

# CONNECTION

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## 7,000+ Attend Giant Car Show

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## Walkinshaw Heads to Congress

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## 9/11 Remembered Around Region

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## Seniors Warned on Fraud

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Hannah Mead of Lorton poses with her 2011 Hyundai Genesis coupe, sponsored for display by Arizona Iced Tea. It even sports a flamingo gearshift.

SENIOR LIVING, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 18

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 1, 2025

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## News

# Be Creative Creating Affordable Housing

**Chairman McKay outlines 7 ways to push for more housing.**

By **MERCIA HOBSON**  
THE CONNECTION

**A**t its regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 9, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors grappled with some of the county's most pressing issues. The supervisors emphasized a new housing initiative, police accreditation, and community health, including vaccinations, while also recognizing citizen action and other matters.

"Housing Initiatives to Increase Production and Sustain Our Economic Advantage," presented by Chairman Jeff McKay (D), featured a robust, seven-point request concerning affordable housing. McKay emphasized the urgency, stressing that every county agency has a role to play in solving the affordable housing challenge.

"This is meant to be all hands on deck," McKay said, calling for a countywide col-

laborative effort. McKay made clear that affordable housing is a shared priority and requires coordinated action from the entire county government, not solely the Department of Housing or the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority.

McKay emphasized the need for creative solutions by encouraging staff and departments to use flexibility and creativity in addressing affordable housing. "This is our board signaling to the county executive to be creative, to our departments that are working on this, to be creative and help us meet this moment so that we continue, continue to make progress."

The strategies McKay proposed for review aim to increase affordable housing production through development incentives, expedited processing, and public-private partnerships, with the goal of adding 10,000 affordable units by 2034.

McKay outlined seven key actions. "I have a number of initiatives that I am proposing for review as follows, which I expect will be helpful for both affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families as well as for the production of the full spectrum of housing generally," McKay said.

SEE BE CREATIVE, PAGE 4

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“

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PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/ THE CONNECTION

Voter Jason Greenwalt holds his puppy, Quinn, as they meet volunteer Rebecca Borton at the Herndon Community Center, a polling location for the special election in Virginia's 11th Congressional District held on Sept. 9. Greenwalt, Borton and Quinn are all from the Town of Herndon.



COURTESY OF JAMES WALKINSHAW

James L. Walkinshaw (D) at the polls Tuesday, Sept. 9, is joined by Smitty Connolly, former Congressman Gerry Connolly's wife, and his daughter Caitlin.

## Walkinshaw Sworn into U.S. House of Representatives

Walkinshaw wins by more than 50 points, seeking to fill Gerry Connolly's big shoes.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

Democrat James L. Walkinshaw won the special election for Virginia's Congressional District 11. Walkinshaw, 42, a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and former aide to the late Rep. Gerry Connolly, defeated his challenger, Republican Stewart L. Whitson, 45, by a wide margin in the deep-blue district. Walkinshaw secured 75.14 percent of the vote with 113,596 votes.

"The voters of Fairfax have spoken clearly: they want a representative who will fight for our community and deliver results," said Walkinshaw in a post that evening. "I am humbled by the confidence they have placed in me, and I will work tirelessly to make life more affordable for families, protect our freedoms, and ensure that the 11th district has a strong voice in Congress."

Walkinshaw was sworn into the House of Representatives by Speaker Mike Johnson the next day, on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025.

Whitson released a statement on the election results saying in part, "I congratulate my opponent and extend my gratitude to every voter who participated in this important election. Democracy is strongest when we all engage, and I am humbled by those who place their trust in me."

Walkinshaw introduced his first piece of legislation, the Limit on Sweeping Executive Reorganization Act, the same day. The bill



SCREENSHOT

U.S. Representative James R. Walkinshaw (D-VA-11).

would prevent a president from unilaterally reorganizing or dismantling federal agencies without congressional approval.

Walkinshaw said in a statement, "Congress — not a President and his billionaire oligarch — must have the final say when it comes to major reorganizations of our federal government."

He is also co-sponsoring the Delete DOGE Act, which would repeal and prohibit the "dangerous DOGE framework."

Virginia's governor set the special election to fill the northern Virginia seat held by the late Rep. Gerry Connolly, who died in office of cancer on May 21. Virginia's 11th



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/ THE CONNECTION

A voter marks his ballot at the Herndon Fortnightly Library, an early voting site for the special election in Virginia's 11th Congressional District, Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025, in Herndon, Va.

Congressional District comprises much of Fairfax County and all of Fairfax City. The Virginia Public Access Project (VPAP) reported the partisan lean of the district's voters

in the November 2024 U.S. Representative elections as 66.7 percent Democratic and

SEE WALKINSHAW, PAGE 4

# Be Creative Creating Affordable Housing

FROM PAGE 2

“I recognize that this is a robust request with a number of components, but we know that addressing the problem in a multi-faceted, coordinated and timely manner is required.”

❖ **Development Incentives and Process:** McKay suggested making it easier and faster to build affordable housing by offering new incentives and speeding up approval processes.

❖ **Assisting more individuals in purchasing their first homes,** including the exploration of small, affordable home villages.

❖ **Faith Community Properties:** He recommended working with faith-based groups to add affordable housing to their properties.

❖ **Public-Private Partnerships and Capacity:** More support and simpler rules for public-private partnerships to build affordable housing.

❖ **Affordable Housing Finance:** McKay proposed finding new ways to finance these projects.

❖ **Sixth, The Role of the Private Sector.** McKay encouraged private businesses to get involved in creating more affordable and market-rate homes.

❖ **Finally, Legislative Priorities:** McKay requested changes to state and federal policies to better support the county’s affordable housing goals.

The board matter directed “the county executive to provide a roadmap to address the requested information holistically no later than next spring at a land-use policy committee meeting, since many of these items are land-use related, including how they might fit into the update of the housing element of the comprehensive policy plan



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY  
**Chairman Jeff McKay emphasizes the urgency of a new housing initiative at the recent meeting.**

expected in 2026. Other topics may need to come back to the housing committee or other board committees as determined by staff, my office, and specific committee chairs,” McKay said.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R) said, “Clearly affordability in housing is one of the top issues in Fairfax County.”

Herrity praised the focus on home ownership and its benefits, such as building generational wealth and providing certainty for residents. Herrity expressed skepticism about the effectiveness of currently giving away county land and subsidies to build 10,000 units of housing. He highlighted the need for streamlined permitting and zoning processes, saying they are still burdensome and slow, making it difficult for businesses and even for simple improvements. Herrity discussed the high regulatory costs, particularly for smaller units, which increase the



**Supervisor Rodney Lusk says that nationwide, “The share of homeowners among Americans older than 55 years grew from 44.3 percent in 2008 to 54 percent in 2023.”**

cost and development time for housing projects. Herrity liked the idea of involving industry partners like NVBIA and NAIOP and the inclusion of incentives for affordable housing developers.

Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D) shared information on the demographic and generational shift in homeownership, raising a question that remains an open topic for future research and policy consideration for the board.

“It’s typical for older Americans to occupy our largest share of home ownership,” Lusk said. “The share of homeowners among Americans older than 55 years grew from 44.3 percent in 2008 to 54 percent in 2023. So clearly there is an opportunity here,” Lusk said. He asked, “Is there a process or program methodology that we could employ to help maybe some of our younger residents move into their homes?”

The board discussed leveraging AI tools and public-private partnerships to facilitate housing transitions. They emphasized the need for efficient processes to avoid losing talent due to a lack of affordable housing.

## Tenant Protections

Beyond the new housing initiative, the board also updated a key county policy to enhance tenant protections, approving revisions to the “Fairfax County Relocation Guidelines.” The revisions provide a framework for negotiation rather than strict requirements, applying to property owners when tenants are temporarily or permanently displaced from affordable housing during redevelopment projects.

Tom Fleetwood, director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, stressed that the new guidelines were developed through a collaborative process involving community stakeholders to address the concerns of affected tenants. “The product before you is the result of a collaborative process where we engaged a number of stakeholders in the community to be able to ensure that we understand their concerns and are addressing the needs of folks who might potentially be affected by redevelopment,” Fleetwood said.

Herrity raised concerns about the cost implications for developers. “Did we look at what this will cost the developer on a kind of a permit per unit basis to comply with this?” he asked. Herrity also suggested that the industry could help estimate those costs. “I just want to clarify that these are recommendations, not requirements, and they wouldn’t be a reason for them to be denied or excluded,” Herrity said.

# Walkinshaw Sworn into U.S. House of Representatives

FROM PAGE 3

32.9 percent Republican, with Walkinshaw outperforming those numbers. Voters in Virginia do not register by party, a characteristic of states with open primaries. The district has a total of 555,169 registered voters.

According to VPAP, as of Aug. 20, 2025, Walkinshaw significantly outpaced Whitson in fundraising, raising \$1,061,597 compared to Whitson’s \$224,469. Walkinshaw’s campaign messages encouraged voting as a way to “take the fight to the president,” referenced his goal “to stop the current administration’s dangerous agenda and

deliver for Fairfax,” and highlighted his close relationship with the Connolly family to honor the late congressman’s legacy.

“I voted for James Walkinshaw because he was endorsed by Gerry Connolly. I had great respect for Congressman Connolly,” said Andrea Tassan of Herndon.

“I wanted to have someone who would stand up to the Republican Party,” said Justin Britt of the Town of Herndon, who voted for Walkinshaw.

