

# THE CONNECTION

CENTREVIEW ❖ Chantilly ❖ Great Falls ❖ Herndon ❖ McLean ❖ Oak Hill ❖ Oakton ❖ Reston ❖ Vienna

## The Need Is Great

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### Report on Uptick in Police Shooting Incidents

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### Does It Matter? Reston Comp Plan Briefly Deferred

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Arriving at WFCM, Sen. Mark Warner chats with Supervisor Kathy Smith and WFCM Executive Director Harmonie Taddeo.

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JUNE 21-27, 2023

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# NEWS

## Significant Uptick in FCPD Officer-Involved Shootings

### PERF review of FCPD policy and shooting incidents.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The Police Executive Research Foundation completed its April 2023 Fairfax County Police Department, Review of Issues Surrounding Recent Police Shooting Incidents. Released online last week to the public, the 17-page report cites a significant uptick in police shooting incidents, examines some possible causes and provides recommendations.

Fairfax County police officers have been involved in at least eight police shooting incidents since July 19, 2021, with three fatal. In contrast, during the seven years before July 19, 2021, there were a total of eight police shooting incidents. Chief Kevin Davis became chief of FCPD in May 2021.

“The starkest commonality is that five of the seven incidents involved a person experiencing some type of mental health crisis,” according to the report.

PERF noted that “none of the officers involved in the seven PSIs examined was trained in Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics (ICAT) program at the time of the critical incident.” PERF designed ICAT to give officers more tools, skills and options for handling critical incidents by recommending changes to police use of force policies and training to incorporate de-escalation tactics.

On March 3, 2023, Chief Kevin Davis of the Fairfax County Police Department and the D.C.-based Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) agreed to an examination of the agency’s police shooting incidents. The agreement came immediately after the fatal Feb. 22 police shooting of unarmed shoplifting suspect Timothy Johnson, 37, in Tysons following a foot pursuit. According to an FCPD Public Affairs Bureau online post, the review would include all of 2021, and offer guidance to the agency regarding its foot pursuit policy.

PERF’s review is divided into six sections with recommendations for each: I. Mental Health-Related Calls; II. Review of FCPD’s Use-of-Force Policy; III. FCPD’s Failure to Outfit Its Street Crimes Unit with Body-Worn Cameras; IV. FCPD’s Investigation of Its Members; V. Foot Pursuits; and VI. Collecting and Managing Mental Health Data. PERF’s focus would not be on any singular event or individual police officer but on pinpointing areas where FCPD could improve its core business practices through recommendations, citing performance patterns, deficiencies, or trends.

#### Not Included

When PERF examined the seven police shooting incidents since 2021 in its review, it did not examine the fatal police shooting of Timothy Johnson, the eighth police

Date Precinct	Call/Incident Type	Overview	Subject	Subject Weapon	Officer	Outcome
7-19-2021 West Springfield	<b>Mental Health Call</b> Woman in group home threatening self and others with knife.	Officers entered group home and when subject approached with knife, one officer fired weapon.	Asian Woman 30y	Knife	- W/M – 39y - 14y on job - K-9 officer	Shot:  Survived gunshot wound
1-4-2022 Sully	<b>Mental Health Call</b> Father reports bipolar son, armed with knife, in basement threatening people.	Police established a perimeter outside the house. When the subject came out of house and pointed compound bow in direction of officers, one officer fired weapon.	White Man 52y	Compound Bow	- H/M – 32y - 3y on job	Shot:  Survived gunshot wound
2-15-2022 Franconia	<b>Mental Health Related</b> (Unknown to responding officers)  A civilian reports a suspicious vehicle in the neighborhood.	Police were called to investigate a suspicious vehicle and did not see a person in the van due to its tinted windows. A tow-truck driver opened the passenger door and a homeless man living inside the van pointed a rifle at people outside the van. One officer fired. After being shot, the man yelled “just kill me” and other statements indicating he no longer wanted to live.	White Man 34y	Rifle	- W/M – 24y - 2y on job	Shot:  Survived gunshot wound
6-30-2022 Franconia	<b>Wanted / Warrant</b>	Police located the subject (wanted on warrant) in a parking lot and boxed him in. Subject appeared to reach for gun. Pistol retrieved afterward.	Black Man 37y	Pistol	<b>2 shooting officers</b> W/M 32y // W/M 27y 8y on job // 2y on job	Shot:  <b>Fatal</b>
7-7-2022 McLean	<b>Mental Health Call</b> Call for man breaking items in house. History of anxiety/depression. “Not violent.”	Police entered the house. After taser attempt failed, man approached with bottle (and large wooden mask) and one officer fired.	White Trans Man 26y	Bottle Mask	- W/M - 32y - 9y on job	Shot:  <b>Fatal</b>
8-2-2022 Mason	<b>Undercover Drug Buy</b>  No body-worn cameras	Subject fled after drug buy. Officers engaged in vehicle pursuit and PIT maneuver. Sergeant shot subject, according to the sergeant, after he saw the subject make movements that he thought were consistent with wanting to shoot an officer.	Black Man 41y	<b>Unarmed</b>	- W/M – 32y - 11y on job	Shot:  Survived gunshot wound
10-6-2022 Mason	<b>Mental Health Related</b> (Unknown to responding officers) Assist to Arlington County.	Arlington County requested assistance with a pursuit involving a man pointing a gun out of a car. After the pursuit ended, the subject fired at officers. One officer fired back. After being taken into custody, the subject said he was trying to get help.	Hispanic Man 27y	Pistol	- W/M – 34y - 10y on job	Not struck by bullet

SOURCE: OVERVIEW OF INCIDENT INFORMATION, POLICE EXECUTIVE RESEARCH FORUM



Police Chief Kevin Davis



Chairman Jeff McKay



Supervisor Rodney Lusk

shooting incident. On Feb. 22, Johnson, suspected of stealing sunglasses, was killed during a nighttime foot pursuit by FCPD officers that ended when Johnson was shot through the chest. PERF did not examine officer reports, but it commented on the incident in its review based on the FCPD’s public website video.

PERF also did not examine FCPD’s most recent fatal police shooting incident on May 11 since it occurred after its review.

On May 11 Brandon Lemagne, 38, of Newport News, was shot at close range after attacking and attempting to disarm a police officer in Mount Vernon. Lemagne was pronounced dead at the scene. Master Police Officer Kenyatta Momon, a 24-year veteran, and Police Officer First Class Christopher Grubb, an 8-year veteran of the department, discharged their firearms. The incident remains under investigation.

Body Worn Camera video was shown at a

press conference on May 25, and that video was missing frames that showed bystanders when Grubb fired multiple shots, and frames that show Lamagne’s empty hands and the fatal shooting of Lamagne. The omission of those frames raised questions of transparency. See <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2023/jun/06/two-bwc-views-fatal-police-shooting/>

“Like with any major incident, every aspect of this officer-involved shooting will be fully investigated to determine if the officers followed FCPD General Orders and Standard Operating Procedures,” said Chairman Jeff McKay. McKay said he would “withhold judgment until I see the results of that investigation, which is ongoing.”

Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D-Franconia), chair of the Safety and Security Committee, declined to comment on the May 11 police shooting incident. “Supervisor Lusk has no comment on the May 11th officer-involved

shooting as that internal investigation is still ongoing,” said a member of his staff in an email.

When the Chief addresses incidents involving the police that are under investigation, he, too, is expected to withhold judgment until the results of the investigation. But Davis described the officers’ actions as “more than justified.”

“I think it is very important that the chief remain neutral during press conferences and stick to the facts of the event with little to no commentary,” said Rev. Vernon Walton. Walton is one of ten members of the Fairfax County Police Reform Matrix Action Working Group charged with transforming a matrix of community suggestions collected by Lusk’s office, into an action plan. Walton is also the senior pastor at Vienna Baptist Church.





Sen. Mark Warner with some of WFCM's partners and staff members.



Mark Warner talks with (from left) Harmonie Taddeo and Kathy Smith outside WFCM's warehouse.

# Passion to Help People in Need

## Sen. Mark Warner visits WFCM's food pantry in Chantilly.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**N**onprofit Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) serves 4,500 residents in nine western Fairfax County ZIP codes. With the community's support, in FY 22 it provided nearly 1 million pounds of food, equal to more than 458,745 meals.

It also gave families in need more than \$4.6 million in emergency rent and utility assistance and, through a partnership with Greater DC Diaper Bank, provided 427,075 diapers. So it's no wonder that U.S. Sen. Mark Warner visited WFCM's Chantilly food pantry last Friday, June 16, to learn firsthand about this local success story and local need.

