



Retiring United States postal carrier Scott Arnold and some of the nearly 200 people and their dogs who live on his route.

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 7 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 10
PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Why Are Police Pointing Their Guns?
PAGE 2

\$300 Million+ in Congestion Relief
PAGE 4

McLean Postal Carrier Retires
PAGE 3

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Why Are You Pointing Your Gun at Me?

Video went viral; but context is needed says chief of police.
Town Hall scheduled for Thursday, July 21.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

The teenager in a video that went viral the weekend of July 9, 2022, asks two Fairfax County Police officers why they have their guns drawn. “Why you pointing your guns on me? Why you pointing your guns on me,” he asks.

While one officer has her firearm pointed at the teenager, another officer commands the teenager to drop his cell phone and get down on the ground. The second officer, who said drop your cell phone, appears to have raised his gun, and the level of his voice, when the teenager doesn’t immediately follow his instructions.

After the teenager is handcuffed and searched on the ground, a third officer asks the juvenile who has the gun?

“What gun?” the teenager asks.

The officer asks again, “Who has the gun?”

“What gun? No one has a gun,” said the teenager.

“Someone has a gun, why do you think we are here like this?” said the third officer.

In searching, Fairfax County Police officers

Rodney L. Lusk Hosts:
Franconia District
PUBLIC SAFETY TOWN HALL

Supervisor Lusk
Franconia District Supervisor

Chief Davis
Fairfax County Chief of police

Guests Dr. Noah Fritz & officers from the Franconia and Mt. Vernon District Stations.

Thursday, July 21st 06:00 PM

Watch on Zoom or Facebook Live

Email questions to leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov

The Public Safety Town Hall is Thursday, July 21 at 6 p.m.

TOWN HALL JULY 21, 6 P.M.

Register to watch on Zoom, or watch on Facebook Live.

Zoom

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Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/fairfaxcountyPD>

find eye drops in the juvenile’s pocket, but did not find any weapon on him or the two other teenagers arrested at the car dealership across Arlington Boulevard from the IHOP restaurant at 6555 Arlington Boulevard in the Fairfax County area of Falls Church.

At the end of body worn camera footage released by Fairfax County Police, the officer gives the juvenile the answer of why he and his colleagues responded the way they did.

“I’m going to level with you, okay? We got called because they said somebody had a gun and was threatening people with it at the IHOP across the street, alright. The officer saw you three running from that IHOP that’s why we’re having the response that we are, alright?” said the officer.

The three juveniles were detained and later released to their parents. An investigation continues.

SIX DAYS LATER, Fairfax County Chief of Police Kevin Davis held a press conference.

SEE TOWN HALL, PAGE 3

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NEWS

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Retiring United States postal carrier Scott Arnold and some of the nearly 200 people and their dogs who live on his route.



Retiring United States postal carrier Scott Arnold and some of the nearly 200 people and their dogs who live on his route.

No More Mailbags for Beloved McLean Postal Carrier

Hard to fill this carrier's shoes.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

On the final day of his almost 40-year career, USPS carrier Scott Arnold received the surprise of his life. More than 200 customers on his McLean route lined the streets on

Saturday, July 2, many with their dogs, to say farewell to their beloved carrier, Scott Arnold.

The celebration recognized a person who had traveled the same route and had witnessed the changes in the local communities. In the process, Arnold became part of the community and their families.

One of the many people who will miss him "dearly" is Kathlyn Burnell, who assisted in organizing and publicizing the surprise. According to Burnell, Arnold was on a first-name basis with every person on his route, and the first-name basis extended to his four-legged canine friends. Arnold even prepared gifts for them.

"At Christmas time each year, he prepared personalized stockings for our pets, along with a Santa Paws letter. This last year he delivered 250 of the socks to happy dogs and owners. He was an excellent mail carrier and a friend to each of us through good times and bad," Burnell said. "We wish him happiness and peace in a retirement well earned. We all miss him dearly."

Town Hall scheduled for Thursday, July 21

FROM PAGE 2

"We want you to be concerned when you see a video like that," he said.

