU MAY 30

The Jurassic Encounter Dinosaur Walk Thru Experience. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. At Bull Run Events Center, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. The Jurassic Encounter will transform the events center into a walk-through experience featuring more than 50 static and moving, life-like dinosaurs that both entertain and educate. Also enjoy Digging for Bones, the Dino Village, shopping, food, free photo-ops, games, bouncy house and more. Tickets start

at \$19 per person (anyone two years and older will need a ticket). Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times. Web: <http://feeltheroar.com>

STARTING MAY 25

Princess Diana: Accredited Access Exhibition. At Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. This exhibition features photos and never-before-heard stories of the People's Princess from her Official Royal Photographer, Anwar Hussein, and his sons, Samir and Zak, who are now Official Royal Photographers for the next generation of Royals. Tickets are available here: www.PrincessDianaExhibit.com/Washington.

www.PrincessDianaExhibit.com/Washington.

SATURDAYS, STARTING MAY 28

Weekly Zumba Fitness. 12:30-1:30 p.m. Virtual. Come get in shape while having fun with Lan Le, a certified Zumba instructor! An invitation to attend this virtual event will be sent to registered participants 1-2 days before the event start time. Free. Email: adrienne.leo@fairfaxcounty.gov

SATURDAY/MAY 28

A Star-Spangled Salute. 6:30-8 p.m. At Reston Town Square Park, Market and Explorer Streets, Reston. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy a free patriotic concert, featuring The Reston Chorale and Brass of the Potomac. Details at RestonChorale.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 28

"Sixteen Candles" Movie. 7:30 p.m. At The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Part of '80s movie night. Tickets \$20.

MAY 28-29

NVMR Train Station Open House. 1-5 p.m. At Vienna Train Station, 231 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna. Stop by the Historic Vienna Train Station where you can see and hear HO scale model trolleys and trains including Thomas and some of his friends on display and in operation. Great family fun and activity for the young and young-at-heart. Hosted by the Northern Virginia Model Railroaders. See www.nvmr.org.

MAY 28-30

ViVa! Vienna!. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. At Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Voted Best Festival by Virginia Living magazine. Enjoy three days of amusement rides, carnival food and live entertainment. Those 21+ enjoy a

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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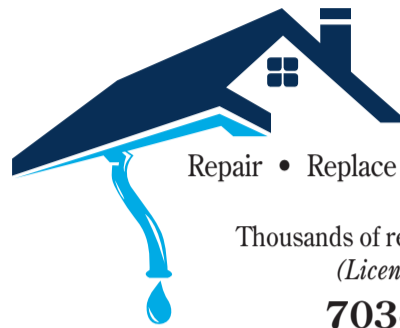


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Let us know about an upcoming event

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NEWS

Police Leaders of Tomorrow

Fairfax County police are now recruiting for Police Leaders of Tomorrow, a week-long program for young adults of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds to explore careers in law enforcement and learn about policing. The goal is to increase diversity in the FCPD.

The program is free and is open to people ages 18-24. Priority will be given to adults with diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds who are interested in joining the police academy within one year.

Classes will be held at Public Safety Headquarters in Fairfax, June 13-17, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and will include both classroom presentations and activities. Participants must attend all classes and go on a ride-along with a sworn police officer. Classes are limited to 15 students. Participants should provide their own transportation and bring a bag lunch.

Some of the course topics are crime scene investigation, helicopter division, K-9

demonstration, SWAT, patrol, traffic stops and crisis intervention. Applications are due this Friday, May 27. For the application and more details, go to <https://www.fairfax-county.gov/police/servicesiz/plot>.

Car Seat Inspections on June 2

Parents may get their children's car seats inspected on Thursday, June 2, from 5-8:30 p.m., outside the Sully District Police Station. It's at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Inspections are done on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants are asked to wear a mask and adhere to social-distancing and safety precautions.

They should also install the child safety seat, themselves, so the inspection can be performed. The seat will be properly re-installed, if necessary, and parents will be taught how to install the seat properly, in the future. Another car-seat inspection is scheduled for June 16, at the same place and time.

pine grove. The guest speaker will be Capt. J. O'Keefe, USCG. Town of Herndon Mayor Olem and Herndon Town Council members have been invited. The public is welcome to attend.