Warner toured the client-choice food pantry with WFCM Executive Director Harmonie Taddeo, heard from community members who benefit from WFCM's services, and participated in a roundtable discussion with WFCM leaders and partners about their current and future needs, plus their challenges and solutions in addressing food and housing insecurity in this area.

"It's really extraordinary what you do," said Warner after the tour. "Harmonie showed me every product with loving pride. Even in a wealthy community, there's a need for food."

Indeed, WFCM's clients can earn no more than \$75,000 for a family of four and must live in its service areas, including Centreville, Chantilly, Clifton, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Oak Hill and Herndon. And in FY 22, 81 percent of these households earned no more than \$55,500 for a family of four.



Harmonie Taddeo shows Sen. Warner a walk-in cooler inside the pantry.

They schedule appointments to pick out groceries from the pantry every 30 days, aided by WFCM's bilingual staff, since about half of the clients speak Spanish. The offerings include both fresh and shelf-stable food, plus culturally appropriate items such as masa flour and halal meat.

The local faith community and other organizations help WFCM carry out its job. For example, Taddeo told Warner, "We have partnerships with Britepaths for its financial classes, Grace Ministries for clothing and household goods, and Cake for Kids, which provides custom-made birthday cakes. We work with the Capital Area Food Bank to connect us with area grocery stores and can also get USDA emergency-assistance food at a reduced price."

Thanking Warner for the federal government's help during the pandemic, Taddeo said the COVID-19 relief funds authorized by Congress and supported by him enabled WFCM to bolster its services. It used this money to purchase refrigerators for locations throughout its service area, renovate its food pantry with freezers and walk-in coolers, and buy two commercial vans – one,

refrigerated. These funds also helped WFCM provide food, rent support and other essential services to area residents.

"We have 11 refrigerators in schools, plus three others at the Boys & Girls Club in Chantilly, the Centreville Labor Resource Center and the Sully Community Center," said Taddeo. "And at our pantry, we serve about 500 families a month. The amount of groceries they receive depends on the number of people in their family. Today, a family of seven will walk out with 25 bags of food."

Since it's difficult for Centreville clients without cars to shop at the Chantilly food pantry – and the demand in that area is growing – WFCM opened a second pantry in Centreville on June 6. "Some 66 percent of our clients are employed," said Taddeo. "But if you're sick and off work for a week, you can't pay your rent or buy groceries."

The pantry encourages people to select healthy food but lets them decide. Green, yellow and red labels on the shelves signify, respectively, "healthy, eat in moderation, and eat less" of particular items. Everyone receives toilet paper and soap and

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



From left, Kathy Smith, Mark Warner and Harmonie Taddeo during the roundtable discussion.

may choose one other toiletry item per family member.

"Every week, 110 volunteers pick up donated groceries from stores, stock our shelves and bag groceries for our clients," said Taddeo. "Having refrigerators enables us to buy milk, eggs, cheese and butter in large quantities."

She even showed Warner the outdoor containers with compost used to fertilize a small garden outside the Chantilly facility where kale, spinach, etc., are grown. In the warehouse, Taddeo said the annual, Boy Scout food drive yields about 55,000 pounds of food for WFCM. "It used to last us six months," she said. "But now, because we're serving more people, it only lasts three months."

Taddeo pointed out the freezers, plus the insulated blankets used to keep food cold during drive-through distributions or deliveries. Also touring, Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully) told Warner, "I don't know what we'd do without WFCM. It's really a group, community effort."



ROUNDUPS

## Chantilly Receive Cappies Awards

Congratulations to Chantilly for the Cappies awards they received at the June 12 gala at The Kennedy Center. Jack Wolff captured the award for Lead Actor in a Male Role in a Play for Chantilly's "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," and Chantilly's Hannah Moghaddar was honored with the Bill Strauss Graduating Critic award.

## Sully Governmental Center Celebrates 20 Years

The Sully District Governmental Center will celebrate its 20th anniversary this Saturday, June 24, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly, but attendees should park at the nearby Sully Station Shopping Center at 5053 Westfields Blvd. in Centreville.

The fun will include police and fire displays, a deejay, children's games, food trucks, therapy dogs and an open house. Admission is free, but attendees are asked to bring a canned good for Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' (WFCM) food pantry, which serves local families.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before the event.

**FREE INDEPENDENCE DAY LYFT RIDES**  
Preparing to combat that time of year when, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, over a third (39%, 2021) of U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers,\* a local nonprofit organization announced that free safe rides will be offered to would-be drunk drivers throughout the Washington-metropolitan area during the Independence Day holiday. Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2023 Independence Day SoberRide program will be in operation beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 4th (Independence Day) and operate un-

til 4:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 5th as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk period. During this 12-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones then enter the SoberRide code in the app's 'Payment' tab (under the 'Add Lyft Pass' option) to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's 2023 Independence Day SoberRide promo code will be posted at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 4th on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15

# State Farm Insurance

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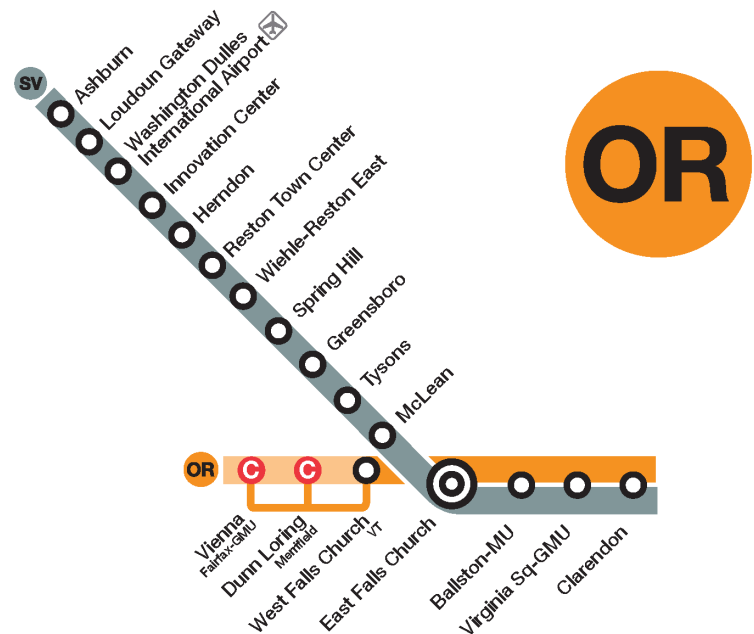
## June 26 – July 16, 2023 2023 Major Construction

No **OR** service between Vienna & West Falls Church due to track work.

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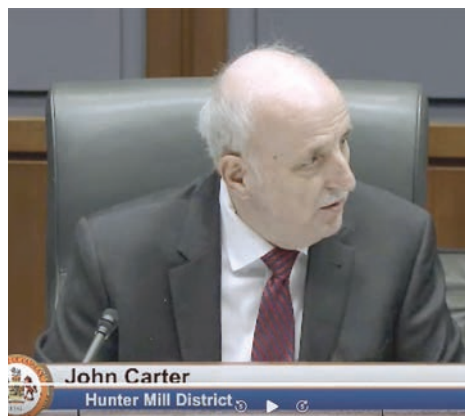
For more information, call 202-637-7000 or go to [wmata.com/2023majorconstruction](http://wmata.com/2023majorconstruction)



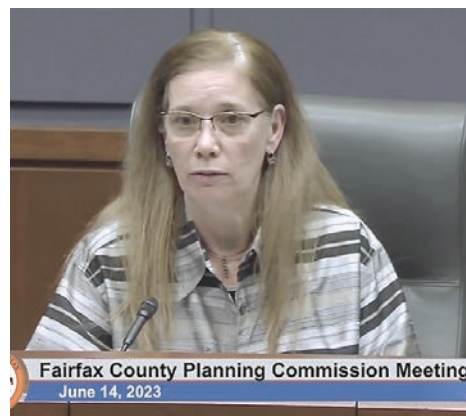




Planning Commission Chairman Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner



Planning Commissioner John Carter, Hunter Mill District



Planning Commissioner Mary Cortina, Braddock District



Michael Garcia, Transportation Planning Section, FCDOT

# Action Deferred on Reston Comp Plan Study

Public hearing testimony fraught with details, one-offs and major issues.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

When the Fairfax County Planning Commission convened for its meeting on Wednesday, June 14, it granted unanimous approval to defer action on the Reston Comprehensive Plan Study application PA 2020-III-UP1 Hunter Mill, until June 28. Additionally, the commission approved keeping the record open for written comments through June 28. The Reston Comprehensive Plan Study was scheduled for decision and public hearing.