"I know why you watch this and see a police officer pointing a gun at another person, that makes us all kind of cringe. If it didn't make us cringe to see a police officer pointing a firearm at someone, something would probably be wrong with us," Davis said.

Davis shared the level of distress from the 911 caller. Police learned that three juveniles entered the restaurant around 9:12 p.m.

"One of the juveniles threatened the hostess while another lifted his shirt revealing what appeared to be a handgun in his waistband," according to police reports.

The restaurant employee, who did not call earlier, called 911 around 11 p.m., saying that the group was back, circling the building, and were trying to get her to come out of the building.

"Can you come please? They are coming inside. Please, they are coming inside. Please, please, please."

"That call for service was made with

great emotion. She was scared. She saw a gun, she was threatened and she called the Fairfax County Police department and we responded," said Davis.

Her call was not played to protect her identity, said Davis.

"This was a priority response to a 911 gun call," he said. "Adrenaline is running high when you're dispatched to a 911 gun call. They're getting information from the dispatcher that's compelling, compelling."

The police officers that responded to this call acted lawfully, acted in accordance with Fairfax County police training and policies, and in accordance with community expectations, Davis said.

"Pointing a gun at someone in 2022 in America, a police officer pointing a firearm at someone is very serious, very serious. But if you just go by this viral video that kind of popped last weekend, I think there's an assumption that this person was a passerby. He was not a passerby. There's an assumption that maybe this person had nothing to do with the gun call. He did," said Davis.

"A viral video that lacks context can make its way around the world twice while the truth is putting its shoes on," said Chief Da-

vis. "We're here five or six days later because we wanted to get it right. We can get it fast and not get it right or we can get it right. Now, we have enough information that we want to share it with our community."

SUPERVISOR RODNEY LUSK will convene a virtual public safety town hall meeting on July 21 at 6 p.m. to address community concerns about multiple incidents of police use of force in the last few weeks.

Fairfax County Police officers shot and killed two men in separate incidents. A Reston man, Christian Parker, 37, was shot and killed in the parking lot of Springfield Town Center on June 30. Jasper Aaron Lynch, 26, was shot and killed in a McLean home on July 7 in a mental health crisis. (The week of July 1-7, Fairfax County Police reported that they responded to 194 calls for service for "persons experiencing mental health crisis.")

"Over the past three weeks, there have been a series of high profile incidents involving the Fairfax County Police Department," said Lusk in a statement released as he announced the date of the town meeting. "I share the concerns that I've heard from many in the community about both the nature of these incidents and the frequency at which they are occurring."

"I remain completely committed to providing the transparency required to ensure trust between our community and FCPD," Lusk said. Lusk is chairman of the Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee, and as such provides policy oversight for the police.

BOTH FATAL incidents were recorded on officers' body cameras, and that footage will be released along with audio recordings "within 30 days or when it no longer jeopardizes the integrity of the investigation."

Per department policy, the officers have been placed on restricted duty pending the outcome of an administrative investigation by the Internal Affairs Bureau.

An independent review will be conducted of the incidents by the Fairfax County Independent Police Auditor, Richard G. Schott. The Office of the Independent Police Auditor was established by the Board of Supervisors on the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, in the wake of the police shooting death of John Geer of Springfield. The recommendations of the commission also led to the timeline for release of information.

NVTA Adopts \$625 Million Six Year Program

Fairfax County lands \$336 million.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

With the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority unanimous vote on June 14 to adopt the FY2022-2027 Six Year Program, Fairfax County, Virginia's most populous jurisdiction, was allotted more than \$336 million, 53.7 percent of the \$625 million in approved infrastructure project funds to impact the region at large. NVTA received proposals for 26 FY2022-2026 SYP transportation candidate projects, and they adopted 20 multimodal transportation projects for full or partial funding. Six projects are in Fairfax County; one in the Town of Herndon; one in the City of Falls Church; two in the City of Alexandria; one in Arlington County; four in Loudoun County; four in Prince William County; and one in the City of Manassas.

