

January 25-31, 2017

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News



Photo courtesy of the Fairfax County Department of Fire and Rescue

Firefighters used a ladder to get a fire hose to the second-floor attic to extinguish the fire.

Fire Displaces Herndon Family

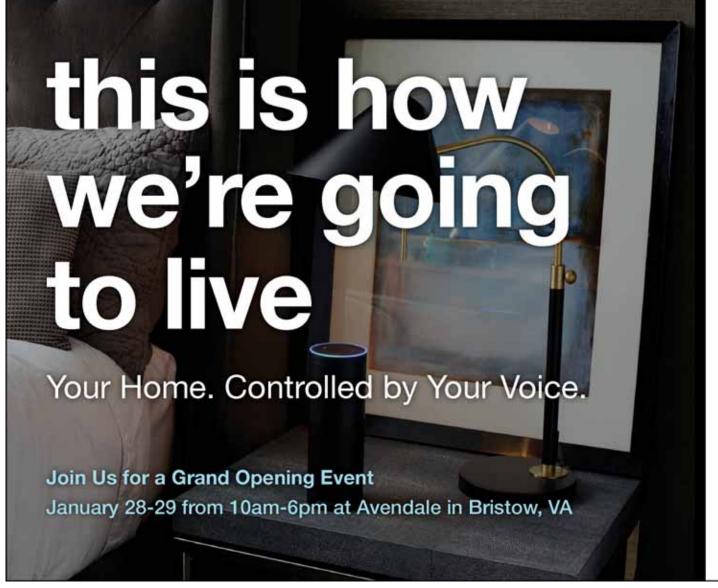
family of six in the town of Herndon was displaced after a fire damaged their home on Friday, Jan. 20.

The four adults and two children were inside the home at the time of the fire, but there were no reported injuries because they evacuated before firefighters arrived, according to the Fairfax County Department of Fire and Rescue.

Around 4 p.m. firefighters arrived at the home on the 700 block of Van Buren Street where they saw smoke coming from the attic of the two-story home. They quickly extinguished the fire and contained it to the attic. There were smoke alarms present in the home, however, they had no batteries. Thankfully, a passerby noticed smoke coming from the roof and alerted the occupants.

Fire Investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature and was caused by electrical wiring. Damages have been estimated to be \$68,750.

The family was provided assistance from the Red Cross.





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Public Silent During Public Hearing On Widening of East Elden Street

By Fallon Forbush
The Connection

he Herndon Town Council held its final public hearing on Tuesday, Jan. 10, for the proposed \$43.4 million project to widen East Elden Street from four to six lanes between Herndon Parkway and Fairfax County Parkway.

"The overall intent of the project is to provide improved pedestrian safety, bicycle lanes and ... cycling improvements and safety," Lisa Gilleran, Herndon's director of community development, said during the hearing.

The project would add bike lanes from Monroe Street to Van Buren Street.

Another major improvement of the project would remove the culverts that carry the Sugarland Run Stream under East Elden Street and replace them with a bridge that carries traffic over the stream.

"Whenever we have very heavy rain storms, we've actually had to close the road there due to flooding, so that would be a major safety improvement," Gilleran said.

Other improvements include landscaping and planted medians, and undergrounding utilities along the corridor.

Mayor Lisa Merkel closed the public hearing after there were no comments from the public. She said the town staff and councilmembers would work with VDOT to move the project forward.

The final design is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2021.

Typical Section

From Herndon Parkway to Fairfax County Parkway
6 Lane Divided with Raised Cycle Track

Proposed
Right of Way

Right of Way

The Lamm

Right of Way

Right

East Elden Street Widening

The project will widen East Elden Street from four to six lanes between Herndon Parkway and Fairfax County Parkway in the town of Herndon. The purpose of the project is to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety and enhance access to and from Fairfax County Parkway.

Town Begins Debate Over Capital Improvement Projects

By Fallon Forbush The Connection

erndon has begun discussing which projects should be included in the town's \$54 million Capital Improvement Program.

The CIP is a financial planning document that establishes a six-year schedule for public improvements and serves as a companion policy document to the town of Herndon 2030 Comprehensive Plan, as well as the town's annual operating budget.

The total budget for the projects in the CIP for fiscal year 2018 through fiscal year 2023 is more than \$54 million, but over \$30 million in grants have been secured to help cover costs.

That means more than 56 percent of the projects proposed in the program would be funded through grants.

"We have a variety of funding sources," says Dana Heiberg, a senior planner with the town. "[The grant funding is] very significant."

The Herndon Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the CIP for fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2023 on Monday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. in the Herndon Council Chambers Building located at 765 Lynn Street

It is anticipated that the commission will make a recommendation to the town manager.

The town manager, or interim town manager, will then make a recommendation to the town council later in May.

This is because the town's fiscal year 2018 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

annual budget must first be approved in April, according to Heiberg. The CIP will then make its way to the town council in May for public hearings and a vote, if the annual budget process goes smoothly.

Both the city manager and the town council can adjust the CIP.

"We typically have some adjustments as we go through the process," says Heiberg. "This reflects what we believe have been the priorities to date, but we're looking for feedback."

The town's fiscal years run from July 1 to June 30.

"If this program is adopted, it will begin to be implemented July 1," says Heiberg.

For now, these 49 projects and their estimated costs were compiled by town staff and are currently listed on the proposed draft of the CIP that the planning commission will be reviewing:

1) Sports Field And Park Improvements, \$2,091,000

This project would replace the natural turf of the Haley Smith Park soccer field with synthetic grass and would add lights.