During the discussion that preceded the end of nearly three hours of public testimony, Commissioner John Carter, Hunter Mill District, said, “No rest for the weary on this,” indicating that the matter at hand would require further attention and action.

During the discussion, Carter mentioned several issues that needed to be resolved. The first is that projects are underway in the Reston Transit Station Areas (TSAs). These could be considered in follow-on motions.

Environmental concerns remained confined to the policy plan and did not go beyond it. Concerns should have translated into tangible action. According to Carter, there may be areas where they need to exceed current efforts, particularly in the TSAs. Carter clarified that he was not suggesting the implementation of a distinct environmental section for every area. Instead, he proposed something “a little more nuanced” might be beneficial.

Carter admitted that those developing the environmental section expressed frustration with the outcome, citing that it did not go further.

To Carter, “aesthetics” was not the correct word to describe what he referred to as “communication.”

“I think our plans are not keeping up with what we should do and how they communicate,” Carter said.

He recommended incorporating graphics with descriptive captions that provide context and convey the intended message rather than simply presenting a visual of flowers. According to Carter, the matter falls under



Lynne M. Mulston of Reston Citizens Association testifies.

“The environmental stewardship chapter contains a section regarding noise. Are these guidelines for development in the TSA area, including repurposed buildings? A post-development noise study seems like a waste of time and money unless there’s going to be some further noise mitigation requirements.”

the jurisdiction of the planning department.

Carter stressed the Reston case is a widely recognized plan that has been extensively studied across the United States as a part of the New Planning Movement.

“People are going to be looking at the way we communicate ... It’s about the look and feel of the way a plan is created, its fonts, what’s on the pages; all of that is worth a look,” Carter said.



Perry Neal testifies regarding the North Shore connector.

“There’s nobody here to represent her. She was born on the [autism] spectrum... We found this place, and when we let her out the back gate ... there’s a 150-year-old oak. This plan is bulldoze right through there, and she will not have a place to play. That’s what you’re going to do ... Get down to details. You’re doing something you don’t need to do.”

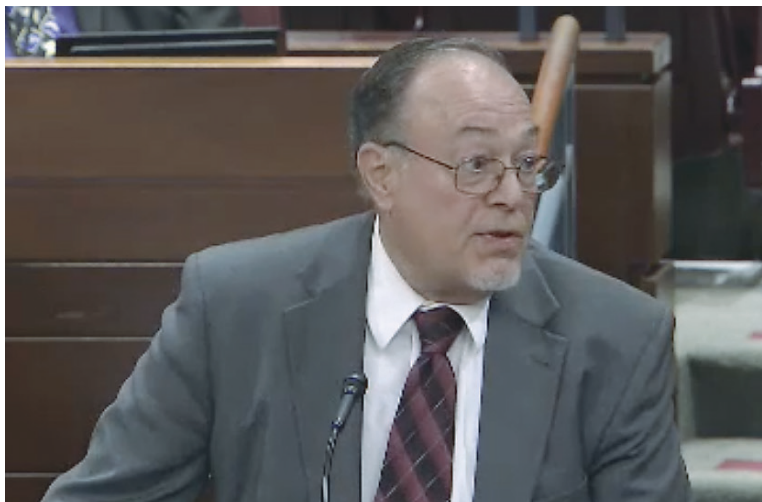
The public hearing was an outpouring of emotions as community members testified about various issues. “Comments by the community warrant solid consideration,” said Chairman Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner. “This process has gotten us to the point where those very specific recommendations can be made by the community.” Niedzielski-Eichner is chairman of the commission and represents the Providence District.

The issue of roads in Reston had a particularly profound impact on the attendees. During the discussion, three roads were mentioned by Michael Garcia, Transportation Planning Section, FCDOT. A six-lane recommendation for the Sunset Hill road stretch between Reston Parkway and Wiehle Avenue has been proposed. Two other

SEE DEFER RESTON COMP PLAN, PAGE 7  
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



# Action Deferred on Reston Comp Plan Study



Mark Malcolm of Reston lives in Polo Fields adjacent to the Herndon TSA.

FROM PAGE 6

roads are as problematic. One is Reston Parkway, located south of Sunrise Valley Drive. The other is Fairfax County Parkway, described as “basically a freeway for the most part.” The remaining Reston roads have been designated as “people first” zones, prioritizing local traffic, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Opportunities arise for calm, localized roads.

Garcia said their priority is to establish connections to improve traffic flow. Turn lanes and road widening are often considered viable options, but these measures are typically only implemented as a last resort. According to Garcia, there is planned prescriptive guidance on implementing change.

Commissioner Mary Cortina, Braddock District, expressed the confusion regarding the transportation plans. There seemed to be a discrepancy between the proposed plans and the actions taken, she said, as transportation actions focused on widening.

Cortina revisited the testimony that had been presented to them. A balancing act remains a crucial aspect. Reston residents claim it is difficult to get from one end of the community to the other. “I still see a bit of a mismatch with the road network and with the goals of Reston,” Cortina said.

“You add more traffic lights in order to improve the level of numbers perhaps ... trying to satisfy all of these different issues... Trying to understand where it is the most important capacity(wise) and where it’s most important to slow the capacity,” Cortina said.

According to Cortina, describing arterial roads on every arterial road in the county, such as Route 50 and Braddock Road, along with adding trees, sidewalks, and benches, would thrill her. She was not sure why those in Braddock District couldn’t have that too. Cortina said Reston is quite different from the rest of the county but suggests, “we need to go a little bit further and really scrutinize these road widening.”

The Commission announced plans to create a chart

## Why Does It Matter?

The comprehensive plan determines “how Reston should and should not change in the future.” said Supervisor Walter Alcorn said on Jan. 14, 2020, introducing the amendment to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan for Reston. The plan amendment is important because Reston’s planned development, infrastructure, and environment are changing even faster than they did before 2020 when the Reston Phase II plan amendment for village centers and residential areas was adopted, and 30 rezonings were approved.

to itemize all comments received. However, the task still needs to be completed. On July 12, the Commission may make a decision contingent upon their ability to present the chart in a manner that effectively conveys the comments.

In a unanimous decision, the commissioners cast their votes to defer their decision and keep comments open until June 28.

## Timeline: Recent Actions and Tentative Schedule Forward

Original Staff Report Published	May 24, 2023
Plan Amendment Addendum	June 13, 2023
Planning Commission Meeting	June 14, 2023
* Action Deferred to June 28, 2023 with comments remaining open	
Planning Commission Meeting	June 28, 2023 (Revised: 6/14/23)
Board of Supervisors Meeting	
Public Hearing	July 28, 2023

“Fairfax County Parkway eventually is being expanded from four to six lanes. When it was originally built, it lacked a noise barrier ... One of the things that is in the existing plan, (is) both in its transportation section and the noise section. It’s inadequate to ensure that a sound barrier will be built when the road gets expanded.”

## Rockets Red Glare. Bombs Bursting in Air Find a Way Here for July 4

Lots of states sell the fireworks that are illegal in Virginia.

By MIKE SALMON  
THE GAZETTE

Every year, it usually starts in the daylight hours on July 4, or the weekend before. A few firecrackers here and there, a lone bottle rocket soars through the air before exploding. As the sun sets, more pops, and rockets soaring in the neighborhoods to the ooh’s and aaah’s from the folks on the ground. It goes on all night too.

Wait a minute, these are illegal in Fairfax County without a permit, right?

According to the county, “consumer fireworks legally permitted for sale and use in Fairfax County are known as permissible fireworks,” the website states. But that’s where they draw the line, and they list illegal fireworks as well. “Aeri-



At the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, they are having a pre-July 4th show this year, Saturday, July 1. See the calendar on page 13 for other local fireworks, including Vienna, Great Falls, Reston and more.

al shells, firecrackers, cherry bombs, roman candles, and skyrockets are just a few examples,” the county said.

In 2022, the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department responded to over 40 fireworks-related incidents in Fairfax County. The total property and content loss with these incidents was \$72,536, said Ashley Hildebrandt, Director of Public Information at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department.

Since even the possession of unapproved fireworks is prohibited in Fairfax County, such fireworks will be confiscated and the person possessing them can be charged with a Class 1 misdemeanor. This carries a maximum penalty of a \$2,500 fine and/or one year in jail, the county website read.

There is an extensive 19-page list of what

is allowed too, and these permits are only valid from June 1 to July 15 of each year. The fireworks listed in this document are classified as “permissible fireworks” for purposes of applying and enforcing the Statewide Fire Prevention Code. starting with the Allen Party Assortment to item GG0359 called the WOO WOO! There are many colorful names on the list including the “Dancing Butterfly,” the “Radioactive Meltdown,” and the “Frisky Starburst.” One can just picture sparks flying every which way and the sulfur smell that hangs around the backyard on a hot July 4 night. With colorful names like these, what could they hurt?