The vote was both unanimous and nonpartisan. "That is just a very impressive thing to be able to do in this day and age," said Phyllis J. Randall, NVTA chair and Loudoun County chair (D-At-Large), who spoke at a press conference Friday morning, July 15.

"The fact that we passed this out last night unanimously, with every member of the Authority except one, being in the room. Everyone from Alexandria to Dumfries to Manassas to Loudoun, the entire region was there ... and of course, we also have State Senator Jennifer Boysko representing the State Senate and two gubernatorial appointees," Randall said. Del. Dave A. LaRock (R-33), who was put on the NVTA board by the governor and whose House district is north and west of Leesburg, was not present.

Monica Brockman, chief executive officer of NVTA said during the press conference that NVTA is in its sixth funding program since the passage of HB 2313, which is the transportation funding bill. "We are looking at slightly over \$3 billion (\$3.12 billion) in regional multimodal congestion relief solutions right here in Northern Virginia."

The projects will impact the region in three ways: first, as a multimodal/corridor focus with an emphasis on roadway/Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on the Rt. 1 corridor; second, the projects include transportation technology, decarbonizing transit fleets, and an ITS (In-

Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

FY2022-2027 Six Year Program: Adopted by the Authority

7/14/2022

Jurisdiction	Application ID	Project Title	Requested Amount	Approved Amount
Arlington County	ARL-021	Ballston-MU Metrorail Station West Entrance*	\$ 80,000,000	\$ 80,000,000
Fairfax County	FFX-126	Fairfax County Parkway Widening: Nomes Court to Route 123*	\$ 108,000,000	\$ 108,000,000
Fairfax County	FFX-124	8 New Battery Electric Buses - Fairfax Connector Buses for Tysons to Franconia Service	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000
Fairfax County	FFX-131	Richmond Highway Widening From Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway/Jeff Todd Way to Sherwood Hall Lane*	\$ 60,207,038	\$ 60,207,038
Fairfax County	FFX-128	Richmond Highway (Route 1) BRT*	\$ 80,000,000	\$ 80,000,000
Fairfax County	FFX-121	Soapstone Drive Extension: Sunset Hills Road to Sunrise Valley Drive*	\$ 73,793,037	\$ 73,793,037
Fairfax County	FFX-125	Seven Corners Ring Road Improvements: Arlington Boulevard (Route 50) Westbound Ramp to Castle Place/Sleepy Hollow Road	\$ 94,800,000	\$ 4,200,000
Loudoun County	LDN-023	Route 7 Corridor ITS Implementation Program	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000
Loudoun County	LDN-025	Route 7 Improvements: Route 9 to Dulles Greenway	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 20,000,000
Loudoun County	LDN-024	Ryan Road Widening (Phase 2): Evergreen Mills Road to Beaverdam Drive	\$ 16,000,000	\$ 16,000,000
Loudoun County	LDN-028	Loudoun County Parkway Interchange at US 50*	\$ 35,250,000	\$ 35,250,000
Prince William County	PWC-028	University Boulevard Extension: Devlin Road to Wellington Road	\$ 53,000,000	\$ 53,000,000
Prince William County	PWC-036	Old Bridge Road Widening: Colby Drive to Minnieville Road	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 25,000,000
Prince William County	PWC-027	Van Buren Road North Extension: Route 234 to Cardinal Drive	\$ 80,000,000	\$ 8,000,000
Prince William County	PWC-030	Route 1 at Route 123 Interchange	\$ 61,200,000	\$ 3,000,000
City of Alexandria	ALX-018	West End Transitway Phase 1b: South Van Dorn Street and Bridge Design*	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
City of Alexandria	ALX-020	Alexandria Bike and Pedestrian Trails Construction and Reconstruction: Holmes Run Trail - Dora Kelly Fair-weather Crossing Bridge	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
City of Falls Church	CFC-008	North Washington Street Multimodal Improvements Project: Great Falls Street to Gresham Place	\$ 22,500,000	\$ 22,500,000
City of Manassas	MAN-002	Liberia Avenue 3rd Lane Eastbound: Route 28 to Euclid Avenue	\$ 8,851,639	\$ 8,851,639
Town of Herndon	HND-005	Herndon Parkway Improvements at Worldgate Drive Extension	\$ 4,581,000	\$ 4,581,000
TOTAL			\$ 845,682,714	\$ 624,882,714
NVTA-approved				\$ 626,290,870
Regional Revenue				
Unprogrammed				\$ 1,408,156

NVTA approved funding amounts for candidate applications from eight jurisdictions.