Arjun of McLean, a teen volunteer at the polls, also expressed support for this sentiment, stating, “I would vote for James Walkin-

shaw if I were old enough because I believe that he can stand up to Trump and protect Virginia from the excesses of the Republican presidency and legislature.”

Whitson aligned himself with the “America First” agenda, outlining a platform with three main pillars: “Fix the Economy,” “Protect Our Families,” and “Eliminate Waste, Fraud & Abuse.” Katie Gorka, the chair of the Fairfax GOP, stated that the party would unite behind Whitson after he won the nomination in a seven-way contest. A fellow Republican candidate in the primary, Mike Van Meter, publicly expressed his support

for Whitson after the nomination, stating on social media that it was “time to give [Whitson] our total support.”

## What Comes Next

Walkinshaw submitted his resignation to the Fairfax Board of Supervisors, effective at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10.

In a social media post earlier that morning, he noted his resignation creates a “temporary vacancy” but that the district “will continue to be ably represented by Chairman McKay.” The Braddock District office and staff will remain in place and can be reached

at braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-425-9300.

A special election will likely take place in December to fill the Braddock District vacancy. Right now, it appears three Democrats, school board members Ilryong Moon (at large) and Rachna Sizemore Heizer (Braddock), and Sabrina Matting, will seek the Democratic nomination.

Republican Ken Balbuena appears to be the only Republican to throw a hat in the ring so far.

If either Moon or Sizemore Heizer were to be elected, it would kick off yet another special election to fill the seat on the school board.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](https://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before the event. Or via email [calendar@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:calendar@connectionnewspapers.com).

### VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Have some extra time to drive a neighbor to a doctor’s appointment? You pick the days, times, and places that are convenient for you. There is no minimum driving requirement. Not only do you help older adults in need, you also get to meet wonderful

folks, often with very interesting backgrounds and stories to tell. The Shepherd’s Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church (SCMAFC), is an all-volunteer, non-sectarian, non-profit organization. Its mission is providing free transportation to seniors for medical and dental appointments or run errands to gro-

cery stores and pharmacies. Visit the website at <https://scmafc.org/volunteer>, or email [contact@scmafc.org](mailto:contact@scmafc.org).

### VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Would you like to help a neighbor feel less lonely? Will you help someone get much-needed

groceries? Form new connections and make a meaningful difference. Older adults in the Annandale, Falls Church, and Alexandria regions are waiting for volunteer social visitors and grocery shoppers. If you can give the gift of your time,

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 7

# Fairfax City Greenlights Davies Development Plan

Mixed-use project with up to 276 apartments plus retail and offices approved in split vote.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

For nearly a decade, the City of Fairfax has wrestled with what to do with the Davies property. The 2.69-acre site bounded by University Drive and Chain Bridge Road currently contains a house built in 1916, and the family wants to sell its land for development.

Since 2016, City Council has heard proposals for apartments, townhomes and a senior-living center there, but didn't consider any of them suitable. However, that all changed recently when it approved a plan for a mixed-use development on that site.

The applicant is The Hill, a Davies Family LLC, and it plans to construct 276 multifamily units in two buildings, including a parking garage and some 10,796 square feet of retail, office or other commercial uses. To do so, it needed Fairfax's OK to rezone that site from residential medium to commercial urban.

The property address is 4131 Chain Bridge Road, in the Old Town Fairfax Transition Overlay District. And Albert Frederick, a senior planner with the City, explained the plan's details during Council's July 22 meeting. He said The Hill has worked on it with Council and staff since spring 2022.

"For this site, the City's Small Area Plan recommends new construction of four- and five-story buildings and, if possible, public outdoor space," said Frederick. "It also recommends 1,250 more residential units in that area, plus an increase in both office and retail uses."

The Hill's plan contains the desired building heights and uses, as well as a shared greenway/service street as a backyard for the homes and offices, plus a pedestrian path. And an east-west private street is designated as a fire lane. The apartments would all be rentals, with residents paying extra for parking.

"The applicant proposes to develop two buildings with up to 276 apartments [total]," said Frederick. "Approximately 6,600 square feet of retail and about 4,200 square feet of office would be on the ground floor in Building A, which fronts on Chain Bridge Road. It would be five stories and about 62 feet high, with 114 units

and separate entrances for the residential, retail and office uses, plus a storage area for 20 bicycles within the building, near the greenway.

"Also proposed is a 26-foot access drive near the northern property line, from University to Chain Bridge, that's a right [turn] in, right-out, at both locations. There'd be 10-foot-wide sidewalks on University and Chain Bridge. And on the south side of the private-access drive is a 5-foot-wide sidewalk connecting to the buildings' entrances."

Building B would be four stories, about 58 feet high, and contain 162 apartments fronting on University. Outside would be a courtyard with a pool and other amenities, such as barbecue grills, and vehicles would enter this building through its three-level parking garage.

Both buildings would have an internal room for trash collection, and a loading zone would be along the private street. Some 423 parking spaces are planned – mainly in the garage – with nine of them being surface parking spots outside, plus two loading-zone spaces.

"The greenway would be 43 feet wide between the buildings, with a 15-foot, paved, pedestrian path that connects both buildings," said Frederick. He also noted there's a landscaping plan including trees, plus stormwater-management improvements to capture and contain the site's stormwater runoff.

"There currently are no stormwater-management facilities there, so this would be an improvement," said Frederick. "And the utility lines on Chain Bridge will be placed underground. The applicant has also provided quality building designs and materials for both buildings."

Speaking next was Micheline Castan Smith, executive vice president of Paradigm Cos., representing The Hill. She discussed the various changes the architects made in response to specific city concerns since the proposal was first submitted. These included providing the surface parking spaces, adding more trees, and planning an art walk telling the history of the property, along the greenway.

She said 6 percent of the apartments, or 17, will be affordable dwelling units, and The Hill will contribute \$165,600 to the City schools and \$104,328 for off-site recreational amenities.

Also representing the applicant, attorney David Houston ex-



Architect's rendering of Building A on Chain Bridge Road.



Architect's rendering of Building B facing University Drive.

panded on the proposal's benefits to the City and told the Council how this project fits into Fairfax's vision for that area. "The property is in an activity center where your Small Area Plan strongly encourages pedestrian-oriented, mixed-use development," he said. "It also recommends buildings oriented toward the streets, parking in structures or underground, and specifically identifies the commer-

cial urban zoning district as being the preferred zoning for an activity center."

"We're achieving goals including housing, sustainability, economic vitality and transportation, and we think this is a valuable and important opportunity to implement the City's Small Area Plan for this location," said Houston. "We're enhancing pedestrian connectivity with sidewalks and the green-

way, and it'll be a very walkable property. And we'll either build or contribute to a new bus shelter on Chain Bridge Road.

"We've agreed to do sustainable design – including green-building certification, Energy Star [rated] appliances and systems, and charging stations for 20 electric vehicles. And our art walk will honor Mrs. Davies, who was an art teach-

SEE FAIRFAX COUNTY, PAGE 16

# Avoiding Scams and Fraud, Focus of Talk

Attention seniors, how to steer clear of scammers.

BY GLENDA C. BOOTH  
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

**F**raud is rampant. It's part of life," AARP volunteer Pam Chisholm told a Hollin Hall Senior Center audience on Sept. 5 in a talk

titled "Fraud Basics," based on her experience as a Washington, D. C., police detective and an employee of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Scammers and fraudsters especially prey on seniors, she said, who may be gullible because of

cognitive impairment, lack of computer literacy and naiveté. "They think you are old and stupid," she stressed.

"We have a dark web," she cautioned. What is that? Science News Today explains: "The Dark Web refers to a specific section of the in-

ternet that exists on an encrypted network, intentionally hidden and accessible only through specialized software."

From phishing to identify theft to romance scams, she described examples of fraudulent activity and offered advice.

#### Telephone Calls

Phony organizations like "Be-



PHOTO BY GLENDA C. BOOTH

AARP volunteer Pam Chisholm offered tips on avoiding fraud in a talk at the Hollin Hall Senior Center.

nevolent Friends of the Police" solicit donations over the phone and "they keep harassing," she said. Many fraudsters call seeking money, making claims like "Your grandson is in trouble. We have him in custody."

People's names, addresses, telephone numbers, age, income range and home ownership are easy to find on the Internet, she said, and that information is sold to scammers. She advised people not to identify themselves if unknown callers ask, "Is this Jane?" Chisholm often responds, "Who are you looking for?"

Some scammers call from a computer which makes it impossible to call back and verify their authenticity. And if you call back the number that pops up on your caller id, you often find it is not a working number.

Her advice: "Just hang up. If you don't recognize the number, don't answer. If you answer, call back to verify the person or organization. Don't disclose your income, social security number or employment status.

"The less you tell them the better off you are," she advised.

#### Check Washing

Some thieves rob postal employees and steal mailbox keys and checks from mailboxes. Then they use chemicals to change the payee's name and dollar amounts on the checks and fraudulently deposit them. These schemes peak around the first or 15th of the month when people typically pay their bills.

Chisholm's recommendations: Use a red pen or gel pens because it is harder to change the ink, avoid using checks or set up online bill paying.