According to Hildebrandt, there have been a number of injuries in the past few years. In 2018 there were three serious injuries, 2019

there were four and three again in 2020 with a total property damage of nearly \$700,000.

### Explosions Wanted?

Alas though, just putting a cone on the ground, lighting it and watching the shower of sparks may not be enough for some, so it’s time for a road trip down I-95 to a place called “South of the Border.” This stop is right inside of the South Carolina border and is famous for fireworks that are illegal in other states. It started as a beer stand in 1949 and now has a motel, gas stations and shelves and shelves of firecrackers, bottle rockets, M-80s and smoke bombs just to name a few. Isn’t this

SEE FIREWORKS, PAGE 8



# Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund Breaks Fundraising Records

All-volunteer organization raises \$100,000; learn how.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The Women's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund reached new fundraising heights last month. The organization's spring fundraiser, Miami Vice, raised over \$100,000, shattering previous records. As the board and the event committee put in many hours of preparation. They raised \$53,000 more than they did the year before.

"We are blown away by the generosity and support of our donors and volunteers," said Sally Anne Andrew-Pyne. "These funds will make a tangible difference in the lives of students facing financial barriers in pursuing their dreams. Thank you to our generous Great Falls community." Andrew-Pyne is president of the Woman's Club of Great Falls Scholarship Fund.

Event chair Sumaira Malik and her team and committee members put in countless hours of preparation over the previous six months. They reimagined everything from the auction to the creative content, the website and graphic design, sponsor solicitation, the registration process, finances, the activities, and the exhausting set-up and tear-down.

"I would like to express our deepest gratitude and incredible support from our dedicated and hardworking event team, to our vendors, and to all the attendees and donors in making this fundraiser a resounding success," Malik said.

Lauryn Nashi, Gigi Bakhtar, Emma Reynolds, Suzanne Charleston, Shelley Davenport, Connie Colabatistto, Kim Moss, Nguyen Dache, Jacqui Reed, Christie Lavin, Megan Domeon, Cory Clarke, Paula Garrison, Bambi Landew, and Sumaira Malik were just a few of the volunteers who undertook the fundraising efforts.

The Fund, EIN: 52-1399501, is an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) public charity that continues to open doors to higher education for deserving Northern Virginia students.



Gaming table with (from left) Joanna Lundquist, Emma Mercer, Ruohan Li, and Rasheeda Keir.



Scholarship Fund Board Committee members: (From left back) Missy Perkins, Jenny Stephens, Emma Mercer, Sumaira Malik, event chair Jackie Harding, Dynne Sung, Lauryn Nashi, event committee-live auction, (from bottom row left), Sally Andrew-Pyne, president, and Lindsay Harper, vice president.

The Fund's website notes that the students it supports, particularly those from under-represented groups and low-income backgrounds, "are faced with a myriad of barriers they must overcome to achieve higher education access and ultimately success." These barriers include the rising cost of a college education combined with increased living expenses in our area; the ability to juggle part-time or full-time work on top of a degree; transportation issues; and balanc-

ing children and family obligations.

The Fund incorporated the George Mason University Early Identification Program (EIP) into its 2022-2023 giving portfolio as part of its revamped scholarship fundraising efforts. More first-generation EIP students will be able to realize their dream of attending college thanks to the scholarship fund, which will help them enroll at Mason and follow a direct path to a bachelor's degree.

The Fund updated its marketing tools,

held meet-and-greet recruiting events, grew its event committee to 30 members, added two board positions, and formed a grant-writing committee to accommodate its rapid expansion. Donations are fully tax deductible beginning on May 20, 2023. All this led the Fund to increase scholarship-giving amounts to \$2,500 and awarded 13 scholarships and endowments. The remaining funds are invested so support can be increased and added to in the future.

## Lots of States Sell the Fireworks

FROM PAGE 7

stuff dangerous? South Carolina and a few other states allow them anyways.

Keystone Fireworks is located in Pennsylvania, close to the Maryland border and they sell mortar kits, firecrackers, missiles, rockets and Roman candles. On their list of safety tips, "Fireworks are a great American tradition," Keystone states. "They can provide hours of family entertainment but must be handled by adults with safety in mind. For the safety of both the audience and those lighting the fireworks, we recommend that you observe the following safety measures during your fireworks display," and then have an extensive 22 item list of precautions, including "following the local and state laws."

Keystone's version of the mellow "moon

rocket" is called the "Big Daddy," with stuff like the Star Blast, the Whistling Buster and Premium Artillery Shells. Phantom Fireworks has a commercial on an area television channel despite that most of their fireworks are illegal in this area.

Fairfax County says "the transportation of fireworks, when permitted, shall be in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations." According to Hildebrandt, at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, "Going to another state to purchase fireworks is not legal."

The police leave it to the fire experts though. Possessing illegal fireworks is a fire department issue, said Fairfax County Police officer Katie Watts. "We'll usually get noise complaints," she said.

## Fatal Motorcycle Crash in Reston

A 37-year-old man died in a motorcycle crash in the evening of Friday, June 16 in Reston.

At 7:53 p.m. officers responded to the intersection of Fairfax County Parkway and Sunset Hills Road for a crash involving a 2007 Yamaha R6 and a 2005 Toyota Sienna. Preliminarily, detectives determined the operator of the motorcycle, Dominique Hunt-Brown of Springfield, was traveling southbound on the Fairfax County Parkway. The driver of the Sienna had a green light and was attempting to make a left turn from Sunset Hills Road onto Fairfax County Parkway. Hunt-Brown disregarded the red signal, entered

the intersection and struck the Sienna.

Hunt-Brown was taken to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. Detectives continue to investigate to determine whether speed and alcohol were factors in the crash.

Anyone with information about this crash is asked to contact the FCPD Crash Reconstruction Unit at 703-280-0543. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone - 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

This is the 7 non-pedestrian-related fatal crash in the county to date in 2023. Year to date, in 2022 there were 4 non-pedestrian-related fatal crashes.



# CAPPIES And the Winner Is ...

## 23rd gala for Cappies of the National Capital Area.

The Cappies of the National Capital Area held its twenty-third Gala recognizing excellence in High School theatre. The sold-out event was held in the Concert Hall of the Kennedy Center. Hundreds of student nominees were celebrated. Eleven schools who were nominated for best play and musical performed at the event. Community digni-

taries and Cappies alums presented awards to the finalists in forty-two technical and performance categories.

Cappies is a unique collaborative program for journalism and theatre students. Trained student critics review Cappies designated high school shows throughout the year. The best written reviews are published in the local press. At the end of the season, the



PHOTO BY DAVID MASSARIK

The Winning Play was **Dracula** by Lake Braddock Secondary School and

student critics vote for who of their peers should be recognized for awards. The Cappies critics are ambassadors for high school



PHOTO BY MY PHOTOGRAPH

The winning Musical was **Bright Star** by South Lakes High School.

theatre and spread the word about the value and fun of participating in theatre.

Here are this year's Cappies award winners.