Phyllis J. Randall, NVTA chair



Monica Backmon, chief executive officer of NVTA



Chairman Jeff McKay (D-At-Large)

telligent Transportation System) along the Rt. 7 corridor; third, the projects represent a balance of transit, bike and pedestrian, and transportation technology projects, spread geographically.

Randall said that NVTA is the "financial engine of the Commonwealth" in many respects, and congestion relief is its first goal. "If we cannot get home ... to our jobs, if we cannot get around, it does affect not only our economy but the economy of the entire Commonwealth. Transportation is a quality-of-life issue," Randall said. NVTA works on a 30 percent split, meaning that 30 percent of NVTA funds go back to localities. They can use those funds in whatever way they choose. "If they want to do bike and ped (pedestrian) with that 30 percent money, they are certainly welcome to," Randall said.

Seventeen of the 20 approved roadway transit, intersection, bike and pedestrian, and transportation technology projects are fully funded in line with requested funding amounts. Three are partially funded, preliminary engineering phase only.

Two of NVTA's three most significant funded projects are in Fairfax County: \$108 million for Fairfax County Parkway Widening, with a congestion reduction relative to cost rank, or CRRC, of #3 out of the 26 candidate applicants. \$80 million is for the Richmond Highway Route 1 BRT, bus rapid transit. CRRC rank #17. Arlington County's Ballston-MU Metro Rail Station West Entrance is tied funding-wise at \$80 million.

FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAIRMAN Jeffrey C. McKay (D-At-Large) said, "We regularly talk about our

goal in Fairfax County to 'move people' no matter how they choose or need to travel. I could not be more pleased with this investment in our community. I am especially thrilled for how we are transforming bus service in Fairfax County. The Fairfax Connector will add eight battery-powered vehicles, providing a clean, quiet, and efficient trip for customers traveling between transportation and employment hubs."

McKay said that when construction begins for The One, the county's new BRT, or bus rapid transit, in the Route 1 corridor, it "will completely remake this section of the county from a congested, aging commuter route into a vibrant, mixed-use model of living, working, and relaxing."

Mark Duceman, transportation planner at the Town of Herndon, noted that the NVTA funding of \$4.581 million does not fund the actual roadway extension for the Herndon Parkway at Worldgate Drive Extension project. The roadway project depends on the town's additional state funding under VDOT's Smart-Scale funding program. While the town is in Fairfax County, it is a separate jurisdiction.

Duceman explained that the project is directed toward the signalization of the future inter-

section of Worldgate Drive Extension with Herndon Parkway. "The signalization project is to relieve peak-hour congestion by increasing roadway capacity via additional turning lanes, raised median, and mode-separated ADA streetscape and cycle track. Ultimately, the project will result in improved traffic flow, safety, and multimodal circulation for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders for access to Metrorail as well as local and regional destinations," he said.

NVTA is a regional governmental entity of 17 members established to plan, prioritize, and fund regional transportation programs. The program funds what the Authority has deemed to be the most important transportation projects that would relieve congestion in relation to cost and improve the quality of life for Northern Virginians. The program focuses on geographic and modal balance.

What Makes a Project More Likely to Receive Funding?

Determining which projects land funding and which do not is tied to four key components of NVTA's project selection process. It begins

Can't Afford a Vacation? Try a Staycation

This area offers a wealth of opportunities for families who are staying local this summer

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Eating french fries and burgers with her young children, Ava Black asked them what they learned during a trip to Glen Echo Park earlier that afternoon. They told her that they had fun riding the carousel, but her six-year-old son said they found out that only whites were allowed to enter the park when it was first established. The Alexandria single mother of two usually takes her children on at least one vacation each summer, but this year forgoing an out-of-state trip and opting for a staycation.