2) Folly Lick/Spring Branch Regional Trail, \$1,185,000

The project would develop a 3,000-foot segment of the trail between Herndon Parkway and Park Avenue.

3) Bready Park Tennis Court Renovation, 6410,000

The project renovates three of the park's six tennis courts by replacing the conduit and electrical boxes, and addressing the drainage around the three seasonal indoor courts.

4) W&OD Trail Lighting, \$495,000

This is the final phase of the town's lighting of the Washington and Old Dominion Trail, running approximately 3,800 feet from Van Buren Street to the connection with the Sugarland Run Trail.

5) Park Equipment Replacement Program, \$150,000

This project would replace and improve playground equipment in town parks.

6) Herndon Community Center - Phase 5, \$3,555,000

The project would add a second story to the center, replace its failing drain system and make improvements to meet federal Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

7) Trailside Skate Park Expansion, \$175,000 This project would repair wear and aging and expand the park by 5,000 square feet, as well as add spectator areas, benches and access pathways.

8) Runnymede Park Nature Center, \$2,850,000 This project would construct a 4,000 square-foot nature center at Runnymede Park.

9) Town Hall Square Improvements, \$50,000 This project would enhance the green area near the Old Town Hall at Elden, Station and Lynn streets by replacing the existing parking area between the Herndon Depot Museum and the Town Hall with gathering space. Space for temporary interactive art installations and possibly a space for a permanent art installation would also be added.

10) Trails To Herndon Metrorail, \$640,000 This project would create better pedestrian a

This project would create better pedestrian and bicycle access to the metro entrance pavilion of the Silver Line's Herndon station by adding sidewalk and asphalt trails from the intersection of Van Buren Street and Worldgate Drive.

11) Wayfinding Signs And Historic Markers, \$280,000

The historic marker program is already underway. Town wayfinding signs are also planned to direct travelers to specific transportation facilities, civic and community buildings.

12) East Elden Street, \$11,000

This Virginia Department of Transportation project will widen the street to six lanes with a divided median strip from Fairfax County Parkway to Van Buren Street.

13) Vehicular And Pedestrian Access To Herndon Metrorail, \$3,457,000

This project would create better vehicular and pedestrian access to the Herndon metrorail station. Lanes along Herndon Parkway would accommodate Fairfax Connector buses and drivers who want to drop off passengers.

14) Van Buren Street Improvements (Old Spring St. To Herndon Parkway), \$4,558,000

This project would rebuild a portion of the street to improve traffic capacity and space for cyclists and pedestrians.

15) Van Buren Street Improvements (Herndon Parkway to South Town Line), \$2,630,000

This project would add cyclist and pedestrian facilities on the street, which would connect to existing facilities on the Monroe Street Bridge.

16) Worldgate Drive Extension, \$0

This project is outlined in the town's plan for the redevelopment of the Herndon metrorail station area and would extend the drive from Van Buren Street to Herndon Parkway.

17) Sterling Road Multi-Modal Improvements, \$1,700,000

This project would convert a portion of the street from an undivided, three-lane roadway to a twolane roadway with a median and middle lane for turning.

18) Bicycle Facilities & Accommodations, \$268,000

This project would add bicycle facilities to connect missing links in the town's bicycle facility network.

SEE PROJECTS, PAGE 5

OPINION

Not Helping the Local Economy

Federal hiring freeze will have rippling effect.

he hiring freeze announced earlier this week, will not help the local economy which has struggled in recent years due to the sequester, automatic cuts and limits to federal spending. The federal government is a critical part of the local economy and had helped recession-proof the Northern Virginia area, but more recently it has been a negative.

Kudos to U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) for speaking out against a foolish freeze on federal hiring. As the lone Republican representing Northern Virginia in Congress, her opposition is important.

"The federal budget cannot be balanced on the backs of our federal workforce. I don't support this type of across-the-board freeze and think it is better to look at priorities and areas where appropriate cuts can be made and where we can consolidate efforts or identify unnecessary costs that can be eliminated," Comstock wrote. "As the General Accounting Office has previously reported, past hiring freezes in both Republican and Democrat administrations have cost the federal government money in the longrun because of staffing problems, or problems in recruiting or disruption of key government operations and required services to the American people. We will be monitoring and highlighting the results of this freeze and how it is impacting the mission of various agencies."

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) identifies the freeze as one of many "anti-federal workforce policies" in the works.

"Past hiring freezes in both Republican and Democrat administrations have cost the federal government money in the long-run because of staffing problems, or problems in recruiting or disruption of key government operations and required services to the American people."

- U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-VA10)

"An across-the-board federal hiring freeze is a mindless way to manage. ... It fails to take into account the need to actually beef up certain capabilities in the federal government, like cybersecurity," Connolly said. "This Executive Order, coupled with many of other anti-federal workforce policies being proposed in Congress, will have a depressing effect on our ability to recruit and retain the next generation of federal workers."

U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) calls it

scapegoating. "The number of federal workers is at its lowest level since the 1960s, and over 30 percent will be eligible to retire in the next year," Beyer said. "A report by the General Accounting Office (GAO) on previous federal hiring freezes stated such freezes are not an effective strategy for shrinking the size of the workforce, and only serve to disrupt agency operations and in the long-term increase the cost of government operations."