Category	Winner	Show Name	School Name
Andy Mays Rising Critic	Ellen Lawton		Herndon High School
Maryland Theatre Guide Returning Critic	McKenzie Phelan		Quince Orchard High School
Bill Strauss Graduating Critic	Hannah Frieden		Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
Marketing and Publicity	Victoria Collins-Jost, Sydney Grossbard, Caroline Vigna, Kaylee Williams	Sister Act	Fairfax High School
Special Effects and or Technology	Soeun Lee	Dracula	Lake Braddock Secondary School
Hair and Makeup	Emily Brennan	Dracula	Lake Braddock Secondary School
Sound	Dillon Prestidge, Emma Springer, Megan Wright	Claudio Quest	McLean High School
Props	Eva Greek, Jaden Harris, & Crew	She Kills Monsters: Young Adventurers Edition	Mount Vernon High School
Lighting	Charles Bucher, Ella Clarke, Cullan Kelley	Pippin	Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
Costumes	Michelle Dorman, Claire Gibbons, and the Bishop Ireton Costume Team	The Music Man	Bishop Ireton High School
Sets	The Bright Star Set Team	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Orchestra	The Bright Star Orchestra & Featured Musicians	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Choreography	Anna Leo & August Rivers	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Creativity	Emmett Justice, Abdullah Muhammad, Autumn Whetstone, Music Composers	Animal Farm	Duke Ellington School of the Arts
Stage Management	Olivia Baumgartner, Tomas Bocock, Sebastian Harman, & Elicora Janow	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Stage Crew	Tomas Bocock, Grayson Quigley, and the Bright Star Run Crew and Ensemble	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Ensemble in a Play	The Transylvanians	Dracula	Lake Braddock Secondary School
Ensemble in a Musical	Farm Animals	Animal Farm	Duke Ellington School of the Arts
Featured Actor in a Female Role in a Play	Charlotte Willmore	One Man, Two Guvnors	W.T. Woodson High School
Featured Actor in a Male Role in a Play	Silas Blocker	One Man, Two Guvnors	W.T. Woodson High School
Featured Actor in a Female Role in a Musical	Alexa Norris	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Featured Role in a Male Role in a Musical	Brandon Miller	Once on This Island	Clarksburg High School
Dancer in a Female Role	Angie Sukhee	Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical	Wakefield High School
Dancer in a Male Role	August Rivers	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Vocalist in a Female Role	Elina Viana	The Music Man	Bishop Ireton High School
Vocalist in a Male Role	Seger Ott-Rudolph	My Favorite Year	Albert Einstein High School
Comic Actor in a Female Role in a Play	Joana Lima Alves Montenegro	The Man Who Came to Dinner	Langley High School
Comic Actor in a Male Role in a Play	Jonah Uffelman	Much Ado About Nothing	James Madison High School
Comic Actor in a Female Role in a Musical	Khailah Schroeter	Mean Girls High School Version	Osborn Park High School
Comic Actor in a Male Role in a Musical	Idil Erdoğan	Claudio Quest	McLean High School
Supporting Actor in a Female Role in a Play	Amelia Campbell-Reidhead	Dracula	Lake Braddock Secondary School
Supporting Actor in a Male Role in a Play	Audrey Evans	Peter and the Starcatcher	Woodbridge Senior High School
Supporting Actor in a Female Role in a Musical	Maren Lewis	Anastasia: The Musical	Quince Orchard High School
Supporting Actor in a Male Role in a Musical	Hayden Polsky	Anastasia: The Musical	Quince Orchard High School
Lead Actor in a Female Role in a Play	Sarah Hilton	The Man Who Came to Dinner	Langley High School
Lead Actor in a Male Role in a Play	Jack Wolff	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time	Chantilly High School
Lead Actor in a Female Role in a Musical	Abigail Jamison	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Lead Actor in a Male Role in a Musical	Henry Carter	Bright Star	South Lakes High School
Song	Platypus Heart	Claudio Quest	McLean High School
Critic Team			Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
Play	Dracula		Lake Braddock Secondary School
Musical	Bright Star		South Lakes High School



# PERF Review of FCPD Policy and Shooting Incidents

FROM PAGE 3

Asked about the FCPD video of the May 11 fatal shooting and Chief Davis's press conference, Walton said, "Whew. Where do I start? Transparency is transparency. It leaves no room for ambiguity. I would think that the intent of the release of BWC (body worn camera footage) during a press conference is to provide the public, supervisors, victims' families, and other interested parties an accurate depiction of events. I am not certain as to why significant portions of the video would not have been shared during the press conference. Particularly since the edited portions provide a very clear view of what seems to be the fatal shots fired."

Diane Burkley Alejandro added, "How can FCPD credibly assert it is being 'fully transparent' when it leaves out major parts of the BWC that tend to raise questions with the officers' actions? This is not a movie; it should not be left on the cutting room floor."

Alejandro is also a member of the matrix working group, and lead advocate for Fairfax ACLU People Power. "It is ... inappropriate for the chief to prejudice the investigation by saying that the officers' conduct was 'more than appropriate,'" she said.

## Part II- PERF Review Drills Down

### Necessary and Proportional

"It is important to remember that the decisions that officers make when facing the potential use of deadly force against them are made in a matter of seconds in the most stressful situation anyone can ever be put in," McKay said. "These situations must be looked at in their totality."

PERF recommends that the "FCPD should update its use-of-force policy to indicate that force may not be used against a person unless, under the totality of the circumstances, that force is necessary and proportional."

This is the second time FCPD has received the recommendation.

PERF brought to light that in June 2021, in a research project supported through an agreement between the Fairfax County Office of the Independent Police Auditor and the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), its Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice recommended that FCPD incorporate near-similar language.

"A police officer may not use force against a person unless, under the totality of the circumstances, said force is necessary and proportional," stated the recommendation. FCPD declined to update its use-of-force policy to include that language.

In its Review of FCPD's Use-of-Force Policy, PERF commended FCPD for going beyond the "objectively reasonable" standard of *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989). "Further, before the use of deadly force, the policy requires that 'all other [force] options have been exhausted, do not reasonably lend themselves to the circumstances, are not feasible, or have already proven to be ineffective.'"

PERF adds that FCPD should go further, providing two recommendations. "FCPD should add 'proportionality' to the defini-



Rev. Vernon Walton

tions in its use-of-force policy. Defining the term, which is interspersed throughout the policy, will help to clearly define expectations ... FCPD should update its use-of-force policy to indicate that force may not be used against a person unless, under the totality of the circumstances, that force is necessary and proportional. This will further align FCPD with the 'sanctity of life' language already in its use-of-force policy."

PERF discussed in its review the Feb. 22 fatal police shooting of Timothy Johnson as an example of "where proportionality and better critical thinking could have affected the outcome." PERF reviewed video of the incident on FCPD's public website. The video seems to show a sergeant chasing after a man and then pulling out his gun and firing at him. According to the PERF review, "a clear concept of proportionality and use of the [critical decision-making model] may have led the officer to think through other available options from the start and may have inspired a different response." states the PERF review.

Alejandro emphasized the importance of examining critical incidents in their entirety, proportionally dissecting the actions that transpire during a deadly officer-involved shooting such as the one on May 11.

"Is it appropriate for Officer Mormon to fire three times point blank at the suspect when it was clear that his hands were empty, with no weapons? The use of force rule required de-escalation. There was none," Alejandro said.

She also questioned, in the May 11 incident, if it was appropriate for FCPD Officer Grubb to fire 18 shots in the suspect's direction when bystanders were around. Grubb was shooting toward the moving vehicle with Lemange and the abducted officer inside. In the body-worn camera footage, individuals from the community can be observed running seemingly within the line of fire.

PERF states, "FCPD's policy about shooting into moving vehicles can also be improved," describing it as "permissive and contains unnecessary, vague verbiage; the policy lacks clarity, and we recommend that FCPD replace it with clear language like that found in NYPD's policy."



Diane Burkley Alejandro

The NYPD's 1972 policy is "Members of service SHALL NOT: Discharge their firearms at or from a moving vehicle unless deadly physical force is being used against the member of service or another person present by means other than [the] moving vehicle."

### Question: FCPD's Investigation of Its Members

PERF's review found that FCPD investigates its own officers' critical incidents. PERF referenced its investigation of the Aug. 2, 2022, shooting in Falls Church. During a drug investigation, an officer shot and wounded a man that night. According to PERF, "When a police officer uses deadly force, regardless of whether it ends in death, the incident demands a comprehensive and objective investigation. It is becoming common for outside entities to conduct independent investigations or reviews of an agency's PSIs (police shooting incidents)."

PERF cited missed opportunities by FCPD during the Aug. 2, 2022 incident. PERF said that FCPD did not try to obtain surveillance footage from any businesses in the area and therefore missed the chance to fill in some gaps generated by the lack of BWC footage.

"FCPD investigators did not document their efforts to corroborate the shooting officer's purported justification for firing his weapon. Finally, FCPD does not appear to have thoroughly reviewed the (however brief) vehicle pursuit that took place just before the shooting to determine whether it was within FCPD policy," PERF states.

### PERF's Review of FCPD's Foot Pursuits

In the 2021 University of Texas at San Antonio report, researchers noted, "[FCPD] should consider adopting a foot pursuit policy to help reduce force and injuries to officers and suspects." FCPD still has not adopted a foot pursuit policy.

PERF encourages the agency to do so as "foot pursuits carry inherent risk to both the subject being chased and the officer, according to PERF, and officers should consider alternatives." PERF stressed the importance of continually assessing the decision to pursue.

PERF viewed the Feb. 22 video of the foot



FCPD cruiser

pursuit of Timothy Johnson, available online. PERF noted, "a sergeant who appeared to have his gun at the ready while chasing a man who stole sunglasses." PERF recommended a provision in the policy "advising officers that under most circumstances, they should not pursue with their guns drawn."

### Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics (ICAT)

As of March 28, 2023, PERF reported that approximately one-third of the FCPD officers had undergone ICAT training adding, "The critical decision-making model (CDM) is the cornerstone of ICAT."