The U.S. Postal Service says that postal inspectors recover over \$1 billion in counterfeit checks and

SEE AVOIDING SCAMS, PAGE 9

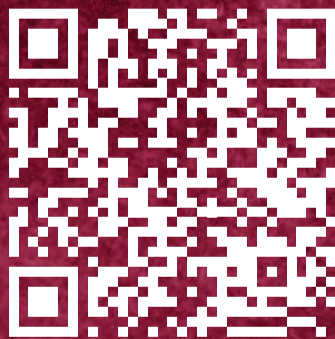
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## NEWS

### Hardin Is Interim Economic Development Director

Brooke Hardin, Fairfax City's Director of Community Development and Planning, is currently the City's Interim Economic Development Director. He's been with Fairfax's government since 2011, previously serving as Planning Division Chief.

Hardin holds a bachelor's degree in government and politics from George Mason University and a master's degree in urban and regional planning from Virginia Tech. With his expertise, plus decades of experience in local government, he's expected to help continue the strong momentum built by Fairfax City Economic Development.

The City's former Economic Development Director, Chris Bruno, left his post on Aug. 18, after nine years, to join the senior leadership team of his alma mater, New York Law School. Hardin is slated to fill this role until Fairfax completes its search for a new director.



Brooke Hardin

work includes the installation of sidewalks, pedestrian crosswalks, on-road bike lanes, new lighting and landscaping.

### Fairfax City's Coffee with a Cop Is Oct. 1

Wednesday, Oct. 1, is National Coffee with a Cop Day. And Fairfax City police will celebrate it by socializing with residents that day, from 8-10 a.m., at Layered, 3924 Blenheim Blvd. in Fairfax.

### Fiesta Fairfax Is Oct. 4 in Old Town Square

Fiesta Fairfax will celebrate Latino culture in the heart of Fairfax City with a special event on Saturday, Oct. 4. It'll run from 2-7:30 p.m. in Old Town Square, 10415 North St. and will include music, dancing, food, speeches, crafts, artisans, exhibits and more. The event is free to attend and everyone is welcome. Free parking is available in the garage on University Drive, across from the library.

### Improving Confusing Intersection at Fairfax Boulevard

In August, Fairfax City began work to reconfigure the six-legged intersection at Fairfax Boulevard, Warwick Avenue and McLean Avenue into a standard, four-way intersection. The goal is to improve traffic flow on Fairfax Boulevard and improve pedestrian and bicycle mobility at this intersection while preserving commercial-property access and minimizing negative impacts to residential neighborhoods.

The intersection will be realigned to remove the approaches from McLean Avenue to the north of Fairfax Boulevard and from Warwick Ave to the south of Fairfax Boulevard. Doing so will reduce pedestrian crossing distances and lessen the number of intersection conflict points, thus making the entire intersection safer for both motorists and pedestrians.

Plans also call for adding a new traffic signal at Farr Avenue/Fairfax Boulevard intersection to enable neighborhood traffic south of Fairfax Boulevard access to a signal to make left turns onto that road. Furthermore, the existing signal at the Fairfax Boulevard, Warwick Avenue and McLean Avenue intersection will be reconstructed. In addition, new curbs, sidewalks and crosswalks will be installed, and all new ramps will be ADA-compliant.

### Britepaths Is Holding Food-Pantry Fundraiser

Families struggling to make ends meet often have difficulty feeding both their families and their pets – and giving up their beloved dogs and cats is heartbreaking. However, pet food can't be purchased with SNAP benefits. So Fairfax nonprofit Britepaths is now offering pet food in its SNAP Gap Pantry.

But it needs the community's help to continue addressing food insecurity in Northern Virginia, while enabling families to keep their pets. Donations may be made via <https://e.givesmart.com/events/KsW/>.

In addition, Britepaths is holding a Yappy Hour Fundraiser – an evening of good company, food and craft brews – to raise funds for its food-security program and to celebrate the addition of dog and cat food to its pantry. It's set for Thursday, Sept. 25, from 5-7 p.m., at Commonwealth Brewing, 10426 Main St. in Fairfax City.

### Government Center Parkway Extension

Fairfax City is constructing the missing link of Government Center Parkway from Stevenson Street in Fairfax County to Jermantown Road in the City. The

#### BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

consider providing invaluable support to someone in your community. Learn more about Volunteer Solutions at [bit.ly/FXVSVOL](http://bit.ly/FXVSVOL) or email [VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov) or call 703-324-5406.

#### SUPPORT GROUPS

Parent Support Partners, a service of the Healthy Minds Fairfax initiative, are all parents who have received training and are qualified to offer education, support and assistance at no cost to families or caregivers.

They provide reliable information that families can use in decision-making and are familiar with services and resources that can help families in distress. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthyminds-fairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthyminds-fairfax) or [www.nami-northern-virginia.org/parent-peer-support.html](http://www.nami-northern-virginia.org/parent-peer-support.html).

The Shepherd's Center of Northern Virginia Caregivers' Support Group takes place the first and third Tuesdays of each month, 10-11:30 a.m. via Zoom. This group is for caregivers of family members with dementia. Meetings are gently facilitated. For more information and

to get the Zoom link, contact Jack Tarr at [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net) or 703-821-6838.

Haven of Northern Virginia Support Group. 703-941-7000, [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) or [havenofnova@verizon.net](mailto:havenofnova@verizon.net). Virginia Chronic Pain Support Group Meets from 1:30-3 p.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Kaplan Center for Integrative Medicine, 6829 Elm St., Suite 300, McLean. Group leader, Jodi Brayton, LCSW. 703-532-4892.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 8



### Old Keene Mill Road at Ainsworth Avenue Crosswalk Improvements and Left-Turn Removal Fairfax County

*Willingness to Hold a Public Hearing*

**Find out** about planned crosswalk improvements at the intersection of Old Keene Mill Road (Route 644) and Ainsworth Avenue (Route 3315)/the western entrance for Irving Middle School. The existing crosswalk that spans Old Keene Mill Road will be relocated slightly east to accommodate an extension of the existing grass median; the extended median will include a pedestrian refuge in the middle of the relocated crosswalk. The existing westbound Old Keene Mill Road left-turn lane to Ainsworth Avenue will be permanently removed to allow for the grass median extension and pedestrian refuge; therefore, the westbound left-turn movement will no longer be allowed at this location.

**Review** the project information at <https://www.vdot.virginia.gov/OldKeeneMill> or at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Please call ahead at 703-259-2926 or TTY/TDD 711 to make an appointment with appropriate personnel.

If your concerns cannot be satisfied, VDOT is willing to hold a public hearing. You may request that a public hearing be held by sending a written request to Ms. Kerri Yap, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 on or prior to **October 8, 2025**. If upon receiving public comments it is deemed necessary to hold a public hearing, notice of date, time and place of the hearing will be posted.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

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## Public Notice

### Updated weight limits on Virginia bridges and culverts

In accord with state and federal law, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has imposed new or changed existing weight restrictions and installed new signage indicating the updated weight restrictions on the following bridges and culverts (structures) in Virginia within the last 30 days.

Jurisdiction	Fed Street ID	Route #	Route Name	Crossing	Posted Date
BUCHANAN	29736	2207	RHONDA LESTER BRANCH ROAD	KNOX CREEK	9/5/2025
GRAYSON	8910	732	LAUREL CREEK ROAD	LAUREL CREEK	9/2/2025
HENRY	10152	682	RIVER ROAD 682	JORDAN CREEK	8/22/2025
NELSON	12612	776	GRAPELAWN DRIVE	DAVIS CREEK	8/21/2025
GRAYSON	8943	797	SPENCER BRANCH ROAD	LITTLE HELTON CREEK	8/13/2025
KING WILLIAM	26122	30	ROUTE 0030	PAMUNKEY RIVER	8/6/2025

The list above is not a comprehensive list of all structures with weight restrictions in the Commonwealth but shows only structures that have new or changed weight restrictions within the last 30 days. The list contains only basic structure identification and location information and the date the new or changed weight restriction and signage became effective.

For a full listing of all bridge and culvert weight restrictions with detailed information about specific structures, including location data and actual weight limits, visit [vdot.virginia.gov](http://vdot.virginia.gov) and navigate to Traffic and Travel/For freight operators/Truck restrictions. This page references a posted structures report and a GIS map tool that contain detailed information about restricted structures in Virginia. To receive email notifications regarding new or updated weight restrictions for structures statewide, complete the sign-up form on the web page.

Notices regarding bridges and culverts with new or updated weight restrictions are published monthly by VDOT. For additional information or questions, please contact [haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:haulingpermits@vdot.virginia.gov) or the Load Rating Program Manager, Manjil Devkota at 804-786-4064.

*The Virginia Department of Transportation is committed to ensuring that no person is excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, or national origin, as protected by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need further information on VDOT's Title VI Program or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, please contact the Virginia Department of Transportation's Title VI Program Specialist at 804-786-2730 or [corina.herrera@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:corina.herrera@vdot.virginia.gov).*

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer non-profit organization that feeds, clothes and provides reading assistance and books to children in need. Assistance League's programs touch the lives of hundreds of children in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. There are many volunteer opportunities for community members to contribute to helping those in need. To learn more, email [info@alnv.org](mailto:info@alnv.org), [alnv.org](mailto:alnv.org), or visit [www.alnv.org](http://www.alnv.org).

**Volunteer Adult Mentors Needed.** Help assist the Department of Family Services' BeFriendA-Child mentoring program. The mentors provide opportunities for companionship, guidance and support to children who have been abused and neglected, or who are at risk of abuse and neglect. Contact Ibrahim Khalil at [Ibrahim.khalil@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Ibrahim.khalil@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-324-4547.