Bills to Watch in General Assembly

In no particular order, more to come next

- SB 1005 Community services boards and behavioral health authorities; services to be provided, in particular, access to same-day access to mental health screening services.
- SB 923 raises felony larceny threshold to \$500 (\$1,000 would have been better).
- ❖ SB 1379 that discourages universities from stockpiling cash, and instead lowers tuition for Virginia students and families.
- ❖ SB 931 removes the exemption for "working papers and correspondence" for university presidents.
- SB 1376, requires a 30-day notice from the Board of Visitors before tuition can be
- SB 1102, records of closed investigations of unattended deaths were not exempt from the state Freedom of Information Act.
- ❖ SB 1442, requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to identify an evidence-based, standardized instrument for mental health screening for anyone incarcerated in local, regional, and community correctional facilities.
- ❖ Various proposals for nonpartisan redistricting.

Oak Hill & Herndon

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protesting Vote Suppression

To the Editor:

I am fed up with gerrymandering and other tactics politicians use to stack the votes in their favor! Gerrymandering distorts the electoral process, undermines democracy, and renders legislative elections a

meaningless exercise. I am a taxpaying citizen of Virginia, but my one vote does not count as one vote. Here in Virginia, state legislators redraw district lines, which means that the party in power of the State House and Senate can draw the lines to serve their own interests, not those of our communities. Since Virginia has been Republican controlled, that means that my Democratic vote has less

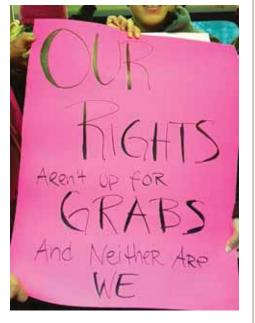
most gerrymandered states in the country (fifth worst!), both on the congressional and state levels based on the lack of compactness and contiguity of its districts. Throughout the State, counties and cities are broken in half or into multiple pieces to create heavily partisan districts. Most of the "elections" in Virginia therefore result in no change in party because of these gerrymandered dis-

With Republicans in control of the Virginia House and Senate, the gerrymandering, not only suppresses Democrat votes, but has had a detrimental impact on persons of color causing distinct echoes of Jim Crow laws. Are we going to allow discriminatory disenfranchisement to proceed unchecked in our State? I urge all Virginians and Virginian Representatives to support changes to the Virginia constitution and enactment of laws that would value in my district than a Repub- strengthen voting rights, make votlican vote does in another district. ing easier and fairer, and eliminate According to Governing.com, unfair redistricting that politicians Virginia is ranked as one of the use to keep themselves in power.

> **Nancy Blethen** Springfield

Area Residents Join March on Washington

One of the thousands of signs displayed at the Saturday's March on Washington, D.C. The Women's March on Washington turned out to be one of the largest demonstrations in the city's history, according to city officials, drawing more than 500,000 participants. The march was scheduled to



follow on the heels of Friday's Inauguration of the 45th president, Donald Trump.

Photo courtesy of John Lovaas

COMMUNITY OUTLOOK 2017

Capital Improvement **Projects Debated**

19) Downtown Streets-Phase 3, \$600,000

This project would continue widening and enhancing streetscapes with brick sidewalks, grated tree wells and other features consistent with the town's downtown streetscape standards.

20) Elden-Center Streets Intersection Improvements, \$1,830,000

This project would add a traffic light to the intersection and add brick sidewalks and storm

21) GSA-Major Vehicle/Equipment Replacement, \$3,750,000

This program would replace older town vehicles and major equipment over \$50,000 on a phased basis in concert with their expected useful life.

22) Streetlights, \$425,000

This project would install streetlights in older areas of town and areas that lack street lighting.

23) Storm Drainage Improvements, \$800,000 This project would address local area drainage problems.

24) Buildings - Major Maintenance, \$2,430,000 This project would maintain and repair townowned facilities through heating, ventilation and air conditioning replacements, roof replacements and other refurbishments.

25) Sidewalks and Minor Trails, \$1,035,000

This project would replace brick sidewalks, trail and concrete sidewalk segments that are planned in the town's 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

26) Herndon Parkway/Van Buren St. Intersection, \$2,600,000

This project would provide traffic capacity and safety improvements to the intersection.

27) Herndon Parkway/Sterling Road Intersection, \$330,000

This project would provide traffic capacity and safety improvements to the intersection.

28) Herndon Parkway/Spring Street Intersection to Fairfax County Parkway, \$6,705,000

The Virginia Department of Transportation will administer, design and build this project, which will widen and reconstruct Spring Street from four to six lanes between Fairfax County Parkway and Herndon Parkway. The project will also add turning lanes on approaches to the intersection; reconfigure the Fairfax County Parkway off-ramp; and reconfigure existing traffic signals.

29) Downtown Utility Relocation, \$2,925,000 This project would install underground duct banks for the future undergrounding and relocation of overhead utilities in the downtown redevelopment area on Station Street.

30) Major Road Repaving Projects, \$1,275,000 This project would resurface and repave the town's roadways that are in need of maintenance.

31) Elden-Monroe Intersection Improvements, \$1,250,000

This project would redesign and reconstruct the intersection by adding a new traffic signal, brick crosswalks, sidewalks and storm drainage improve-

32) Monroe Street Improvements, \$965,000

This project would widen the street and add curb and gutter, storm drainage, lighting and new side-

33) Town Support Facilities, \$80,000

The project would add space for town water and sewer crews who are working out of a building at

34) Information Technology, \$720,000 The network security appliances used to protect www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

town systems are reaching their end of life. This project would replace hardware and software and engineer systems to meet traditional and emerging

35) Police Radio Equipment, \$841,000

Police radios and associated equipment would be replaced due to obsolescence, interoperability and encryption requirements.

36) Stream Restoration, \$1,190,000

These projects would address the quality of the town's stream banks and stream valley conditions, which have been damaged due to urbanization.