JUNE 2-5

Herndon Carnival. At Northwest Federal Credit Union, 200 Spring Street, Herndon. The Carnival will feature 22 rides, games, strolling entertainers, an assortment of food vendors, a Run Into Summer 5K Race (Sunday, June 5 at 7:30 a.m.), free shuttle bus service, and free admission. The Herndon Carnival is produced by the Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department with assistance from local civic organizations and businesses. Northwest Federal Credit Union is proud to serve as the title sponsor for the 2022 Herndon Carnival. Event attendees can learn about all the Carnival at herndoncarnival.net. Register for the race at www.herndoncarnival.net/10k-5k-races.html.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

separate but simultaneous beer garden at Backstage Brewfest. Visit the website: <https://vivavienna.org/>

SUNDAY/MAY 29

Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. At the Village Centre Green, Great Falls. Featuring Diamond Alley - Dance/rock mixing contemporary and classic hits. Hosted by Garai Orthodontic Specialists. Come relax at the Village Centre Green and enjoy laid-back evenings of good music and good times with your neighbors.

MONDAY/MAY 30

Avenue of Flags. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Chestnut Grove Cemetery, Herndon. Post 184 will present the Avenue of Flags. Post 184 will be holding a Memorial Day Ceremony at 10 a.m. at the Chestnut Grove Cemetery in the

Plum

FROM PAGE 5

Superintendent of Public Instruction, both of whom were recruited from other states and come with reputations of criticizing public schools in favor of charter and other schools. The report, "Our Commitment to Virginians: High Expectations and Excellence for All Students," along with an earlier report suggesting critical race theory and divisive concepts are in current school curriculum are the poorest and least helpful reports I have ever seen on public education.

The old saying that "figures do not lie, but liars figure" comes to mind when reading the most recent report. The report is heavy on data designed to make the case, but the data are often misinterpreted and misrepresented. School year 2020-2021 was one of the most challenging for the schools because of closures and virtual programming, but data from the year are blended in with regular years when convenient to make a

point. Scores on the NAEP tests are compared with State Standards of Quality to attempt to challenge Virginia's standing among the states as indicated above with what they term an "honesty gap." They make no mention that the two scores are not comparable as their definitions of proficient are drastically different. NAEP officials have consistently advised against making use of such comparisons in making policy. The report itself creates an "honesty gap" that raises suspicion about the remainder of its content.

The Governor has made clear his support for charter schools, and one of the outcomes of a report as this one is to build a case for charter schools as an alternative to public schools. Under current law charter schools can be established in the state, but few have been established because of the success of the public schools. There is no doubt that educational programs at all levels can be improved with adequate resources. Creating an honesty gap with what is happening in our schools is not a way to go about it.

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A Lot of Perspective



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If you allow it, cancer can be exhausting. However, I'm not referring to the physical toll treatment takes, which as many of you may not know, is often debilitating. Instead, I'm referring to the emotional toll: the worry, the fear, the uncertainty, the dying and of course, the premature death (although some might joke, any death is premature). It's been my intention to, as much as possible, ignore it all, and so far, I've done a pretty good job. Still, it's an anchor, figuratively speaking. It weighs you down, and sort of keeps you in the same place. If you let it, it can moderate your highs and deepen your lows. And being low (depressed) is all it's cracked up to be, and no way to fend off cancer, and/or try to live a semi normal life.

And really, trying to normalize your life despite a cancer diagnosis, with the ongoing treatment and/or the regular monitoring intervals: to scan, to complete lab work, to attend infusion appointments, et cetera, is the cost of doing business, so to speak, and hardly normal. Cancer doesn't always announce itself. Often, it appears out of nowhere with barely a symptom. And when that occurs to a lifelong non-smoker, age 54 and a half, with no family history of cancer, with both parents who lived into their mid-eighties, the absolute last thing you expect to hear from your primary care physician is: "The biopsy was malignant." So much so that when I heard it, I asked "What does that mean?" "What does that mean?" What kind of a moron am I? I know what 'malignant' means: trouble, with a capital "T." But cancer? I never imagined. Moreover, I'm not sure I even knew that an oncologist was a cancer doctor. In fact, it was my primary care doctor who set up our appointment with one for the following Thursday on this very same call. He didn't really elaborate much. He offered little information other than to suggest I bring along any family members. At that point, I began to get the message. I was not in Kansas anymore, if you know what I mean, and this initial appointment was only the beginning of what could very well be my end.