**Operation Paws for Homes,** a Virginia based 501(c)(3) organization seeks volunteers, especially to foster dogs. See [www.ophrescue.org](http://www.ophrescue.org) for information and all volunteer opportunities.

**RSVP,** a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an

upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at [chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org) or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit [www.rsvpnova.org](http://www.rsvpnova.org).

**Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church,** 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean continues to have an urgent need for new volunteers to help area senior citizens get to and from their medical and therapy appointments. To find out more about the Shepherd's Center and how you can volunteer to provide transportation and other services, call the Center at 703-506-2199 or e-mail the Center at [info@scmafc.org](mailto:info@scmafc.org). The Center's website is [www.scmafc.org](http://www.scmafc.org).

**Master Gardener Training.** The Fairfax County Master Gardener Association offers plant clinics, home turf training or speakers for homeowner's meetings. Fees vary. Visit [fairfaxgardening.org](http://fairfaxgardening.org) or call MG Help Desk at 703-324-8556 for more.

**Volunteers Needed.** PRS is looking for empathetic and caring volunteers to make phone calls to older adults who may be feeling socially isolated. The commitment is one 3-hour shift per week for one year. Located in Arlington. Ages 21 & up. Intensive training provided. Learn more and apply: [prsinc.org/caring-volunteering/](http://prsinc.org/caring-volunteering/). Questions? Email [lpadgett@prsinc.org](mailto:lpadgett@prsinc.org).

**The Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email [Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov). Also visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/lcombudsman/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/lcombudsman/).

# OWNING A HOME MAY NOT BE JUST A DREAM

Homeownership may be within reach. Whether you need lending assistance or help with debt consolidation, we meet you where you are. With flexible financing options, including our STAR (Steps Toward Achieving Results) program, we offer mortgage, home equity and personal loans with affordable terms. Work with people who care, and take the next step with confidence.



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## SENIOR LIVING

# Avoiding Scams and Fraud, Focus of Talk

FROM PAGE 6

money orders every year.

### Home Repairs

Senior homeowners may be especially vulnerable to home repair and tree work hucksters. Chisolm cited a man hired to replace windows who convinced the owner to go to the bank with him and withdraw money. He never completed the job and ultimately duped 15 victims in Washington, D.C.

### Gift Cards

Some scammers will call or email requesting a gift card. They may say they are “from the government” or that you’ve won a prize.

Some take cards off stores’ shelves, use a device to activate them and put them back on the shelf.

Chisolm recommends never to send a gift card to a stranger or suspicious caller, and if you buy a gift card, buy it near the cashier, not off a shelf, and make sure the packaging is not torn.

### Credit Cards

Using someone else’s card or

card information to make an unauthorized purchase or withdrawal is fraudulent, she explained. The fraudster may steal the card or card information online or with a skimming device.

Immediately call your credit card company if you see a questionable charge; notify the company of travel plans; and get a card with a low limit, for example, \$100.00, she suggested.

### Shopping Online

Computers and the internet offer ripe opportunities for cybercriminals, like fake companies and advertisers. Unsuspecting customers may make a purchase, get charged and never receive the item.

When visiting a website, beware of spelling errors and make sure you know who you are dealing with. Chisolm counseled, “Be careful what you click on.” If you doubt a website, check the link by hovering over it to see the full website address (URL). Research companies before doing business with them.

Use two-factor authentication.

If you fall victim, call your bank immediately. You may have to can-

cel your card.

### Love Scams

Some scammers prey on people who use online dating apps or social networking sites to meet someone. Romance scammers usually seek money, after professing their love and trying to gain your trust. If someone wants money, stop communicating with them, Chisolm says.

“Everybody can be a victim, even younger people,” cautioned Chisolm. “Be smart and stay on top of things.”

### More Resources

Several websites offer tips on reporting and avoiding scams:

Fairfax County Police, non-emergency line at 703-691-2131; Financial Crimes Online Reporting (FiCOR) <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/HowDoI/Financial-Crimes>

Federal Trade Commission (FTC), [www.ReportFraud.ftc.gov](http://www.ReportFraud.ftc.gov)

AARP Fraud Network, <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/helpline/>, 877-908-3360

U.S. Postal Service Inspection Service, [www.uspis.gov](http://www.uspis.gov)

# NOW IS OUR MOMENT

Now is the moment we’ve been waiting for. With new treatments emerging in the fight against Alzheimer’s and all other dementia, now is the time for hope. But not the time to stop.

Help us keep the momentum going in your community at the Alzheimer’s Association Walk To End Alzheimer’s®, the world’s largest fundraiser to fight the disease.

Join us at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)



2025 Walk to End Alzheimer’s

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September 27, 2025

Northern Virginia  
October 12, 2025

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**SUNRISE**  
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# Creativity on Display in Fairfax City's Art Walk on Main

Area artists displayed and sold their works during Fairfax City's annual Art Walk on Main Street, held Sunday afternoon, Sept. 7. Sponsors were the City and its Commission on the Arts.



Spoorti Dandridge displaying her array of mixed-media paintings.



Emily Oliver creates paintings, illustrations, T-shirt designs, hand-painted denim and custom works.



Natalia Malley displays her mixed-media and acrylic paintings.



Benjamin Ross poses with his graffiti-influenced, abstract paintings.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Delaram Kabiri creates wall sculptures of the moon that glow with color under lighting.



Yelenna Angeles works in watercolors and acrylics.



Deema Turkomani creates painted totes, stickers and bolo ties and uses recycled paper in her digital and acrylic prints.



Dags Delva with his colorful abstract paintings.



Commission on the Arts member Brian Howell and daughters (from left) Chloe, 4, and Lily, 5, with their artwork. Howell paints portraits, landscapes and animals.

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# Promise and Oath: 9/11 to Patriot Day 2025

**Commitment to ‘never forget’ and a legacy to serve with courage and strength spans generations of first responders.**

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**A** new generation of first responders, many not yet born on 9/11, is learning to live the promise of “never forget.” Upholding their oath of service, they and others are carrying on a mission to serve just as firefighters and paramedics did that day.

The Fairfax County community paused Thursday, Patriot Day, at ceremonies across the county to reflect on the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The events, attended by elected officials, members of the county’s fire and rescue and police departments, U.S. veterans, residents and others, highlighted the theme of remembering and honoring those who died.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Chief John Butler spoke during the department’s annual 9/11 ceremony, a tribute to fallen first responders and victims. Held Thursday at Fire Station 25 in Reston, Va., the event was streamed live to all stations across the county.

The departments recognized the 343 firefighters, 60 law enforcement officers and emergency medical services personnel who died on 9/11, along with the 246 passengers, 184 victims at the Pentagon and 2,136 victims at the World Trade Center.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy draped a large U.S. flag over its rescue building for the ceremony.

Deputy Chief Brian Edmonston said the attacks’ legacy is a call to action. “It is more than a remembrance,” he said. “It’s a call to live

our values, courage, strength and service every time we put on the uniform.”

At the annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony in Great Falls, the keynote speaker was retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Marc H. Sasseville. In 2001, Sasseville was a lieutenant colonel with the D.C. Air National Guard and was one of four pilots given a mission to find and destroy United Airlines Flight 93.

Sasseville and pilot Heather R. Penney, then a first lieutenant, embarked on what could be a suicide mission. They would launch their F-16s without missiles, prepared to ram their jets into the aircraft to bring it down. Sasseville would hit the cockpit, and Penney would ram the tail to unbalance the plane, causing it to tip and crash.

The pilots never completed their mission. Before taking off, they learned that United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, after passengers and crew on board stormed the cockpit to fight the hijackers. Having learned of the other 9/11 attacks, the passengers acted to prevent the plane from reaching its likely target in Washington, D.C.

The ceremony, held at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial, honored the six Great Falls residents who died when Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon, along with all others who lost their lives in the attacks. The Great Falls community paid tribute to retired Marine 1st Lt. Richard P. Gabriel, Ann C. Judge, Barbara K. Olson, Lisa J. Raines, Diane M. Simmons and George W. Simmons.

SEE PROMISE AND OATH, PAGE 13



Members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue color guard enter Fire Station 25 in Reston, Va., on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025. (From video)



Fairfax County Fire and Rescue personnel and others bow their heads in observance of Patriot Day outside the Public Safety Headquarters in Fairfax, Va., on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025. (From video)



Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Deputy Chief Brian Edmonston speaks during a 9/11 ceremony at the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Academy in Fairfax, Va., on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025. (From video)



Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Chief John Butler speaks during a 9/11 ceremony at Fire Station 25 in Reston, Va., on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025. (From video)



PHOTOS BY COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE/RESCUE  
During the presentation of colors at Fire Station 25 in Reston for 9/11, Fairfax County Police Chief Kevin Davis (front) and Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D) place their hands over their hearts

## Continuing Timeline of Tragedy

On Sept. 11, 2001, two planes struck the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. A third plane hit the Pentagon in Arlington, Va., and a fourth plane, taken over by hijackers, crashed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

The 9/11 attacks led to the U.S. launching military operations in Afghanistan. The last U.S. troops departed on Aug. 30, 2021, just before midnight.