The ICAT program provides officers with "more tools, skills, and options for handling different types of critical incidents, especially those that involve subjects who are acting erratically because of mental illness or behavioral crisis and who are unarmed or armed with a weapon other than a firearm."

"Training officers to more effectively slow down and think — rather than quickly react and respond — can affect their ultimate decisions."

PERF recommends that FCPD "expedite its plans to provide ICAT training to those members who have not yet received it and prioritize the officers most likely to interact with members of the public."

The ICAT approach is built upon the critical decision-making model (CDM). The ICAT training program offered by PERF strongly emphasizes the ever-changing nature of police interactions with individuals in crisis. It stresses the significance of incorporating de-escalation techniques into police training and operations.

### Next Steps

According to a staff member of Supervisor Rodney Lusk, "The Board's Safety and Security Committee will review the Police Executive Research Forum's findings at a future meeting."

PERF's April 2023 FCPD Review of Issues Surrounding Recent Police-Shootings Incidents can be found online at

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/sites/police/files/assets/images/chief/reports/perf%20fcpd%20final.pdf>.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM





From left, WFCM's Dolly Bonta-Reavis, Kristine Hurt, Kim Skotzko and Ruth Pearson share a lighthearted moment.



Mark Warner listens to Harmonie Taddeo inside the warehouse.

## Sen. Mark Warner Visits WFCM's Food Pantry in Chantilly

FROM PAGE 4

Then, inside WFCM's office, Warner met with about a dozen of its partners, including Fanny Carrillo, whose business, Tango Empanadas & Bakery, supplied lunch for them. Taddeo said Carrillo was able to start it and "pull herself up from poverty" with help from WFCM to establish a relationship with a bank, build credit and obtain a microloan, plus business classes via Northern Virginia Family Services.

Warner and Carrillo conversed in Spanish, and she told him, "It's hard for a single mom with three kids to make it. But because of this opportunity, I was able to get help and start my business." And he agreed that people should have access to bank loans when their money falls short.

Taddeo then introduced each partner and explained how they help WFCM. For example, she said, "The Rev. Lynn Miller of King of Kings Lutheran Church partners with us in our school backpack program. Chris Holland represents Wegmans – an amazing donor to us, and Keisha Dotson of the county's Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) had Fastrans buses pick up food for WFCM at food drives and deliver it to us."

Michael Adere, who's headed Sully District's Scouting for Food drive for 18 years, told Warner, "We all have a passion to help people in need in our community. I tell the Scouts, 'The people you're helping could very well be your classmates and neighbors.' Thank you, WFCM, for being here, because every year the need gets bigger."

Keith Kimble, director of the Boys & Girls Club in Chantilly, praised WFCM's free-food refrigerator there. "Our kids are hungry," he said. "But WFCM stepped up and provided so many meals, snacks, fruits and veggies for them, and they love it. We're eternally grateful."

Chantilly High social worker Dana Condemini said WFCM's Free Food Fridge program has been "going strong" there since 2021 and "has really de-stigmatized food insecurity. And when we had summer school, I



From left, Chris Holland and Michael Adere listening to Keith Kimble.



Bagging groceries for clients are Sarah Barton, left, and Tanya Bradd.

reached out to Wegmans and got more food from them."

"WFCM also supports our work-readiness

programs at Chantilly for kids with intellectual and learning disabilities," continued Condemini. "Working at the food pantry stocking

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Arriving at WFCM, Sen. Warner chats with Kathy Smith and Harmonie Taddeo.

shelves, etc., has empowered them so much and helped prepare them for the workforce." NCS Equity Program Manager Ramona Carroll noted that WFCM influenced other food providers to offer client-choice pantries. And, she added, "Harmonie pushes us to think more creatively and stretch the bounds of what's possible."

And Lisa Rueda, with FCPS's Region 5 Early Childhood Assessment Program, explained how WFCM helped cut through red tape to quickly enable 25 families in need to have holiday meals. "I reached out to Harmonie and told her our families were struggling," said Rueda. "And she said, 'Let's come up with a new plan and a new way to support them.'"

Food pantry manager Kristine Hurt told Warner she hoped he'd learned what good use WFCM makes of every dollar it receives. And he replied that he'd take that message back to Congress.

"Thank you, guys," said Warner. "Every one of you could probably be doing something else for your personal families; but instead, you're helping your community. You're giving me more heart to go back to work Tuesday and get back in the fight."



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## OPINION

# Election Outcomes Do Matter

DELEGATE KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

The outcomes of the many party primaries from yesterday are not known as I write this column. Without any vote counts known to me, I can state with certainty that the Virginia General Assembly will not be the same. With retirements of many of the most senior members including myself and with challengers taking on many more incumbents than I can ever remember before, there will be a new cast of citizens running in the general election this November to become our citizen legislators. Thomas Jefferson thought this churning of elections that brought new people into the process was healthy; he called them a "bloodless revolution."

Some may remember that several months ago I wrote about a fourth-grade field trip to the historic triangle of Virginia — Jamestown, Yorktown, and Williamsburg

— when I purchased in the gift shop a copy of the Declaration of Independence printed on parchment paper. For my young eyes it looked like a real historic document even though it was just a copy.

I framed my copy of the Declaration in a much-too-small frame that I had painted with the silver paint left over from making plastic models. It hung on the wall in my bedroom for the almost decade I was still living at home. It and the ideas it inspired were part of my dedicating nearly a half century of my life to public service. It leads me to repeat again to the new leaders that will be offering themselves in the general election to remember some of the visions that document offered.

I believe all persons are created equal with inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I believe the "we the people" in our constitution has a

SEE PLUM, PAGE 15

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## SATURDAY/JULY 1

**Fireworks.** 6-10 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. The Fireworks will illuminate the surrounding landscape in an expertly choreographed display of dazzling pyrotechnic light and thunder. Launched from the historic, 55-acre campus, the region's largest pre-Independence Day Fireworks show celebrates the history of this amazing nation and honors the courage and sacrifice that have made America a beacon of hope and freedom around the world. Admission: \$40.

## SUNDAY/JULY 2

### Independence Day Fireworks.

At Yeonas Park, Town of Vienna. Festivities including live music, children's entertainment, games and other family fun begin at 4 p.m., and a 20-minute fireworks display will begin at 9:30 p.m. Those who plan to attend the celebration are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets. The Vienna Little League concession stand will be open offering food and beverages for sale, or residents may bring their own snacks. No alcohol, glass containers, sparklers/fireworks or dogs are permitted. Lawn chairs are not permitted on the baseball fields but may be used anywhere else in the park. Visit [www.viennava.gov/fireworks](http://www.viennava.gov/fireworks).

## GREAT FALLS 4TH OF JULY

**At Village Centre, Great Falls.** Celebrate Great Falls Foundation and get ready for the cuteness of the Little Patriots Parade on the 4th of July! This has been a local Great Falls tradition since 1955, and it kicks off the morning festivities in the Village Centre. Dress your little ones (babies through kindergartners, plus siblings) in patriotic attire and walk or pull them in a decorated "ride" around the Village Centre Green. Awards include Young George Washington, Miss Betsy Ross, Little Liberty, Best Decorated Wagon, Best Curly Hair, and Most Entertaining. Register for free on-site at 8:30 a.m., and the parade begins promptly at 9 am. Sponsored by the Women's Club of Great Falls.

## JUNE 30 AND JULY 1

### Independence Day Fireworks.

At George Washington's Mount Vernon. Enjoy an evening of family fun and Independence Day fireworks along with patriotic music to celebrate the nation's founding. Guests also can attend a special wreath-laying at Washington's Tomb, watch colonial ice cream-making demonstrations, and enjoy 18th-century dancing. The Mansion will be lit in red, white, and blue during this event scheduled for June 30 and July 1.

## JULY 1

**Independence Day at Lake Fairfax Park.** At 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Ticketed entry to Lake Fairfax Park begins at noon, and the park will close to new arrivals at approximately 8:45 p.m. Parking fees are \$15 per vehicle in advance or \$20 per vehicle at the gate. Bicyclists and pedestrians are free. Lake Fairfax is a destination location providing 476 acres of parkland. You'll find a wide range of family friendly activities. Visitors can enjoy the Water Mine Family Swimmin' Hole water park, skate park,



Independence Day Fireworks will begin on June 30 and July 1 around the region.

pump track, several hiking and biking trails, and athletic fields. All picnic areas will be offered on a first-come-first serve basis. Food trucks will open for business from noon until 9 p.m. Live music will begin at 4 p.m., featuring Ted Garber, Frying Pan Farm Bluegrass Jam and Sonic Boom. Cap off an eventful holiday with a patriotic fireworks display beginning at approximately 9:15 p.m.