37) Downtown Redevelopment-Parking and Arts Center, \$0

This project would develop public parking as well as an arts center within a larger project in accordance with the town's comprehensive plan.

38) Clubhouse Expansion - Phase Three, \$172,000

This project would modernize and add new amenities to the golf course clubhouse, which was constructed in 1980.

39) Golf Course Master Plan Improvements, \$871,000

The Herndon Centennial Golf Course Master Plan provides for improvements to include course playability, aesthetics and maintainability. Upgrades to the clubhouse entrance, parking lot and the associated landscaping would be included in

40) General Water Maintenance and Replacement, \$3,312,000

This program would replace major components of the town's water distribution system.

41) Water - Major Vehicles/Equipment, \$335,000

This program would replace older town vehicles and major equipment over \$50,000 on a phased basis in concert with their expected useful life.

42) Sewer - Major Vehicles/Equipment, \$470,000

This program would replace older town vehicles and major equipment over \$50,000 on a phased basis in concert with their expected useful life.

43) Sewer Utility Master Plan Improvements,

This program would construct and upgrade major components of the town's sewer conveyance

44) Sewer Capacity Purchase, \$22,000,000

This program would add treatment capacity allocations for the town at the Blue Plains Water Treatment Plant.

45) Sewer Main Relining and Manhole Rehab Program, \$3,000,000

The program would rehabilitate sections of the town's sewer conveyance system that have been identified to be in less than favorable condition.

46) Water Utility Master Plan Improvements, This program would construct and upgrade

major components to the town's water distribution 47) Water Capacity Purchase, \$10,699,000

locations for the town through Fairfax Water. 48) Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation,

This program would add treatment capacity al-

This program would maintain and repair the town's existing elevated water storage tanks.

49) Chestnut Grove Cemetery, \$0

This project would develop approximately 3,000 burial sites at the cemetery.





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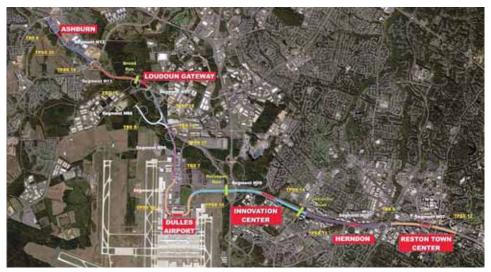
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News



Phase 2 of the 11.4-mile extension of the Metropolitan Washington Area Transit Authority's Silver Line will add new stations from Reston through the Washington Dulles International Airport, to Ashburn in Loudoun County.



Photos courtesy of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project

A pedestrian bridge for the Innovation Center station in Reston is being constructed as part of Phase 2 of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project.

New Silver Line Stations On Track In Herndon and Reston

By Fallon Forbush The Connection

ew metrorail stations are slowly rising up in Reston and Herndon. An update on work for the region's newest metrorail line was provided during the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Board of Director meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

The Phase 2 extension of the Metropolitan Washington Area Transit Authority's system will extend the Silver Line from Reston through the Washington Dulles International Airport, to Ashburn in Loudoun County.

Since work on Phase 2 began in 2014, employees have put in more than 3.2 million man-hours, as of Dec. 23, 2016, accord-

ing to Keith Couch, spokesperson for Capital Rail Constructors, which has been contracted for most of the work.

While the six new stations are not anticipated to be operational until 2020, work on the Reston Town Center station in Reston, and the Herndon and Innovation Center stations in Herndon are well underway. "We continue the station work on the east of Reston, Herndon and Innovation [stations]," Charles Stark, executive director of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, said during the meeting.

Work is on track, even though workers encountered a problem at the Herndon station earlier this fall.

"We found some hard rock in conflict with the Herndon station foundations, which required extra drilling," Stark said.

The hard rock cost the project \$12,026



Construction workers labor with concrete slabs for the walls of the Herndon station.

in contingency funds by the time it was resolved, but workers are now beginning the installation of electrical and mechanical equipment. Stark also told the board that Herndon station's concrete structures are still being precast.

Just behind the Herndon station, structures for the Reston Town Center station

began being precast this month and will be completed in March, according to Couch.

At the Innovation Center station in Herndon, which is the farthest along, workers are now starting the installation of the steel roof and finishing electrical and plumbing, as well as construction of the columns for the pedestrian bridges.



Area Residents Join Women's March

Area residents filling metro train at 7:35 a.m. at Wiehle Station in Reston on their way to Saturday's Women's March in Washington, D.C. Thousands came from Reston alone. Heavy volume on Metro lasted from 6 a.m. to almost 12 noon.

Week in Herndon

Man Shot Across Street From Herndon High School, Police Looking For 2 Suspects

A 21-year-old male was shot across the street from Herndon High School in the 700 block of Bennett Street on Wednesday, Jan. 18, around 3:30 p.m.

The victim was treated for a gunshot wound to his leg at a local hospital and was released, according to the Herndon Police Department.

The victim met with two black males who began to argue with him. As the argument escalated, the victim attempted to flee to a residence on Royal Elm Court. As he was running away, one of the suspects shot him in the leg. Both suspects then immediately fled in a dark-colored sedan, according to the department.

There is no information linking this incident to the school, but the investigation is ongoing. The police are encouraging anyone with information about the incident to call them at 703-435-6846.

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT



On Saturday February 6 from 6:30 - 9 p.m. the Herndon Community Center will host a Father Daughter Dance. A moment father's will treasure for the rest of their lives and a special night for daughters. This semi-formal event will include an evening of dancing, appetizers, drinks, a photo of the couple, and a keepsake. Daughter may be accompanied by an uncle, grandfather, or a male guardian. \$50 per couple. The Herndon Community Center is located at 814 Ferndale Ave, Herndon. www.herndon-va.gov.