"They've been asking to go to our family reunion in North Carolina," she said. "We drive there every year, but [the cost of] gas is too high so we're staying at home. They are going to have to settle for a call to their aunts, uncles and cousins."

Like many families who are grappling with inflation, Black's budget is so tight this year, that they are eschewing a summer vacation and opting for a local staycation. From Mount Vernon to Great Falls, the Washington, D.C. region offers a wealth of options for families who are staying close to home.

"Family adventures are wonderful ways to introduce children to new places and interests," said Lisa Turissini, Ph.D., Director, School of Education, Marymount University. "So, whether you are getting away on a vacation or staying home to enjoy a staycation, your child will thank you for the opportunity to explore a new location or to be able to act like a tourist in your own city."

"Children can learn so much from staycations," added Mary Mukherjee, Senior Program Director, Montgomery College Youth Programs. "They learn about different cultures, the geography, the language, the food. The possibilities are endless."

Slathering on sunscreen, packing a lunch, and heading to the National Mall can feel like a vacation, says Turissini. "One of the easiest ways to squeeze in a little learning during your vacation is to visit historic sites and museums," she said. "We are so lucky to live in the DC area with a number of living history museums such as the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and historic buildings such as Ford's Theatre, the White House [and] the Lincoln Memorial."

With two-thousand acres of land and 32 miles of trails for hiking and biking, Rock Creek Park is just one of the options for families who want to spend time outdoors. "Something as simple as exploring nature can be a great adventure for the little ones, said Turissini. "Great Falls Park is a great place to enjoy hiking trails, biking, bird watching, and picnicking. You don't have to be a child psychologist to see how much our children learn when they are just being kids and enjoying themselves."

Picking fruit at a local farm combines education-



PHOTO COURTESY OF AVA BLACK

Ava Black's budget is tight this year so she will not be taking vacation. Instead, she's creating a staycation for her children.

For another take on StayCations, see "Summer's Here and Possibly Time to Stay Put"

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2022/jun/13/summers-here-and-possibly-time-stay-put/>

al opportunities with family fun. "Once you're at home with your fruit, you can all measure the ingredients needed to bake an apple or blueberry pie or make a delicious smoothie," she said,

"Another great adventure is to spend time at the National Zoo," she continued. "Children love animals. Have them learn about endangered animals that you might be able to visit. And take advantage of any one-of-a-kind animal encounters or activities that may be available for your visit."

Staycations can be found inside your home, says Mukherjee. "Go through family photo albums and learn the genealogy of the family," she said. "This could lead to online research or even interviewing relatives like grandparents, aunts and uncles in person, over the phone or using Zoom. Be sure to write everything down. These stories and snippets of information are priceless."

Exploring your neighborhood and learning about its history can be challenging and enlightening, Mukherjee says. "Who established it originally? What is the history of the street names? Streets are often named for important people in the world and that particular neighborhood. Are there any historic houses? What is the geology of the neighborhood? What types of plants and trees grow there and why?"

By taking staycations, families can still have experiences that last a lifetime, Turissini says. "Teaching them these skills at a young age will serve them well as they grow up," she said. "And, as parents, joining your children in new adventures provides a fresh perspective and a view of the world through their eyes which strengthens family bonds and builds lasting memories."

NEWS

NVTA Adopts \$625 Million Six Year Program

FROM PAGE 4

with an eligibility review. The candidate project must be in a NOVA jurisdiction. Second, a quantitative analysis of congestion reduction relative to costs and long-term benefits. Third, qualitative analysis, past performances, external funding, projective readiness, and modal and geographic balance. Finally, NVTA considers public comment.

NVTA received 1,609 comments from 448 members of the public on the 26 candidate projects, according to the NVTA approved summary minutes. The public comment period ran from April 15, 2022 to May 22, 2022. On June 2, NVTA's CEO Monica Backmon posted a summary report of public comments along with the comments themselves on NVTA's website.