## NOW THRU JUNE 25

### Falls Church Arts All Member Show

L-Z. At the Falls Church Arts gallery, 700-B West Broad St. (Route 7), Falls Church. Eighty-eight artists with last names from L-Z will be featured in the second part of the All Member Show at the Falls Church Arts Gallery. An opening reception will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 27. The reception is open to the public. The show features the work of emerging and established member artists from Falls Church Arts and encompasses an extensive range of media from the more traditional watercolor, acrylic, mixed media, pastel, fused glass, oil, photography, and sculpture to a wide variety of mixed media and printing techniques. Visit the website [www.fallschurcharts.org](http://www.fallschurcharts.org).

## RESTON COMMUNITY CENTER 2023 SUMMER

### ENTERTAINMENT LINEUP

**Saturdays, June 17 – August 5**  
10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

At Reston Town Square Park, Reston. Bring the kids for magic, comedy, puppets, music and lots of laughs. Shows include Rocknoceros, Lohr Family Antics, The Uncle Devin Show and Turley the Magician. See the full schedule here: Family Fun Entertainment Series. Family Fun Entertainment is presented by RCC and Reston Town Center Association in cooperation with MSE Productions, Inc. Reston Town Center garages offer free parking on Saturdays.

Sunday Art in the Park with the



Pride Night Out will be held on Friday, June 23, 2023 at Springfield Town Center.

Shenandoah Conservatory  
Sundays, June 11 – August 27  
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Reston Town Square Park  
Wind down your weekend with classical, jazz and cabaret-style music provided by faculty and students from Shenandoah University's acclaimed music conservatory. This series will run through August 27. Visit Sunday Art in the Park for the complete schedule. Reston Town Center garage parking is free on Sundays. Sunday Art in the Park is presented by RCC and Reston Town Center Association in cooperation with Shenandoah University.

## NOW THRU JULY 2 (EXTENDED)

"The Last Match." At 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road Tysons. Played out under the bright lights of the U.S. Open Semifinals, The Last Match pits rising Russian star, Sergei Sergeyev against American great, Tim Porter in an epic showdown that follows two tennis titans through pivotal moments in their lives both on-and-off the court. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at

8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$50 general admission, \$47 seniors (65+), \$15 students, educators, and military. The first 20 tickets sold for every performance will cost only \$20. Thursday evening tickets are \$35. Purchase online at [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org) or 703-854-1856.

## JULY 15 & AUGUST 19

### Summer Concert Series: Genres.

7- 9 p.m. At Tysons Corner Center, The Plaza, McLean. Join the Summer Concert Series featuring performance artists Keeton on July 15 for a Pop throwback and Delta Spur with Country & Classic Rock on August 19. Enjoy takeout and cocktails from our restaurants while dancing and singing along to your favorite tunes!

## FREE SUMMER CONCERTS AT MCLEAN CENTRAL PARK

The Alden in McLean presents its annual Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park at McLean Central Park. This free outdoor concert series runs now through Sunday, July

30. Performances start at 3 p.m., and the June concerts are designed to be family friendly. McLean Central Park is located at 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd.

### Schedule

Sunday, June 25, 3 p.m. – Gay Men's Chorus of Washington: Potomac Fever  
Sunday, July 2, 3 p.m. – Capital Blend  
Sunday, July 9, 3 p.m. – Czarna Wolgastar: Intergalactic Balkan Surf Jazz Trio  
Sunday, July 16, 3 p.m. – Six Pack Rodeo  
Sunday, July 23, 3 p.m. – Justin Trawick  
Sunday, July 30, 3 p.m. – Philip Bowen  
For more information, call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711 or visit The Alden website: [aldentheatre.org](http://aldentheatre.org).

## LAKE ANNE'S PLAZA CONCERT SERIES

Lake Anne Live! brings Thursday evening concerts to the plaza from now through July 27. The free concerts will feature music and dance from local musicians and dance instructors. The plaza is located at 1609 Washington Plaza North. All concerts are free.

### Schedule:

June 22, (6-9 p.m.): Swing Instruction and Dance with Gottaswing; pet adoptions by Lucky Dog Animal Rescue  
June 29 (7-9 p.m.): Bruce Corsino concert  
July 6 (6-9 p.m.): Bachata Instruction and Dance with David Norton  
July 13 (7-9 p.m.): To be announced on Lake Anne Plaza's social media pages  
July 20 (7-9 p.m.): Concert with the Reston Community Orchestra  
July 27 (6-9 p.m.): Salsa and Bachata Instruction and Dance with David Norton

## FREE CONCERT SERIES AT BURKE LAKE PARK

Every Wednesday night from June 28th through August 23rd at 7p.m., Supervisor Pat Herrity (Springfield District) along with the Fairfax County Park Authority will be hosting the fifth annual Free Concerts in the Park series at Burke Lake Park. The series has expanded to nine shows with pop, rock and R&B music. Peterson's Ice Cream, 2 Silos beer and food trucks will be on site at all concerts. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and/or a lawn chair.

### Schedule

JUNE  
28 Randy Thompson Band  
JULY  
5 The Nighthawks  
12 SoHo Down  
19 Speidel, Goodrich, Goggin & Lille  
26 The Skip Castro Band  
AUGUST  
2 The English Channel  
9 The Road Ducks  
16 The Colin Thompson Band  
23 Riptide

## SATURDAY CONCERTS AT WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER

9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton  
7:30 p.m.  
JUNE  
24 Christylez Bacon (Progressive Hip-Hop)  
JULY  
1 Workhouse Fireworks Festival (Ticketed event. For details visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org)) Rain date is July 8th.



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## Obituary

## Obituary

## Employment

### PATTY MANTHE

**Patricia Jagers Manthe** lost her battle with endometrial cancer on June 13, 2023. She joins her parents, Al and Betty Jagers and her brother Tim, in eternity. Patty grew up on Orin St in Vienna and graduated from James Madison High School in 1973 where she was a cheerleader and the first Miss Madison in 1972. She also graduated from The University of Mary Washington where she was awarded the Outstanding student in history, and from American University. Patty also lived in Arlington, Oakton, Blacksburg and most recently in Powhatan, Virginia. Patty worked as a Program Auditor for the General Accounting Office in Washington, D.C. She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Bruce, their son, Jeff and his wife Jessica, and their son Jameson, of Austin, TX; and their son, Mark, his wife Eva, and their daughter Mary Louise of Charlottesville. She was loved by many and will be missed. The family will receive friends from 10 to 11:45 a.m. on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at Manakin Episcopal Church, 985 Huguenot Trail, Powhatan, VA, where her funeral ceremony will follow at 12 Noon. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Eng, SW Dev & Eng – Comcast Cable Comm, LLC, Reston, VA. Mng Co residntl custmr relatrshp & contract info by provide data & custmr mgt svcs. Reqs: Bach in CS, Eng, or rel; 2 yr dev Java app use Spring Framework; dev Restful APIs; wrk w RDBMS DBs, incl Oracle & NoSQL DBs, incl Cassandra, MongoDB & DocumentDB; dev & deploy apps in AWS, incl ECS & EC2; write mark-up code use HTML, XHTML, CSS, XML, & JSON; test sw use Junit, Soap UI, Putty, & POSTMAN; use GitHub for versn ctrl; automt sw bld use Maven, Gradle, Rally & GoCD Pipeline. Apply to: Jacquelin\_Branks@comcast.com Ref Job ID# 9100.

## Legals

### ABC LICENSE

Luna Hall, Inc. trading as Luna Hall, 8201 Greensboro Dr. Ste #109 McLean VA 22102-3805. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on & off premises/mixed beverage restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Zong Chen, owner/ The Veritas Law Firm. Date notice posted at establishment: 6/6/2023. 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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# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 13

- 8 The Radio Sparks (Modern Rock) This will be a ticketed event if the July 1st Fireworks Festival is postponed to July 8th.
  - 15 Project Loera (World Music)
  - 22 Bachelor Boys Band (High Energy Cover Music)
  - 29 Bobby Blackhat Band (Traditional/Contemporary Blues)
- AUGUST
- 5 Workhouse Musical Event (Ticketed event. For details visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org))
  - 12 Quin Tango (Classical Argentinian Tango Music)
  - 19 Karl Stoll & The Danger Zone (Rock, Blues)
  - 26 The United States Army Field Band Six-String Soldiers (Country)

## JUNE 19 TO AUG. 18

**Summer Art Camps.** Ages 8-18 years. At Great Falls Village Centre Art School, Great Falls. Looking for a summer art camp for your budding artist? The popular art summer camps include:

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- Morning (9:30-12:30 p.m.) and afternoon (1:30-4:30 p.m.) camp sessions are available. Camps are taught by professional artists with teaching experience in the convenient Great Falls Village Centre art school. Visit <https://artsofgreatfalls.org/summer-camps-2023/>

## FRIDAY/JUNE 23

**Pride Night Out.** 6-9 p.m. At Springfield Town Center, Center Grand Court near Starbucks, Springfield. Through a new partnership with Safe Space NOVA – an organization dedicated to providing a safe, accepting, and supportive environment to combat social stigmas, bullying, and other challenges faced by LGBTQ+ youth, Springfield Town Center will be hosting Pride Night Out. This family-friendly pride

celebration features entertainment for all ages including music, a Pride Photobooth, community vendors, giveaways, and much more! Visit [SpringfieldTownCenter.com/events](http://SpringfieldTownCenter.com/events).