Send announcements to www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

THURSDAY/JAN. 26

SATURDAY/JAN. 28

Coffee & Create 10 - 11:30 a.m. Beat those winter doldrums with an open studio style session where you can dive into whatever fine arts medium you desire or bring that Pinterest project you've been pining over to fruition. Supplies for both crafting and fine art projects will be supplied. \$30/1 session. For more information call 703-956-9560. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon, VA 20170. http://www.artspaceherndon.com/all-classes

In Their Own Words Women successfully reentering the community after incarceration, 10 a.m. to noon at Refraction (Reston Town Center). Featured speakers: Clients of Friends of Guest House. Education program from the Giving Circle of HOPE & Reston-Herndon Branch of AAUW. Free to attend. Free parking.

RSVP to info@givingcircleofhope.org

Cooking Class at II Fornaio 12 - 2 p.m.

Includes three-course luncheon with wine and recipes. \$55. Tax and gratuity not included.

Reservations: 703-437-5544
banquets.reston@ilfo.com

Rock & amp; Roll Art and "Cerphe's Up" Book Signing at ArtInsights 2 - 5 p.m. Meet legendary DC DJ Cerphe Colwell, signing his new book, "Cerphe's Up," and see an exhibit of rock & DJ musician art on display all

SEE WINTER FUN, PAGE 8



Photo by Traci J. Brooks/Courtesy of Reston Community Players

From left — Vanya played by Andrew JM Regiec, Cassandra played by Alexa Yarboro, and Sonia played by Lee Slivka in Reston Community Players' production of 'Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike.'

Chekhov's Masterworks at CenterStage

Reston Community Players presents "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike" at CenterStage, Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, (in the Hunters Woods Village Center) Reston. Performances: Through Feb. 4, 2017, Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 8 p.m. with Sunday, Jan. 29 matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$18 (seniors/students) \$21 adults. Call 703-476-4500 or visit www.restonplayers.org.



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"Pick 3" options and upgrades are based on availability, subject to change without notice, valid only for new contracts on to-be-built homes in Building 17 purchased by February 20, 2017 (Presidents Day), Value of options and upgrades may affect maximum available financing and may not exceed \$7,500. See Community Sales Consultant for current list of community specific 'Pick 3' options. Prices, terms, features, incentives and savings subject to change without notice. See Sales Consultant for details. K. Hovnanian® American Mortgage, L.L.C., 3601 Quantum Boulevard, Boynton Beach, FL. 33426, NMLS #3259 (www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org). Licensed by the Virginia State Corporation Commission #MC266t.

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

From Page 7

through January until February 6. 703-478-0778 artinsights.com

"Some Things I Can't Explain" Opening
Reception 7 - 9 p.m. Join us for this unique
gallery show, works that are hung from the
ceiling in a unique exhibit not to be missed.
Share the experience together with friends and
complimentary refreshments. For more
information call 703-956-9560. ArtSpace
Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon, VA
20170. http://www.artspaceherndon.com/ev/
things-cant-explain/

SUNDAY/JAN. 29

NextStop Theatre Presents "Much Ado About Nothing" 7 p.m. 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. For discounted tickets (\$25 versus \$35), send an email to herndonvillagenetworkinfo@gmail.com and include your name, contact information, and number of tickets you would like. It's a wonderful way to support Herndon Village Network's mission of assisting area seniors—and to have lots of laughs with your friends.

MONDAY/JAN. 30

Environmental Achievements 7 - 8:30 p.m.
Reston Regional Library 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. The Sierra Club hosts a presentation about what Arlington is doing to combat climate change and promote clean energy and how Fairfax can learn from these achievements and implement similar measures. Cost: Free. s.weltz@yahoo.com

Plan Ahead Reston & Herndon

TUESDAY/FEB. 7

Reston Lions Bland Competition. 7:30 p.m. Reston Community Center at Hunter Woods,



Photo by Traci J. Brooks Studios/Courtesy of NextStop Theatre

From left — Kari Ginsberg (Beatrice) and Brittany Martz (Hero) in NextStop Theatre's 'Much Ado About Nothing' by William Shakespeare.

'Much Ado About Nothing' At NextStop Theatre

NextStop Theatre's production of "Much Ado About Nothing" by William Shakespeare at 269 Sunset Park Drive, Sunset Business Park, Herndon. Performances through Feb. 12, 2017. Fridays at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 28 at 8 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 4 and Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 22, Feb. 5 and Feb. 12 at 2 p.m., Jan.29 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets \$35. Call Ovation Tickets at 866-811-4111, or visit www.nextstoptheatre.org

2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Sixteen students with a variety of voice, piano and instrumental talents compete for awards on the local club level and for opportunities to advance to Regional, District and State finals. Participation and concert admissions are free. restonlions.org

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 8

Fracking "What's the Fuss? 7:15-9:00 p.m. Reston Community Center in Hunters Woods, Room 3, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Where is it taking place in Virginia, and what should we do about it? Join Reston LWV members as they continue a two-month study of this environmental issue currently being examined both nationally and in Virginia. Learn the facts about what is happening in Virginia, whether we should be concerned, and what we should do about it. Cost: Free. 703-471-6364 www.lwv-fairfax.org

ONGOING

All-comers' Group Fun Run at Potomac River Running. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. For beginners or competitive runners, come out for a fun, low-key run that is safe and social. For more information, call 703-689-0999 https://potomacriverrunning.com.