According to the Summary Minutes of the Thursday, June 9 NVTA meeting, Chairman Jeffery C. McKay, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, noted that many of these projects had undergone previous public comment at the jurisdictional level. While the Richmond Highway Widening project received a number of opposing comments, and the Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project received a number of supporting comments, "the two projects are interrelated and cannot exist without each other," McKay said.

Randall said that one thing in

this six-year program that had not occurred previously was an emphasis on transportation technology going longer than six years. According to Randall, our children will probably not use the same power source to drive and travel throughout the region as we do today. "If we are going to be ready for that time, we have got to invest in transportation technology right now, all the infrastructure for what we believe will be coming in the future," Randall said.

In addition to congestion relief and "getting people out of traffic as fast as possible," NVTA sought to strike a balance between transportation and geographical significance. "We're going to cut that ribbon this year on the Metro [Silver Line Extension], so we want to put money into transit projects, bus rapid transit, (and) Metro projects. ... We want to have projects (in) Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun; all of our cities and towns that are within our county boundaries," Randall said.

NVTA funds pedestrian and bicycle modes only if they lead to a more extensive transportation system.

"If there is a bike path that leads you to the Metro, then that is something we will look at. But for NVTA overall, our first goal is to do congestion relief," Randall said.

NVTA's next Call for Regional Transportation Projects is anticipated for May 2023.

Stem Volunteers Needed

The AAAS STEM Volunteers Program, stemvolunteers.org, needs STEM professionals to assist K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) teachers in the DC metro area during the 2022-23 school year. Our school districts are Montgomery County, DC, Arlington, Alexandria, and Fairfax County. All lessons will be in the classroom, and it is anticipated that masks and testing will be optional. If you care about K-12 STEM education and have time to share your knowledge with students and teachers, please send a note to bcalinge@aaas.org.

MCLEAN DISTRICT STATION

CARJACKING: 8500 block of Lee Highway, 7/10/22, 8:01 p.m. The victim was asleep in the passenger seat of his running 2021 Toyota Camry. While he was asleep, a man got in the car and drove away. When the victim awoke, the man implied he had a weapon and ordered the victim out of the vehicle. The man was arrested in a neighboring jurisdiction.

ASSAULT AND RECKLESS DISCHARGE: Monticello Drive/Labela Walk, 7/12/22, 10:57 p.m. A man and the victim were traveling in a vehicle when they got into an argument. The man demanded the victim to get out of his vehicle while displaying a handgun. When the victim refused, the man parked the vehicle and assaulted the victim. When the victim continued to refuse to get out of the vehicle, the man pulled the victim out of the vehicle while discharging a handgun. The man then left the area in the vehicle. The victim was treated for injuries that were not considered life threatening. This does not appear to be a random act.

VIENNA/OAKTON / MCLEAN CONNECTION ♦ JULY 20-26, 2022 ♦ 5

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Legals

ABC LICENSE
CB Theater Experience, LLC trading as CMX, 2001 International Drive, Suite 3700, McLean, Fairfax County, VA 22102-4605. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a retail on-premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jose Leonardo Marti, Officer. Date notice posted at establishment: July 18, 2022. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552-3200.

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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

CALENDAR

			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31		

Let us know about an upcoming event

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

CALENDAR

SATURDAY MORNINGS

Summer Programming for Kids. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. Reston Museum is launching new summer programming for kids! Visit the Reston Museum to participate in fun and creative activities inspired by Reston's history. Program is free and everyone will receive an Explore Reston packet.

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

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/>

MCLEAN FARMERS MARKET

The McLean Farmers Market opened for the 2022 season on May 6th, at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The market will run every Friday from 8 a.m. to noon through November 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. For more information, see: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/>

HERNDON FARMERS MARKET

Thursdays through Nov. 3, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 765 Lynn St., Herndon, VA, 20170 <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/herndon>

GREAT FALLS FARMERS MARKET

The Great Falls Farmers Market Outdoor Market is open every Saturday, Spring and Summer, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. For vendors and weekly highlights see <https://www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/>

NOW THRU AUG. 26 (FRIDAYS)

Storytime for Little Historians. 11 a.m. The second annual Storytime for Little Historians program returns this summer. Reston Museum invites our youngest visitors to the Reston Museum every Friday at 11 a.m. to listen to a story about Reston or one of Reston's founding principles. Books for the program come from the Reston Museum and Reston's Used Book Shop. Program is offered free of charge and each child will receive a goodie bag. Program is recommended for children under 7. Visit www.restonmuseum.org.