The exact number of first responders who have died from related health issues after 9/11 is a complex and ongoing process. The World Trade Center Health Program, a federally funded program that provides medical monitoring and treatment for 9/11-related conditions, had over 6,300 deceased enrollees as of June 2023. The number is constantly increasing as more individuals are diagnosed with illnesses linked to exposure to the toxic dust and debris at the crash sites. A significant portion of these deaths is attributed to cancers, respiratory diseases and digestive disorders

# Promise and Oath: 9/11 to Patriot Day 2025

FROM PAGE 12

In a solemn 9/11 ceremony on the Town of Vienna's Freeman Store lawn, U.S. veterans from American Legion Post 180 and others paused Thursday to remember the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. They honored first responders and those who died in the wars that followed. The community event featured remarks from former fire chief Jim Morris, Vienna Mayor Linda Colbert and Post 180 Commander Dave Wallace. The ceremony included live music and the ringing of Vienna Presbyterian Church bells at the exact times of each plane's impact, a reminder to "Never Forget."

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., said in a statement, "I'm praying for the loved ones of the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in Virginia, New York and Pennsylvania, and all those who lost their lives in the wars in Afghanistan that followed. Now and always, our veterans and thousands of first responders, service members and others who bravely risked their lives to save fellow Americans and complete dangerous remediation work after



COURTESY OF TOWN OF VIENNA

**U.S. veterans from American Legion Post 180 and others attend the 9/11 remembrance ceremony held on the Freeman Store lawn in Vienna, Va., on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025.**

the attack deserve our support."

U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner, D-Va., also released a statement, saying, "Today we pause in remembrance of the thousands of lives lost on

Sept. 11, 2001. To the families and communities still grieving their loved ones, no matter how many years pass, we will never forget your loss."



COURTESY OF UNITED STATES AIR FORCE VIA FACEBOOK

**The Pentagon Memorial in Arlington, Va., is illuminated in remembrance of the victims of the 2001 terrorist attacks. (From video)**

## Mark Your Calendar Early voting starts Friday for General Election 2025

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

On Nov. 4, Virginia will hold an election for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, all 100 seats in the House of Delegates and multiple local offices and referenda. The state Senate will not be on the ballot until 2027.

Key dates for the Virginia General Election 2025

❖ Sept. 19: Early voting begins.

❖ Oct. 24: Deadline to register to vote and update registration; deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot.

❖ After Oct. 24: Voters may register and vote using a provisional ballot in person through Election Day.

❖ Oct. 25: Voter registration offices open for early voting.

❖ Nov. 1: Early in-person voting ends at 5 p.m.

❖ Nov. 4: General Election Day

Apply for a ballot to be mailed to you through 5 p.m., Oct. 24: Your request must be received by your local registrar's office. Apply for an absentee ballot online using the Citizen Portal. See who is on your ballot by viewing the candidate lists.

### Statewide Offices and their candidates on Fairfax County Ballots (Source: Virginia Department of Elections)

Office Title	Political Party	Candidate Name	Incumbent	Candidate Status	Campaign Email	Campaign Phone	Campaign Website
Governor	Dem.	Abigail D. Spanberger	No	Qualified	info@abigailspanberger.com	804-223-0770	www.abigailspanberger.com
Governor	Rep.	Winsome Earle-Sears	No	Qualified	info@winsomeforgovernor.com	804-223-0896	winsomeforgovernor.com
Lieutenant Governor	Dem.	Ghazala F. Hashmi	No	Qualified	ghazala@ghazalahashmi.com	804-475-9429	ghazalaforvirginia.com
Lieutenant Governor	Rep.	John J. Reid, II	No	Qualified	johnreidonline@gmail.com		johnreidforvirginia.com
Attorney General	Dem.	Jay C. Jones	No	Qualified	info@jayjones.com	757-625-8989	www.jayjones.com
Attorney General	Rep.	Jason S. Miyares	Yes	Qualified	info@jasonmiyares.com	757-263-0859	www.jasonmiyares.com

### Fairfax County is represented by 15 delegates in the Virginia House of Delegates.. Each delegate's district serves a specific area. District Offices and their candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates on Ballots in Fairfax County (Source: Virginia Department of Elections)

District	Political Party	Candidate Name	Campaign Email	Campaign Phone	Campaign Website
4	Democratic	Charniele L. Herring	info@charnieleherring.com		www.charnieleherring.com
6	Democratic	Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan, Jr.	ripsullivan@gmail.com	571-210-5876	www.ripsullivan.com
6	Republican	Kristin L. Hoffman	kristin4NOVA@gmail.com		
7	Democratic	Karen A. Keys-Gamarra	karen@karenkeysgamarra.com	571-332-5789	karenkeysgamarra.com
7	Republican	Cassandra R. Aucoin	cassaucoin@yahoo.com		
8	Democratic	Irene Shin	hello@ireneforva.com	703-677-8334	www.ireneforva.com
8	Republican	Indira S. Massey	info@indiraforva.com	703-282-9522	
9	Democratic	Karrie K. Delaney	DelaneyforDelegate@gmail.com	703-996-9415	www.KarrieDelaney.com
9	Republican	Nhan C. Huynh	huynhforvirginia@gmail.com	703-717-1099	www.huynhforvirginia@gmail.com
10	Democratic	Dan I. Helmer	danhelmerv@gmail.com	571-762-4583	https://danhelmer.com/
10	Republican	David Woodrow Guill	davidguill@cox.net		
11	Democratic	David L. Bulova	delegate@davidbulova.com	703-220-4934	davidbulova.com
11	Republican	Adam J. Wise	wiseforva@gmail.com		
11	Forward	Brandon N. Givens	brandongivens1010@gmail.com		
12	Democratic	Holly M. Seibold	Holly@HollySeibold.com	202-297-4438	www.hollyseibold.com
12	Republican	Nelson Figueroa-Velez	evite@hotmail.com		
13	Democratic	Marcus B. Simon	info@MarcusSimon.com	571-327-0053	www.MarcusSimon.com
13	Republican	Sylvia Oleksy	ylvia.oleksy@gmail.com		
13	Libertarian	Dave A. Crance Jr.	davecrance@yahoo.com	703-639-7535	http://www.dave4va.com/
14	Democratic	Vivian E. Watts	vwatts@erols.com	703-978-2989	https://vivianwatts.com/
14	Republican	Eric Johnson	eric.johnson2020@outlook.com		
15	Democratic	Laura Jane H. Cohen	nfo@laurajanecohen.com	703-261-9171	laurajanecohen.com
15	Republican	Saundra T. Davis	saundrad70@gmail.com		
16	Democratic	Paul E. Krizek	paul@paulkrizek.com		www.paulkrizek.com
16	Republican	Richard T. Hayden	info@haydenforva.com	703-967-8147	HaydenForVA.com
16	Independent	Shelly M. Arnoldi	Shelly4VA@gmail.com	202-285-7474	ShellyArnoldi.com
17	Democratic	Mark D. Sickles	info@marksickles.com	703-922-6440	www.marksickles.com
17	Republican	Naomi Mesfin	naomimhaile@gmail.com		
18	Democratic	Kathy K. L. Tran	kathy@kathyfordelegate.com		www.kathyfordelegate.com
18	Republican	Edward F. McGovern	office@woodfinlaw-va.com	757-808-5236	
19	Democratic	Rozia A. "J.R." Henson, Jr	info@Henson4va.com	703-594-7151	www.Henson4va.com



Lauro and Sybil Rodriguez pose by a 2022 Ford F250 truck with an any-level lift. It's owned by Woody's Ice Cream owner Chris Gilbert.



Larissa James and son Kayden, 5, examine the artwork on this 1979 Chevy Camaro.

# Perfect Time for Labor Day Car Show in Fairfax

Attended by more than 7,000 people, the 26th annual Labor Day Car Show was a huge success. It's put on jointly by the City of Fairfax and the Clifton Lions Club and was held in downtown Fairfax.

"We had 423 cars on display, making this the largest car show in Fairfax County history," said Lions Club member Jim Chesley. "And the weather was just perfect."

Furthermore, added Jeff Greenfield, one of the event's organizers, "It's also the largest car show in Northern Virginia. And we raised over \$60,000 today for charity. It's a ton of work – but, man, it was a great day."



Lorton's Hannah Mead poses with her 2011 Hyundai Genesis coupe, sponsored for display by Arizona Iced Tea. It even sports a flamingo gearshift.



Frank Donnella and son Franklin, 2-1/2, check out a 1965 Ford Mustang.



At left, J.C. Alvarez and son Roman, 1, pose by this 1989 Ferrari 328 GTS – the same model used in the TV show, "Magnum, P.I."



Checking out this 1966 Volkswagen Beetle are Reagan Longo and dad Ron.

Attendees look at the colorful, classic cars in a lot off University Drive.

# News

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Shaila Moya and Franklin Romero stand beside a sporty, 2006 Ford GT.



Kathleen and John Walter check out a 1941 Ford Tudor.



Among the cars on display was this bright blue, 2025 Chevy Corvette Z06.



Chris Enlow sitting on his 2005 soft-tail deluxe Harley Davidson.



Part of the car-show crowd near the foot of University Drive.



Looking at a 1972 Chevy Monte Carlo are Dinavinn Fletcher and son, Marcus Reynolds Jr., 11.



Clouds reflect on the shiny hood of Wayne Davidson's 2005 Chevy Corvette C6.

# ENTERTAINMENT

## FILL THE BINS

To help Virginians protect their personal information and support neighbors in need, AARP Virginia hosts Fill the Bins — free paper shred and pantry events in October. Four collection locations — Woodbridge, Lorton, Dulles, and Manassas — make the secure disposal of personal documents available to more people. Examples of documents for shredding might include bank statements, cancelled checks, credit card junk mail and receipts with identifying information. Each vehicle is limited to no more than three bags or boxes of documents; registration for this free event is required.