NextStop's Shakespeare "Much Ado About

Nothing" Jan. 19 - Feb. 12 NextStop Theatre 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Tickets at: www.NextStopTheatre.org 866-811-

"A Bird in the Hand" through spring 2017 Reston Town Square Park, 11990 Market Street, Reston Town Center. See and explore Patrick Dougherty's monumental public art sculpture made from tree saplings. Presented by GRACE in collaboration with IPAR. 703-471-9242 restonarts.org
PenFed Realty Hosts Sievers' Paintings

PenFed Realty Hosts Sievers' Paintings during January 2017 at the office of PenFed Realty, 1886 Metro Center Dr. Reston. The

SEE WINTER FUN, PAGE 9

Freezin' For A Reason Set for Feb. 11

onder Woman. Super Man. Batman & Robin. Just an example of some of the costumes folks adorn to jump into Lake Anne in frigid temperatures for the Annual Freezin' for a Reason Virginia Polar Dip, set to take place on Saturday, Feb. 11. The mid-winter event in its 10th year will kick off at 12:30 p.m. with music by Danny DJ, family friendly activities, and warm-up - with the Dip scheduled to take place starting at 2 p.m. Each year the event draws record crowds of both spectators and jumpers raising over \$100,000. The event participation has increased over the years with the first year consisting of 33 jumpers to 2016 consisting of 215. This year's event is estimating approximately 250 individuals to take the jump off Lake Anne's dock. Registered participants will take a chilly full jump or a "Chicken Dip" - to raise funds for Camp Sunshine, a national year-round retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.

The creation of the Virginia Polar Dip was started by a Northern Virginia based family the Toths after a long history with Camp Sunshine. They first attended Camp Sunshine as a participating family in 1996 when their daughter Jennifer was a cancer patient at age 3, and they have returned as volunteers every summer since. After Jennifer participated in a Camp Sunshine Polar Dip in New Jersey, her family decided to bring the event to Virginia in order to help more local families. Since the event's inception, 1,484 people have participated in the Vir-



Hundreds will mark ten years jumping into a frigid lake for a children's charity.

ginia Polar Dip raising over \$623,000 for the camp. The event will be emceed for the seventh year in a row by 97.1 WASH-FM morning show radio personality Chilli Amar.

This year's goal is to raise \$100,000, which will allow 40 families from the Mid-Atlantic area to come to Camp Sunshine. Through pledges or self-sponsorship, each participant will raise/donate a minimum of \$100 for the opportunity to plunge into the frigid waters, and will receive a commemorative "I DID IT" event shirt. Spectators are

welcome to come and cheer for the plungers. This year, Lake Anne Plaza merchants the Reston Used Book Shop, Kalypso's Sports Tavern, and the Lake Anne Brew House all formed employee staff teams to join in on the fun.

In addition to the Dip, Lake Anne Merchants will be hosting a variety of activities and promotions in their stores:

❖ Chesapeake Chocolates, Wine, Gifts, and More - Wine tasting from 2-4 p.m., all proceeds from wine sales will be donated

Event Details

The $10^{\rm th}$ Annual Freezin' for a Reason (Virginia Polar Dip) will be held Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017 at Lake Anne Plaza (Waterfront) - 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston, 12– 3 p.m. (Registration, Music, Activities, Post-Dip Celebration). ActualPolar Dip Begins at 2 p.m. Website(s): w w w . f r e e z i n f o r a r e a s o n . c o m , www.campsunshine.org, www.lakeanneplaza.com

Cost: \$100 minimum donation to plunge and is open to anyone willing to brave the elements for a good cause. Free to spectators. Rain or Shine (will be rescheduled if major snowstorm is forecast).

to Freezin for a Reason. Hot chocolate will also be available for purchase.

- ❖ Kalypso's Sports Tavern A key plaza sponsor of the event, will be donating 10 percent of sales from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the day of the jump.
- ❖ Lake Anne Brew House will donate a dollar for each pint sold during the event to the cause.
- ❖ Lake Anne Coffee Shop & Wine Bar a portion of sale proceeds occurring during the event will be donated to the cause.
- * Small Change Consignment continues its tradition, as a sponsor of Freezin for a Reason, to donate hats, gloves & scarves to the jumpers, and to hold a one-day-a-year 1/2 price toy sale on the day of the polar dip, for the families of children who attend Camp Sunshine & the larger community of supporters.

For more information about the event or to register to participate, visit www.freezinforareason.com or become a Facebook Fan (Virginia Polar Dip) and view pictures from previous dips.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

8 • Oak Hill/Herndon Connection • January 25-31, 2017

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

From Page 8

exhibit is free and the office is open to visitors Monday through Friday from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Visit the LRA web site at

www.leagueofrestonartists.org for more information on this and other

Little Hands Preschool Art Class at Greater Reston Arts Center Saturdays, January 7 - 28, 10 - 11 a.m. Introducing young children to art by having them explore new artwork, materials, and skills each week. Four weeks of classes cost: \$80 for Reston residents, \$120 nonresidents. 703-471-9242 restonarts.org

"Some Things I Can't Explain" Featuring Artist Rahshia Sawyer. On Exhibit through Sunday, February 11, 2017. Opening Reception Saturday, January 28, 2017 from 7 - 9 p.m. My work contrasts a Daedalean journey of figurative photographs, with the subject disconnected from the ground as a signifier of their transforming reality. 703-956-9560. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street Herndon, VA 20170. http://

www.artspaceherndon.com/ev/ things-cant-explain/

Exercise for Parkinson's Every Monday, 1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Reston Sport&health, 11445 Isaac Newton Square, Reston. This program brings together people impacted by Parkinson's Disease to participate in various physical exercises aimed at improving posture, balance and circulation and increasing strength, muscle control and mobility. Free. parkinsonfoundation.org. ckacenga@sportandhealth.com 703-621-4148.