NOW THRU JULY 24

"Memory and Illusion." At Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 1609-A Washington Plaza, in Reston. A retrospective exhibit of more than 50 original paintings by Reston-based painter Sandra C Dovberg will be shown in the Jo Ann Rose Gallery at Reston Community Center-Lake Anne. Dovberg's solo exhibit, "Memory and Illusion," is a highly eclectic collection of paintings that show the versatility of the artist who is also an award-winning silversmith and jewelry designer. Everyone is welcome to an informal reception to meet the artist at the gallery on Sunday, July 10 from 2 until 4 p.m.

NOW THRU JULY 31

Art in Motion. At Reston Art Gallery, 11400 Washington Plaza West, Reston. Mobiles and Stables by Wayne Schiffelbein on display. An array of mobiles suspended from the ceiling and stables displayed on tabletops are presented by Wayne Schiffelbein in his show, "Art In Motion." The show offers 20 pieces of Schiffelbein's latest 'Calder-esque' works that range in size from 1 1/2 inches to 46 inches in

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Lil'Maceo will appear in Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park in McLean on Sunday, July 24, 2022.

width, each with its own distinctive character in combinations of colorful aluminum and glass balanced with stainless steel.

NOW THRU AUG. 18 (THURSDAYS)

Farmers' Market Fun Days. At Town Green, 730 Elden Street, Herndon. Enjoy free kid-friendly entertainment on Thursdays running July 7-August 18 from 10:30-11:15 a.m. on the Town Green, 730 Elden Street. Before or after the performance, people are welcome to shop the locally grown and homemade goodies at the Farmers' Market from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., on Lynn Street in historic downtown Herndon. If inclement weather occurs, call the Inclement Weather line at 703-435-6866 for the status of the performance.

Entertainment Schedule:

July 21: Marsha and the Positrons - songs about science and how the world works
July 28: Mr. Jon and Friends - Parents Choice Award winning music for kids
August 4: Milkshake - music for little dudes
August 11: Groovy Nate - fun and educational shows using exotic musical instruments
August 18: Rainbow Rock - plays original children's music for the tot rock set
To learn more about the Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department, visit herndon-va.gov/recreation, or call 703-787-7300.

JULY 22-24

"The Show Must Go On!" 8 p.m. At The Alden Theater in McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The Show Must Go On! A Musical Revue marks the return of the McLean Community Players to the Alden Theater after a three-year hiatus because of the pandemic. This gala revue remembers songs from past shows and looks to the future with songs from shows MCP has not done yet.

FRIDAY/JULY 22

"Something Different." 6:30 p.m. At the Vienna Town Green, Vienna. Come to a free outdoor family friendly performance suitable for ages 3 and up. Presented by Vienna Theater Company's TFYA (Theatre for Young Audiences). Produced by: Mary Ann Hall and directed by: Holly Harrington.

SATURDAY/JULY 23

Block Party. 4:30-7 p.m. At St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren Street, Herndon. Food trucks, Moon Bounce, and fun activities will be available. Picnic on the church lawn and listen to Big Al's Garage perform live music.

SATURDAY/JULY 23

Food and Hygiene Event. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Rotary Satellite Club of Herndon-Reston holds a Nonperishable Food & Hygiene Event monthly on the fourth Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Items may be dropped off at Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon benefiting LINK and F.A.I.T.H.