Fill the Bins event dates, times and locations are as follows:

Saturday, October 4, 2025, between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Parkway Church, 3713 Pennington Lane, Woodbridge

Sunday, October 5, 2025, between 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Lorton Community Action Center, 9520 Richmond Hwy, Lorton

Saturday, October 11, 2025, between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Dulles South Food Pantry, 24757 Arcola Mills Drive, Dulles

Saturday, October 25, 2025, between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 9325 West Street, Manassas

## NATURE HIKE WITH A RANGER

Along the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Join a ranger on nature hikes:

Oct. 6 at 9 a.m. at Great Falls Visitor Center Courtyard

Oct. 21 at 9 a.m. at Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve

All hikes will be 1.2 to 2 hours of slow, moderate hiking. Turkey Run hike will have steep stairs both ways. Join NPS Natural Resources Program Manager Brent Steury for a hike. Brent has worked as a

scientist in this area for over 20 years.

## NOW THRU SEPT. 28

**“Layers” Arts Show.** At 700-B West Broad Street, Falls Church (Route 7). The artworks of 68 artists will be on display when Falls Church Arts presents its “Layers,” an all-media exhibit, running from August 16 to September 28, 2025. This diverse show will feature the work of emerging and established artists from the Virginia, Washington D.C., and Maryland area, all interpreting the theme of multiple layers in their submissions. Artworks can be viewed online at <https://www.fallschurcharts.org>.

## NOW THRU SEPT. 29

**Masterpiece Mini Golf.** Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; Friday & Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.; Sunday: 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Masterpiece Mini-Golf isn’t just a game—it’s an interactive journey through the world of art like you’ve never seen before! Imagine 18 artist-designed holes bursting with bold colors, iconic imagery, and mind-bending creativity. From Monet’s water lilies to Banksy’s graffiti walls, every twist and turn brings you face-to-face with art history’s greatest paintings—reimagined in wild, surreal, and playable form. It’s part gallery, part game, and 100% fun for all ages. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/masterpiece-mini-golf>

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 17

**Journey Within: Self-Discovery Book Club. 6-7:30 p.m.** At Reston Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. A literary discussion that focuses on a character’s personal growth and how it relates to our own. Led by life coach



The Taste of Annandale festival will take place on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025 in Annandale.

Shabnam Curtis. At September’s meeting they will discuss the novel *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. Website: Journey Within: Self-Discovery Book Club - Fairfax Library Calendar - Library Home.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

**“Every Little Step” Movie. 1 p.m.** At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Follows the plight of real-life dancers as they struggle through auditions for the Broadway revival of “A Chorus Line.” The film also illuminates the history of the show and the creative minds behind the original and revived incarnations. Running

time: 1 hour, 33 minutes. Rated PG-13.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

**JLNV FTGD. 4 to 8 p.m.** At Mosaic, 8300 Greensboro RD, L-1, Box 637, McLean. Junior League of Northern Virginia will be celebrating Find the Good Day by spreading kindness across Northern Virginia. Support efforts of Women Helping Women by grabbing a bite at Chipotle, purchasing something at Kendra Scott or attending happy hour at Grand Cata. Your support fuels impactful work all year long. Every dollar given helps us grow our community presence and lead-

ership programs. Visit the website: <https://www.jlnv.org/findthegood-day/>

## SEPT. 18 AND 25

**Tyson’s Mixed Market Returns. 4-8 p.m.** TCA is excited to present the Tyson’s Mixed Market at The Boro — a vibrant celebration of local creativity, culture, and community, coming to you every Thursday evening. This curated marketplace will feature a diverse mix of artisans, makers, vintage collectors, food vendors, and small businesses, all coming together to showcase the best of Tysons and beyond. The market will also feature live music

# Fairfax City Greenlights Davies Development Plan

FROM PAGE 5

er, and we’ll install plaques or markers to recognize [the home’s] prior occupants, the architect that designed the house, and the ponies that were there when it was pastureland before the house was built.”

Then, since this agenda item contained a public hearing, Fairfax residents weighed in on the proposal. Maryanna Fournier said it “seems to cram as much as it can in a very small space.”

Andy Berg spoke on behalf of his homeowners’ association. “My wife and I own a unit across the street, on Armstrong Street,” he said. “Overflow parking and water flow could impact our property.”

Susan McClosky said nearby residents are concerned about how the site’s traffic and parking would affect them. Agreeing, David Berkeley said, “Fairfax is growing, and traffic

on University and Judicial drives is going to increase, anyway. This will create a chokepoint and a traffic backup.”

Joe Murach said he and his neighbors live a block away and believe the project’s building heights and density would negatively impact them and could even increase crime near their homes. And Brenda Kuhlman asked, “With climate change and increased flooding, why rob the earth of land and cover it with buildings?”

Jim Gillespie, however, said he supports the project. “There’s a serious shortage of housing in our region,” he explained. “It would provide more apartments in the City, plus more customers for our downtown businesses and restaurants.”

Next, Councilmembers asked questions. Councilmember Rachel McQuillen asked how many children the apartments were expected to generate, and Smith replied 27. “It costs more than \$20,000 to

educate one child,” said McQuillen. “So [your schools’ contribution] would pay to educate less than 10 children.”

Councilmember Stacy Hall asked Frederick about any remaining safety issues this project had, and Frederick said previous issues with the site’s vehicle movements and fire-engine access had already been addressed. Therefore, he said, “Staff has no further concerns.”

Councilmember Anthony Amos asked about the stormwater-management plan and was told about all the improvements the developer would make to ensure that nearby properties wouldn’t be affected by water runoff from the site. Councilmember Stacey Hardy-Chandler asked The Hill’s representatives to respond to the residents’ concerns they’d just heard.

The project’s transportation specialist, engineer Sasha Ksanznak-Redmon, told her, “Our studies said traffic impacts to the

nearby intersections from our site will be minimal.”

Summing up, Castan Smith said, “The Small Area Plan calls for height and density in this area. First, we were told to build townhouses, then senior living, then multifamily – and we developed all three accordingly. You will have residents to activate the retail. We’ll manage the traffic and the snow removal. We’re here to work with the community, not be a problem.”

Fairfax Mayor Catherine Read expressed her thoughts, as well, saying she appreciated the concerns of the current City residents. But she also urged them to consider the larger, long-term picture.

“The life expectancy of residential homes is far longer than [that of] the people who live in them,” said Read. “When we talk about adding residential housing to our City, we have to think about the people who’ll live here. People who’ll choose our City because we have the right mix of housing,

walkability, multimodal [options], transit, our geographic location in the center of the region, a vibrant downtown and jobs available.”

“So when we think about residential housing, yes, there’s an impact to the people living in the surrounding neighborhoods, and we do understand that,” she continued. “But we have to build for the people who will also live here in the future. And I think it’s important for the community to recognize that is our job.”

Councilmember Billy Bates then made a motion to approve the development proposal and Hardy-Chandler seconded. Hall, McQuillen and Councilmember Tom Petersen voted no, and Amos, Hardy-Chandler and Bates voted yes. Since that left a 3-3 tie, Read got to break it. Her yes vote gave the project a 4-3 approval so it may now move forward.

# ENTERTAINMENT

and entertainment, and lots of giveaways!

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

### Alloy Project Auction. 6:30–9:30

**p.m.** at the Signature Grand Room, Reston Town Center. Join in a vibrant evening of contemporary art, an online and live auction, bold flavors from Barcelona Wine Bar, and celebration at The Alloy Project, Tephra ICA's annual fall benefit and cocktail party. This year's auction showcases work by the award-winning artists from the 2025 Tephra ICA Arts Festival and beyond and is now open for preview. Online bidding begins Sept. 2 and will culminate at the event on Sept. 18. You can also view the artwork in person starting September 11 at Tephra ICA at Signature.

2025 Artists:

Claire Helen Ashley; Betsy Best; Collette Fortin & Berry Davis; Laura DeNardo; Nicole DePonte; Van Doan; Judith Forst; Danielle Hatch; Hong Hong; Kue King; Sabrina Lee; Lisa Markowitz; Olga Nenazhivina; Jillian Roper; Michael Sorge

## SEPT. 18-28

**2025 Logan Festival of Solo Performance.** At 1st Stage in Tysons Corner. This innovative festival, acclaimed in The Washington Post with “three plays prove the power of one,” will gather celebrated solo performers from across the country for two weeks of performances, workshops, discussions, and events. The 2025 festival will feature three dynamic productions:

**SPADURA** – Written and performed by Dahéli Hall, an acclaimed comedian, writer, and director residing in Los Angeles, SPADURA unapologetically takes on the baby industrial complex, aging, the physical, emotional, and financial cost of IVF, as well as the unique fertility obstacles faced by Black women in America. SPADURA Dates: Friday, September 19 at 7:30pm; Sunday, September 21 at 5:00pm; Friday, September 26 at 7:30pm; Saturday, September 27 at 7:30pm; Sunday, September 28 at 2:00pm

**The Jewish Dog** – Filtering the darkest, most dramatic period of modern Jewish history, The Jewish Dog offers a view of the Holocaust through the eyes of a canine unusually fascinated by human affairs. The Jewish Dog Dates: Thursday, September 18 at 7:30pm; Saturday, September 20 at 7:30pm; Sunday, September 21 at 2:00pm; Saturday, September 27 at 5:00pm; Sunday, September 28 at 5:00pm

**George** – Don't Do That! Join Catherine Flye as she and her friends celebrate the life of the beloved British comedienne Joyce Grenfell, for an evening of witty songs, amusing sketches, anecdotes and reminiscences of the legendary star. This joyful entertainment provides a glimpse into the lives of a host of funny and endearing characters, in music, song and the spoken word. George – Don't Do That! Dates: Saturday, September 20 at 2:00pm; Sunday, September 21 at 7:30pm; Thursday, September 25 at 7:30pm; Saturday, September 27 at 2:00pm; Sunday, September 28 at 7:30pm. General admission tickets are \$20 per show and \$10 per show for Students with valid ID. Individual tickets can be purchased online at [www.1stStage.org](http://www.1stStage.org) or by emailing the 1st Stage box office at

[www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



**The Old Firehouse Block Party will take place on Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025 in McLean.**

[boxoffice@1ststage.org](mailto:boxoffice@1ststage.org).