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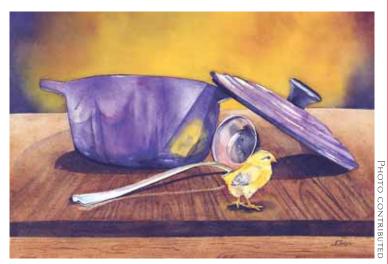
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League of Reston Artists Members Share 'From the Heart'

embers of the League of Reston Artists display paintings, drawings, mixed media, photographs and twodimensional works suitable for wall hanging from Feb. 2 through Feb. 27 at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. This show is free and open to the public during the center's regular operating hours. Meet the artists and find out who received awards during the free reception on Saturday, Feb. 25 from noon - 1 p.m. in the Community Room. Visit the LRA website at www.leagueofrestonartists.org to find more information on this and other events.



Katherine Rodgers' watercolor painting, "No Soup Today II," captures a playful scene in vibrant, complementary colors. This painting is part of the "From the Heart" exhibit at the Reston Community Center Hunters Woods through Feb. 27.

PenFed Realty Hosts LRA Art and Photography

showing the oil paintings of Ruth Sievers during January 2017 at the office of PenFed Realty, 1886 Metro Center Dr. Reston. In Feb-

The League of Reston Artists is ruary and March, PenFed will host through Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 a showing of photographs by Anne

> The exhibits are free and the office is open to visitors Monday

p.m. Visit the LRA web site at www.leagueofrestonartists.org for more information on this and other events.

Photographers Invited to Exhibit in 'RPS Clicks @ USGS'

The Reston Photographic Society, a special-interest group of the League of Reston Artists, seeks photographers to enter their work in the "RPS Clicks @ USGS" exhibit. Entry forms must be completed online by Feb. 24 and works the dropped off on March 1.

The exhibit and entry acceptance will be at the US Geological Survey, National Gallery, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Visit

LRA website www.leagueofrestonartists.org to enter works in the exhibit and for more information on this and other events.





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21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources will conduct a public information hearing of the Lake Anne Village Center Historic District on February 6, 2017. The meeting begins at 7pm, at the JoAnn Rose Gallery, Reston Community Center 1609-A Washington Plaza Reston, VA 20190. Public comment regarding the proposal will be taken at the time of the hearing regarding the proposal will be taken at the time of the hearing or can be sent to: Director Julie Langan, VA Department of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221. This proposal has been recommended eligible for the Virginia Landmarks and National Registers. This proposal will be presented to the State Review Board and the Board of Historic Resources on March 16, 2017 in Fredericksburg, VA. For a copy of the proposal and/or a boundary map, contact Aubrey VonLindern at 540.868.7029 or aubrey.vonlindern@dhr.virginia.gov.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements



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SPORTS

Whew

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

How do you spell relief? ROLAIDS? Hardly. spell relief: "Mr. Lourie, your scan remains stable." News, as I'm extremely fond of continuing to say, "I can live with." And despite the fact that I'm ending the previous sentence with a preposition, I'm sure you can appreciate how relieved I am to be 'stable,' and how amazing it is to hear my oncologist characterize me as his "miracle" (not possessive really, more descriptive). So life goes on, for another three months anyway, until my next scheduled diagnostic scan which this time will include an MRI of the abdomen as well as the CT of the lungs to give my oncologist a bit more information to more thoroughly evaluate my condition/status. Having been there and done both previously, the prospect doesn't really concern me. Although it's easy to be a big shot now, three months out, especially after receiving a good report. Perhaps my columns in April will be a bit more realistic — given that my life will once again be on the tomography/resonanceimaging-line.

Planning for the future however begins with yours truly assessing the present and wondering why I was so nervous the days before the scan and of course the two days after, until we saw the oncologist and received the results. I mean it's not as if my life — and quality of life - isn't at stake when these scans are interpreted; nevertheless, stressing about it doesn't help, or should I say, doesn't enhance my prospects. Somehow, integrating/assimilating the stress and anxiety of it all and not giving cance its due must remain a major part of the psychological solution. I can't give into it emotionally and for some reason, that's exactly what I did this past week. I need to learn from my mistake. Though I'm sure it's understandable under the death-defying circumstances, it's not helpful. It may even be harmful.

I should know better, and I have known better; that's what's peculiar here. Moreover, I'm usually up for the challenge. In fact, I take pride in my ability to take on the challenge. Heck, it's not exactly my first dance with the devil so what's the fuss? The 'fuss' is obvious but fussing over things/outcomes I can't control is not the process that works here. Going with the flow, taking the good with the bad (and vice versa), not putting any part of the cart before the horse meaning: not presuming any negative facts not yet in evidence and most importantly, as the band "Wet Willie" sang in the 1970s, you've got to "Keep on Smilin." Humor may not truly be the best medicine, but laughing and joking is hardly the problem.