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More Than I Bargained For



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As a longtime homeowner of a historic home, one dating back to the early 1800s, to say there's ongoing upkeep/maintenance required is to state the obvious. What wouldn't be so obvious is the total inability of yours truly, cancer notwithstanding, to do any kind of constructive, presumed-to-be-within-the-man's purview-type repairs. Moreover, home improvement projects and/or any number of garden variety/common sense modifications like adding shelves, changing light switches/adding a dimmer, fixing a toilet, hanging pictures, et. cetera, are also outside of my comfort zone. A zone which barely exists. Nothing too complicated in the scheme of things mind you, but way too complicated for me. In addition, as you might imagine, tools are not my friends. In fact, they are my sworn enemies. If I pick up a hammer or a chain saw (which I do own), I'm more likely to hurt myself than I am to hit my target. I can live with my shortcomings. However, it's becoming increasingly difficult for my wife, Dina, to endure my incompetence.

Aside from my shortcomings, not being able to do anything costs money. And to hire anybody to do these kinds of homeowner tasks costs big money, usually a retail-type of cost to what it might cost compared to what it might cost a more capable homeowner - unlike myself, to do the job himself (wholesale). And other than Ghostbusters, who you gonna call? If you're lucky, you have a referral to somebody reliable and knowledgeable. If you're me, you don't so you have to find some other trusted resource. And that resource amazingly exists online. You simply list your project, your zip code and other pertinent information (cell phone and email specifically) and wait for the feedback. It's almost immediate. Within seconds almost, the phone rings and/or your email receives - with offers. Within these offers are typically star-type evaluations and comments from previous users of this specific service. It's all, in my limited experience, reassuring and so I've hired these "pros" on multiple occasions and so far, so good. I still feel helpless, but I don't feel directionless - if that's even a word.

But there's a downside. The amount of communication either over the phone or electronically before the job and/or after the job has been completed is relentless. It's nonstop. Initially, there is the solicitation of the job which spawns any number of calls/emails offering. Once you're able to commit and hire the pro, the solicitations don't stop. On occasion, I've received calls/emails for another day or two until my non-reply eventually stops the outreach. It's intrusive enough before the job, but after, it's worse. In the pursuit of feedback, presumably (I've only responded electronically, never on the phone though), the calls continue for days. The caller ID tells me who's calling so I don't have to answer but I still make note - mentally, of who called. I don't tally the calls, but I can tell you, it's been upwards of a dozen over a couple of days - along with emails. I can appreciate that the service wants feedback from the person who hired the pro to post it on their site to educate the public, so to speak, but enough is enough. A good faith effort to contact me is all that's required. If I don't respond after a few calls, leave me be.

Nevertheless, because of this service, I have been able, recently to get out of my own way and let a professional handle the work. And so far, I have had good luck - with a plumber, an electrician, and a gutter/air-duct-cleaning service, to name a few. I feel as if we've made some progress, which as the owner of a historic home (yes designated as such), is a constant battle, one which I have consistently lost - for years. But I don't feel as irresponsible since I have a resource. I still can't do any homeowner-type stuff myself, but I can certainly hire someone. I just wish the cost - literally and figuratively, for the experience was less. Because, unfortunately for me, the demand far outweighs the supply, and the end is nowhere in sight.

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



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1564 Great Falls Street, McLean

Wonderful & Spacious 4BR/3.5 BA colonial luxury home in super convenient McLean location! This light/bright sun-drenched home features hardwood floors, new carpet, new paint throughout; gourmet island kitchen with spacious breakfast room; lovely patio area off breakfast room & fenced yard. UL large office/BR with built-ins, vaulted ceilings, walk-in closets & full bath. The expansive unfinished LL has rough-in bath, and tons of room to add recreation room & guest room.
Close to everything – McLean HS pyramid!



Under Contract!

Offered for...\$1,099,000

2315 N. Van Buren Ct, N. Arlington

GORGEOUS 3BR/3.5 BA end-unit luxury brick townhome in sought-after N. Arlington location! Beautiful park views! 2 blocks to the **East Falls Church Metro!** This light/bright sun-filled home features sparkling hdwd flooring, tall windows, beautiful touches including crown molding and chair rail. Kitchen includes bay window and bench seating plus stainless steel appliances, granite counters, custom backsplash and breakfast bar! Wonderful primary BR suite; LL w/ rec room, full bath and walk-out! **Arlington schools!**



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We're seeing multiple contracts and escalations! Call to chat with JD today!