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

### 18th Annual Erin Peterson Fund

**Golf Tournament.** At Westfields Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave. in Clifton. Check-in/breakfast is at 7 a.m. To register, go to [www.erinpetersonfund.org](http://www.erinpetersonfund.org). Annual fundraiser for the nonprofit Erin Peterson Fund (EPF). Just 18 years old, Westfield High grad Erin Peterson was among the 32 victims of the 2007 mass shooting at Virginia Tech. After her death, her parents began EPF in her honor. The fund supports programs for students at Westfield High, Stone Middle School and Centreville Elementary and, to date, has given out 174 scholarships. Email [erinpetersonfund@yahoo.com](mailto:erinpetersonfund@yahoo.com).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Bug Fest. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** At Lake Accotink Park, Springfield. Step into the fascinating world of bugs at Bug Fest — Lake Accotink Park's annual celebration of all things that crawl, fly and buzz! A day packed with discovery, fun and outdoor adventure.

Perfect for families, nature enthusiasts, and curious minds of all ages, Bug Fest invites you to explore the vital role insects play in the environment through hands-on activities, live demonstrations and engaging presentations. Here's what you can experience:

**Insect Safaris** – Embark on a guided trek to find bugs in their natural habitat.

**Live Bug Encounters** – Meet fascinating insects up close.

**Insect Collections & Log Rolling** – Discover hidden critters by turning over logs and inspecting natural habitats.

**Soil Stations & Bug Walks** – Explore how bugs contribute to healthy ecosystems.

**Critter Talks** – Hear from experts who study and care for insects.

**Bug Science & Crafts** – Create your own insect-inspired art and try interactive science activities.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Taste of Annandale.** 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Eileen Garnett Civic Space, 7200 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Here's what's planned so far for the event:

**Food** – Food trucks and other food vendors are offering culinary delights from Thailand, Vietnam, Jamaica, Korea, Latin America, Indonesia, China, and good old American fare like barbecue and

funnel cakes.

**5K** – The Taste of Annandale 5K run will be located entirely at Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale, starting at 9:30 a.m.

**Live entertainment** – The performance schedule isn't finalized yet, but the plans call for a lion dance; music and dance groups from Korea, Vietnam, Bolivia, Scotland, and Indonesia; martial arts demonstrations; musical theater; and much more.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

### 2025 South County Marching Band

**Invitational.** 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. At South County High School, Lorton. South County High School Band is hosting a Marching Band Invitational with over 20 marching bands to be participating. General Admission \$10.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

### Old Firehouse Block Party. 1-4 p.m.

At 1440 Chain Bridge Rd, McLean. The Old Firehouse Center is celebrating 35 years of serving the public. OFC was Fairfax County's first fire station. Now it offers a wide variety of programs for youth, including an afterschool program, day camps, local trips and dances. This open house/festival features a variety of free games, crafts, music, food, amusements, giveaways and more! A new mural by artist Jeremy Jarvis, which was commissioned by MCC in recognition of MCC's 50th anniversary, will be dedicated at the start of this event.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Sly the Magician.** 6 to 8:30 p.m. At Arts Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. A fundraiser for the Rotary Club of Herndon-Reston. Tickets are \$50 and includes:

- A spread of delicious appetizers
- Wine, beer, lemonade, and tea
- An incredible magic show filled with laughter, mystery, and awe!

Every dollar raised will support local Rotary Club of Herndon-Reston charities and community service projects, making magic happen well beyond the stage.

Reserve your spot today: <https://square.link/u/NoiA5yPy>

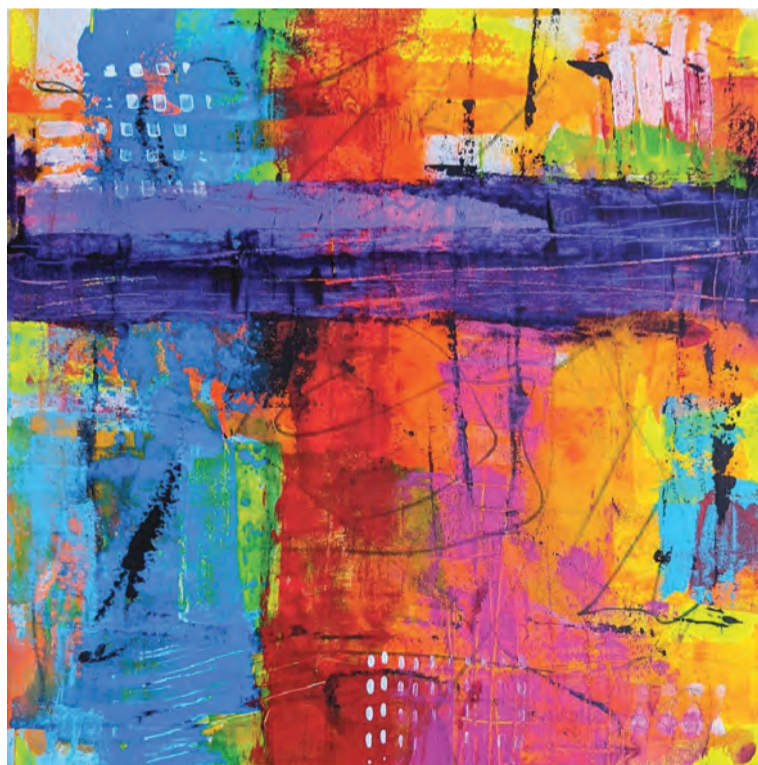
## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

### MCC 50th Anniversary Mural

**Dedication.** 1-4 p.m. At The Old Firehouse Block Party, McLean. The rear wall of the Old Firehouse Center takes on new life at the unveiling of the second commissioned 50th anniversary public art project, this community mural created with the input of members of the



**The G34.3 Brewing Oktoberfest takes place on Saturday, Sept. 27, 2025 in Lorton.**



**The “Layers” Arts Show takes place now through Sept. 28 in Falls Church.**

McLean community.

## SEPT. 20 TO NOV. 2

### “Evil Dead, The Musical.”

At Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. The Workhouse Arts Center is raising the curtain on its bold 2025–26 Performing Arts Season this fall with the cult-classic sensation “Evil Dead The Musical,” running September 20 – November 2, 2025 at the Workhouse's intimate W-3 Theatre. Perfectly timed for Halloween season and paired with the Workhouse's Haunted Trail, this outrageous rock musical comedy offers a theatrical experience unlike anything else in Northern Virginia—complete with a “Splash Zone” for adventurous theatergoers ready to get (fake!) blood-soaked. Visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

### N-TRAK Model Trains Running. 1-4

p.m. At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Join them for the N Gauge (N-TRAK) Model Train Show. Admission: Museum members and children 4 and under, free; ages 5-12, \$3; age 13 and older, \$5, \$6 for special events. Seniors, \$4; Military, active and retired, \$4. <http://www.fairfax-station-railroad-museum.org>, <http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR>, 703-425-9225.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

### Mykle Lyons Jazz Festival. 3-8 p.m.

At Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Join in an unforgettable afternoon of music, art, and community at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. Admission is free, all ages are welcome, and advance premium seating is available on-line to reserve.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19

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## Announcements

### Public Meeting:

Public meeting to discuss  
Streetscape Project (open  
bids for duct bank project)  
September 25th, 2025,  
7:30pm  
Town Hall, Main Street,  
Clifton, 20124  
For more information:  
[www.cliftonva.gov](http://www.cliftonva.gov)

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT**  
[fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Mary Kimm**  
Editor and Publisher  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Bonnie Hobbs**  
Community Reporter  
703-778-9415  
[bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Mercia Hobson**  
Staff Reporter  
[mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Mike Salmon**  
Contributing Writer  
[miksalmon6922@gmail.com](mailto:miksalmon6922@gmail.com)

**ADVERTISING**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
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**Debbie Funk**  
Display Advertising/National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Classified & Employment  
Advertising**  
703-778-9431

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

**Publisher**  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

*In Memoriam*  
**Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic

**Production Manager**  
Geovani Flores

**CIRCULATION**  
**Circulation Manager**  
Ann Oliver  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 17

Enjoy performances from some of the area's finest jazz musicians:

3:00pm-3:45pm: SK Jazz  
4:00pm-4:45pm: Stickman  
5:00pm-5:45pm: Accidental Red  
6:00pm-6:45pm: Common Ground  
7:00pm-7:45pm: Loudoun Jazz Ensemble  
This annual festival celebrates the life and legacy of Mykle Lyons, the beloved jazz bassist and Reston resident who shared his passion for music with the world — from the Kennedy Center to Montreux — and brought it home to Lake Anne.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

**Ching-Yi Lin, Piano: "Ravel at 150".** 2 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Join internationally acclaimed pianist Ching-Yi Lin in celebrating the 150th birthday of composer Maurice Ravel—most famous for "Boléro," but also a composer of beautiful and fiendishly difficult piano music that requires a balance of technical and artistic challenges. The recital will include works by Bach and Schumann.