## JUNE 24-25

**National Field Day.** At Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Rd., Fairfax Station. Vienna Wireless Society will join thousands nationwide to show off their Amateur Radio and emergency-communications capabilities. The public is welcome to join the Field Day event and even get on the air under the guidance of a licensed Ham.

## SATURDAY/JUNE 24

**Pride Month Poetry Reading.** 3-5 p.m. At E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Featuring Sunu Chandu, Malik Thompson, Kim Roberts, and Holly Mason Badra. Hosted by Fairfax Poet Laureate Danielle Badra. June is Pride Month, celebrated each year to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in New York City, which launched the queer liberation movement in the United States. Featuring some of the region's most prominent LGBTQ+ poets, this reading lifts up a variety of voices and experiences to honor the rich legacy and contributions of poets and poetry in the queer community.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 25

**Burke Historical Society.** 3-4:30 p.m. At Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Debbie Robison will speak on schools established or supported by the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands to serve African American children in Fairfax County after the Civil War. Email: [slawski\\_brian@yahoo.com](mailto:slawski_brian@yahoo.com).

## JUNE 26-30

**Vacation Bible School.** 9-11:30 a.m. At Fellowship Baptist Church, 5936 Rolling Road, Springfield. Keepers of the Kingdom: Standing Strong in Today's Battle for Truth. Activities include a Bible lesson, missions, crafts, snacks and games for children age 3 (potty-trained) through grade 6. Visit the website: [www.FellowshipBaptistVA.org](http://www.FellowshipBaptistVA.org)

# Plum

FROM PAGE 12

very real meaning. I believe in democracy. Those are the reasons I have become increasingly concerned over the last few years about real threats to our democracy and why a speech President Joe Biden made to the Nation months ago resonated with me so much.

If you do not remember the President's speech, I recommend you take the time to listen to it at <https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/video/watch-president-bidens-full-speech-at-independence-hall/#x>. The President said that "equality and democracy are under assault. We do ourselves no favor to pretend otherwise." He went on to say that "we must be honest

with each other and with ourselves. Too much of what's happening in our country is not normal. Donald Trump and the MAGA Republicans represent an extremism that threatens the very foundation of our Republic." He made it clear that he was not talking about all or even a majority of Republicans but rather those who are election deniers and insurrectionists.

The words of the Declaration set a course for our future. Our history has been one of expanding opportunities and inclusion. We cannot let anyone at the state or national levels close the door of democracy. Together, we can overcome the threats to our democracy. Thanks to all who participated in the primaries this week. On to November for even more important elections! Stay engaged.

Center Street S, Vienna, Va. 22180. The zoning code regulates how land can be used within the Town of Vienna. It stipulates permitted building heights, parking requirements, lighting standards and land uses for commercial, public, and residential property. Portions of the code regarding residential lot coverage and front porch setbacks were approved last year. The overall goal of the proposal is to revise the code to meet modern-day needs and lifestyles with a plan that is written in common language that is easily understandable to all audiences, all while maintaining the small-town feel that Vienna residents value.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

### TOWN COUNCIL SETS PUBLIC HEARINGS ON UPDATED ZONING CODE

At a special called meeting last week, the Vienna Town Council approved the next steps for the first major update on the Town zoning code in nearly 60 years. The Council voted to set two joint public hearings in front of the Town Council and the Planning Commission. The first public hearing will be held on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 8 p.m. and the second public hearing will be held on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. Both public hearings will take place at Vienna Town Hall, 127

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Each local newspaper mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

Please, help save these historical papers.

All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers.

The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk. The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward into 2022.

The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now omicron clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

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## Back to Abnormal



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Life in the cancer lane: slow and steady, thank God! And after 14 years and nearly six months past a terminal "13 month to two years" prognosis given in late Feb. 2009, "I am pleased as punch," to quote the late Hubert H. Humphrey, our 38th Vice President, serving Lyndon B. Johnson from 1965 – 1969, to say I am still in the game, the game of life, that is. This is no board game, however. Although, it can get very boring.

A game for which there are rules and responsibilities, although few guarantees (other than death and taxes, of course). Let me amend that. There is one guarantee: after a cancer diagnosis, your life will never be the same. Every action and reaction will likely be affected by your diagnosis, treatment, tolerance to chemotherapy/cancer medicine and any number of cancer-related appointments, as well as a variety of side effects which are often the inevitable result of your treatment (which is likely keeping you alive), and by your support system. Any joie de vivre you can muster under these extremely difficult circumstances will be welcome indeed. Sustaining that joie, however, can be challenging. As my close friend and breast-cancer survivor Lynne had advised us years ago at the beginning of our cancer journey concerning what to expect: "This will be the toughest thing you've ever had to endure," she said. And needless to say, although I'll say it anyway, she was 100% correct: "Cancer is not for cissies." (You can thank Suzanne Somers for little ditty.) It says it, and it's simple. But receiving a cancer diagnosis is anything but simple. It's the proverbial boom being lowered atop your head. And when I first received it from my oncologist, I sat stunned at what I was hearing. I said to myself: "How is this possible? I have never smoked cigarettes in my life." (I have since found out that up to 25 percent of lung cancer patients are non-smokers.)

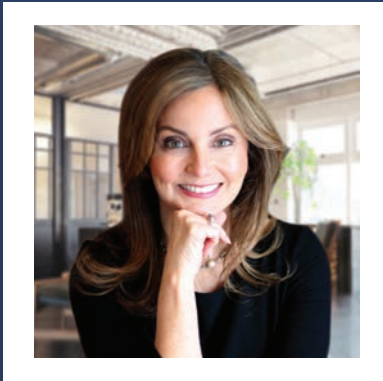
Moreover, navigating the slings and arrows of your outrageous misfortune can get overwhelming. In fact, the medical industry has created a profession specifically to assist the patient in managing their care (scheduling appointments, ordering drugs, following miscellaneous protocols and in short, trying to help the cancer patient in any way possible to simplify and organize the demands of their diagnosis); so you have a chance, an assist even, in living your most rewarding, least worrisome life – under the circumstances. Nurse navigator is their name and helping the patient is their game. Family and friends are a great and necessary support system. Without their encouragement, patience and understanding, a cancer patient would be hard-pressed to endure the ordeal – which cancer treatment most definitely is. But what goes on in the hospital or infusion center is likely beyond their expertise. Having an in-house resource could make all the difference in your life.

And it is not a tangled web they weave. Quite the opposite. The nurse navigator's task is to untangle and cut through any figurative web that is interfering in your life. My oncologist has regularly encouraged me to do things to try and enhance the quality of my life. Because cancer is hard. Keeping up to date and current with all the cancer responsibilities, especially when trying to integrate/schedule it around your non-cancer/pre-cancer life, is nearly impossible. It's difficult to plan a future – which is measured in weeks or quarters, for recurring lab tests, doctor's appointments, infusions, and diagnostic scans when your present is so chalk-full of commitments. Commitments/appointments which could change if any result causes a delay. The cascade effect of rescheduled appointments will play havoc with any future plans – for what was passing as your normal-type life, anyway. Because once the word cancer is uttered in your direction, your life as you have known it is over and normal has very definitely left the building.

But if you don't find a path forward and stagnant/struggle instead with your present while trying to arrange and in many instances rearrange your future, it will make "Jack" a very dull boy, and not one who's able to live a normal-type life at all. And if you don't find a way to get a few highs, the lows, as cancer can certainly cause them, will more often than not, grind you to a screeching halt. If you do find them, you may still succumb to your disease but at least you'll do so in your own way with some sort of control (most of which you lose once your cancer diagnosis is confirmed). After all, if you're going to die, you might as well set the terms.

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





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