'My end?' I had just spent the last four years or so tending, along with my brother, Richard, and our family caregiver, Maria, to my father who died in early Dec. 2006, and then for another two years until early Dec. 2008, when my mother died, nearly on the exact day as my father had. I/we had been preoccupied with their lives since my father suffered his first stroke. It had been barely one month after we buried our mother, on Jan. 1st when I first experienced symptoms.

I had pain in my left rib cage which a few days later migrated to my right rib cage. That didn't seem right. And then on the weekend, when I had trouble catching my breath/inhaling, and had difficulty bending over, I had to admit that I needed to see a doctor. But cancer? No bleeping way. (I'd swear, but this is a community newspaper.)

Yet, from the depths of that initial despair, I have risen to live and breathe for another 13-plus years. I'm just glad that my parents weren't alive to hear my diagnosis. It would have been devastating for them to hear that their baby ("some baby," my mother would often say) yours truly was diagnosed with a terminal form of cancer. Hopefully, not knowing has enabled them to rest in peace. And what do I know? Cancer is bad enough on its own. You can't make it worse by giving into it. You must make peace with it or find a place for it in your life somehow. Fortunately, I'm good at compartmentalizing.

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



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEN TARR

Participants included these walkers who made the event a family affair.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEN TARR

Breanna and Zuri Thorpe helped fill food bags after the race.

5K Race In Chantilly Raises Money for Hungry Families

FROM PAGE 3

Power Packs for elementary-school students in the local community. Many children here rely on the free and reduced-price meals they receive at school, so they'll have something to eat. Distributed to schools by Food for Others, each Power Pack contains seven meals to alleviate hunger for these children over the weekend when they're not in school. Every \$5 donated purchases one Power Pack, and more than 3,700 students receive these packs weekly.

After the May 14 race, participants and volunteers packed more than 18,000 meals for Food for Others. But that's not all – an additional 15,000 fresh meals were funded and donated to Chantilly-based WFCM. So thanks to this fundraiser, some 33,000 meals went to hungry children in Fairfax County.

In 2021, WFCM launched a Free Food Fridge program to provide fresh and nutritious food options to local families whose children attend Chantilly High and/or the Boys & Girls Club of Chantilly. And WFCM Executive Director Harmonie Taddeo was delighted that her nonprofit received part of the Feed Fairfax 5K's proceeds.

"I am grateful to the race organizers and sponsors for including WFCM as a beneficiary of race registration funds this year," she said. "The \$12,000 we received will be used to purchase food for the Free Food Fridges that WFCM stocks regularly to provide supplemental fresh food for the students at Chantilly High School and at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington [at Ox Hill Baptist Church] in Chantilly."

Furthermore, said Taddeo, "In combination with the \$12,000 donation to Food for Others for its Power Packs, these funds will have a meaningful impact across the county. It is always a win when we can partner and engage with the community for solutions to



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEN TARR

Packing ramen for local children in need.

end food insecurity in Fairfax County – and this was a fun way to do it."

Greenbriar resident and active-duty Marine Ken Tarr, one of the race organizers, created the event with his wife six years ago when he was stationed at the Naval Academy in Annapolis. When they moved to this county, they established it here last year.

"I have yet to find a race that raises money and then has the participants pack the food," said Tarr. "Runners are literally the hands and feet. And the food they packed last weekend was eaten this weekend."

He also noted that the 1,001 miles the participants logged will provide a full year of meals for the Boys & Girls Club of Chantilly, as well as more than 11 weeks of food

for Chantilly High students. An experienced race director, triathlete and marathoner, Tarr enjoys using his talents to help where he can and give back to the community.

"As a Marine and a Christian, my goal has always been to serve others through servant leadership," he said. "And now that I'm a dad, I understand how food can impact a child's life even more."



PHOTO COURTESY OF HARMONIE TADDEO

From left, are Harmonie Taddeo and Annie Turner, executive directors of WFCM and Food for Others, respectively.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HARMONIE TADDEO

Harmonie Taddeo receives a \$12,000 check for WFCM from Ken Tarr.