## SEPT. 24

**Senior Movie Day.** Reston Association presents Senior Movie Day. Join them on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Coffee, donuts and OJ are provided, and door prizes are distributed prior to the movie.

Doors: 9:00 a.m., Movie at 10 a.m.

Location: Movie theater at Reston Town Center  
Sept. 24: Featuring: The Ballad of Wallis Island

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

**G34.3 Brewing Oktoberfest.** 12 to 9 p.m. At G34.3 Brewing Company, 8532 Terminal Road, Suites L,M,N, Lorton. Oktoberfest! Beer, food, live Oompah band & more. They are bringing the Bavarian vibes with: Lenticular Lager 1553 – the fan-favorite Märzen-style beer. Food by The Alpine Chef – bratwursts, pretzels & more! Live Oompah Band – classic tunes, festive dancing, and full stein energy. General Admission is Free – show up and celebrate VIP Ticket: \$44.99 – includes a full Bavarian meal from The Alpine Chef (limited availability)

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

**RA's Fall Yard Sale.** Location: 12010 Sunrise Valley Drive (Near the Reston Wegmans)

## SEPT. 27 TO OCT. 27

**Fall Fest.** Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Reston Farm Garden Market, 10800 Baron Cameron Ave., Reston. From train rides to moon bounces, it's the perfect mix of adventure and family fun. Children ages 2–12 can enjoy an unforgettable day filled with:

- ❖ Moon Bounces — jump, bounce, and laugh all afternoon
- ❖ Petting Zoo — hands-on fun with friendly farm animals
- ❖ Reston Farm Garden Market Express Train — a family favorite that kids can't get enough of.

## SEPT. 27-28

**LEGO Model Trains Weekend Show.** At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. Weekend Show of LEGO model trains will be on display and running at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum on Saturday, September 27, 2025, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. and Sunday, September 28 from 1-4 p.m. Admission: Museum members and children 4 and under, free; ages 5-12, \$3; ages 13 and older, \$5; special events, \$6. Military, active and retired, \$4. Seniors, \$4. <http://www.fairfax-station-railroad-museum.org>, <http://www.facebook.com/FFXSRR>, 703-425-9225.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

**ARTS by George!** An Evening with Darren Criss. 8:30 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, Fairfax. Tony, Emmy, and Golden Globe Award winner Darren Criss headlines the 20th annual ARTS by George! in a special concert featuring songs from throughout his



**"Evil Dead, The Musical" will take place Sept. 20 to Nov. 2, 2025 at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.**

wildly eclectic career as both songwriter and performer, including those from Fox's hit TV show Glee, StarKid Productions, and the Broadway shows in which he's starred. Visit [artsbygeorge.gmu.edu](http://artsbygeorge.gmu.edu).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

**Harvest Happenings.** 10 a.m.-Noon. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Celebrate autumn with your family locally! Harvest Happenings is an indoor-outdoor festival with live entertainment, a petting zoo, crafts and games. Visit our pumpkin patch and purchase a pumpkin to decorate.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 28

**Herndon's Runnymede Park NatureFest 2025.** 1-5 p.m. At 417 Queens Row Street, Herndon. An annual, family-friendly, hands-on event, spotlighting the plants and animals that live in Runnymede Park in Herndon. Learn about bees and butterflies, see live animals, make a craft, play nature-themed games and more.

## MONDAY/SEPT. 29

**Rise Above Golf Tournament.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. At Belmont Country Club. The Rise Above Golf Tournament promises a full day of networking, competition, and community building on one of the area's premier golf courses. Participants will enjoy a complete tournament experience proudly sponsored by Tower Club Tysons while supporting life-changing programs for trauma survivors. For tickets, sponsorship opportunities, or details about either event, visit [corefoundation.org/rise-above-be-relentless-foundation](http://corefoundation.org/rise-above-be-relentless-foundation) or contact [riseaboveberelentless@corefoundation.org](mailto:riseaboveberelentless@corefoundation.org).

## FRIDAY/OCT. 3

**Academy of St Martin in the Fields Chamber**

**Ensemble.** 8 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, Fairfax. Join London's Academy of St Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble for a riveting program featuring Schubert's Octet in F major, D. 803, considered one of the greatest chamber works of all time; Francaix's witty Octet, commissioned as a companion piece to Schubert's Octet; and a special work commissioned by the Academy.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 4

**Walk to Stop Suicide.** 12:30 p.m. At Mosaic District, Fairfax. Join the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Fairfax Out of the Darkness Community Walk. Check-in & Pre-Walk Activities Begin: 11:00 a.m. Program Begins: 12:30 p.m. Event Ends: 2:00 p.m. The Fairfax Out of the Darkness Community Walk Support for mental health and suicide prevention is needed more now than ever before, and proceeds raised through AFSP's Out of the Darkness Walks fund lifesaving research, education, advocacy, and survivor support programming.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 4

**Parktoberfest.** 12 to 5 p.m. At E.C. Lawrence Park, 5235 Walney Road, Centreville. The celebration will be filled with live music, local food and drink, artisan vendors, and activities for all ages.

Highlights include:

- Live performances by The Walkaways, Lucas Mason and Georgia Rae Braun
- Craft beer from Ono Brewery and food trucks
- Burgorilla & TacoOne
- Artisan and maker marketplace with local vendors
- Tours of the brand-new Woodlands Stewardship Education Center
- STREAM Loop adventures for kids and families.

## Amazing



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

For those of you regular readers wondering about my most recent scan results - and what it means to my health status, written about a few weeks ago in a column titled, "Clear as Mud," the answer is, to quote Ken Jennings, the current host of Jeopardy, the oncologist wrote "overall, an excellent PET report." As for my 'overall' health, I'm way past one day at a time, and I'm way past my original "13 months to two years" prognosis which I received in late February 2009. I am not however in remission. Nor have I passed the need for quarterly PET scans - to be followed up by quarterly in-office appointments, monthly lab work and five daily pills. I am, as the cover of this quarter's AARP magazine teases: "Living with Cancer."

When I saw that headline on the cover, which of course led to an inside story, I said out loud to my wife Dina, "I could write the book on that." Actually, if you tally up all the columns I've had published (nearly 800 columns on the subject) beginning in June '09 and continuing without interruption through to this very column, I've published a book or two, sort of. F.Y.I., moreover, to give this column a little context, I have published a weekly column since Dec. '97 (beginning Jan. '25, the Connection is now published two times per month). Before the cancer diagnosis, I characterized my columns as "Everything in General About Nothing in Particular." That all changed when I was diagnosed with stage IV, non-small lung cancer, an extremely terminal form of cancer.

But cancer is the exact opposite of 'nothing in particular' as it is also the exact opposite of 'everything in general.' It's as specific as one can get, especially when asked about one's health/life. Nevertheless, short of wearing a tee-shirt emblazoned with "F-ck Cancer" or the more acceptable: "Cancer Sucks," I pretty much keep myself to myself unless asked. If, to quote Lily Tomlin as the kookie switchboard operator "Ernestine," from the irreverent comedy show of the 60s and 70s: "Laugh-In," if "the party to whom I am speaking" doesn't know I have cancer, I will not offer it up for conversation. If on the contrary, inquiries are made about my health status, I have plenty of stories to share about my 16 1/2 years defying the odds and living despite being told a time or two that my chances of surviving beyond two years were in the low single digits.

But here I sit, writing about survival of the not-so-fittest: me. I wouldn't say I've survived by ignoring advice or burying my head in the proverbial/figurative sand - below or above ground. Nor have I read everything on the subject or followed a strict regimen of non-Western alternatives, though I have embraced some: drinking alkaline water, spooning down a tablespoon of purred asparagus at least once a day, mixing Bragg's Apple Cider Vinegar and/or baking soda in my daily drinks, plus swallowing upwards of 60 pills a day (vitamins, minerals, supplements, et cetera), some over the counter, some under the counter and a few even around the counter all selected to flush out the toxins in my body or to build up an immune system ravaged by chemotherapy. Whether, and to what extent, incorporating/adding these 'alternatives' to my Western care: chemotherapy, immunotherapy and targeted therapy, mattered I'll never know.

However, doing all this stuff/being proactive made me feel less a victim and more like a victor. And as they say, "To the victor go the spoils." In my case, the spoils refer to a life I wasn't supposed to live. And not a day goes by where I take any of it for granted.

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

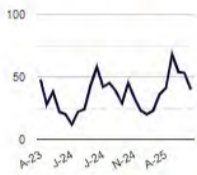
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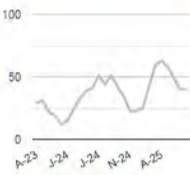
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**Units Sold**  
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**Up 3%**  
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**Active Inventory**  
40



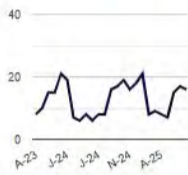
**Down -22%**  
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