Cancer is the problem, but sometimes the patient/me is the problem. As Moe Howard said to his brother Shemp in a Three Stooges short entitled "Pardon My Backfire:" "Every time you think you weaken the nation." And though I don't want to weaken my nation/resolve with respect to my underlying disease, occasionally, as perhaps happened this past post-scan week, I get caught up in my own circumstances and think too much, and lose some cohesion and poise. Neither of which a cancer patient can afford to lose. I know — as a cancer patient/survivor — that if I do receive bad/disappointing news, it will be bad enough when I receive it so thinking/worrying that the news will be/could be bad before I actually learn that it's bad is a complete waste of valuable emotional wherewithal. Wherewithal that I'll possibly need later should the news in fact be bad. What my survival has taught me is that even after initially receiving some very discouraging life expectancy statistics for lung cancer patients from nally diagnosed, one might still have a future. I'm living proof of that. And it just might be the present that provides the means, justified or

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

Seahawks Break School and Meet Records

enior Devyn Jones and junior Olivia Beckner highlighted record-breaking performance for the South Lakes High School indoor track and field team at Day 1 of the VHSL 6A Conference 6 Championship Thursday, Jan. 19 at the Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex in Landover, Md.

Jones won the 55 meter hurdles in 8.62, breaking the Liberty Conference record of 8.65 set by SLHS alumn Aya Adbelhalim in 2012. Senior Abby Wickman, who is doing the hurdles for the first time this year, finished fifth (9.86). The hurdles capped a busy evening for Jones, who finished second in the long jump (16-06.50) and sixth in the high jump (4-06.00). The top six finishers in each event advance to the VHSL Northern Region 6A meet next month.

Beckner captured two records in winning the 3,200. Her time of 10:47.17 broke the school record of 10:55.84, set by Anne Evans during the 1987-1988 season and the conference mark of 11:02.88 set by Amanda Swaak of Madison High School in 2015. Beckner now has the school records in the 1,000, 1,600 and 3,200 meter runs, all set this season. Seahawks dominate the sprint events with senior Timiebi Ogobri successfully defending his title in the 55 meters with a state-meet qualifying time of 6.51. Sophomore Stevie Jones ran a 6.73 for fourth. Freshman Rhema Konadu ran a 7.67 in the finals to win the girls 55.



Dimarcus Vilcheck, Jack Watkins, Alex Loukili, Josh Umbrell won in 4x800 at Liberty Conference Championship on Jan. 19.

SLHS also won both of the 4x800 meter relays: sophomores Jordan Anderson and Sophie Halkett teamed with juniors Aly Rayle and Sarah Wolfe to win the event in 9:46.17 while seniors Dimarcus Vilcheck, Jack Watkins and juniors Josh Umbrell and Alex Loukili won the boys division in 8:23.66. Senior Peter Sepulveda (10:15.23) was third in the 3,200 while junior Sean Casey (10:24.05) finished sixth.

Field event athletes also contributed to SLHS' first day success with senior Jessica Rice (32-01.25) and junior Megan Allison



Olivia Beckner captured two records in winning the 3,200.

(31-10.75) finishing second and third, respectively, in the shot put. Junior Ronak Cuthill (47-04.00) was third in the shot put and sophomore Jacob Hataway was fifth in the pole vault (10-00.00). Ogobri and senior Don'ta Whitley were fifth and sixth in the long jump with both finishing with a mark of 19-11.50.

The meet concludes Saturday, Jan. 28 at the Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex in Landover, Md. SLHS is the five-time defending girls champion and has won the boys title eight consecutive years.

- Bulletin Board

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ by noon on Friday.

MONDAY/JAN. 30

Health Screening in Reston. Residents living in and around Reston can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screening by Life Line Screening. Washington Plaza Baptist Church at 1615 Washington Plaza in Reston will host this event. Packages start at \$149, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

THROUGH FRIDAY/FEB. 24

Diva Central Dress Drive with Reston Community Center. Monday, Jan. 23 through Friday, Feb. 24, collection in building lobbies.

Reston Community Center's mission for the annual Diva Central Dress Drive is to promote confidence and self-esteem by providing high school students a free prom dress and other accessories. Donate new or lightly used formal dresses, shoes, jewelry, handbags & Donate new or boxes located in building lobbies. restontowncenter.com

THROUGH FRIDAY/FEB. 24 Photographers Invited to Exhibit in "RPS Clicks @ USGS"

The Reston Photographic Society, a special-interest group of the League of Reston Artists, seeks photographers to enter their work in the "RPS Clicks @ USGS" exhibit. Entry forms must be completed online by February 24 and works dropped off on March 1. The exhibit and entry acceptance will be at the US Geological Survey, National Gallery, 12201 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston, VA 20191. Visit the LRA website at www.leagueofrestonartists.org to enter works in the exhibit and for more

information on this and other events.

FEBRUARY

Free public service seminars — on

Decluttering (Feb. 2, McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Rd., McLean), Aging in Place (Feb. 8, Falls Church H.S., 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church), Downsizing (Feb. 14, Marshall H.S. 7731 Leesburg Pk., Falls Church), & Retirement Communities (Feb. 22, Madison H.S., 2500 James Madison Dr., Vienna). For more information and seminar registration go to RetireeRealEstate.org, or call 703-772-3033.

Submit a Nomination for Volunteerism & Community Service Awards

The Virginia Governor's Volunteerism and Community Service Awards is looking to recognize individuals and groups whose volunteer activities contribute to the life and welfare of Virginia citizens. There are a variety of categories for both individuals as well as groups so if you have a special volunteer in your organization or know of a group that should be nominated, please visit the website to get started: http://virginiaservice.virginia.gov/volunteering/governors-volunteerism-awards/

ONGOING

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: https://prsinc.org/carering-volunteering/. Questions? Email lpadgett@prsinc.org.

Passages Divorce Care. Tuesdays 6:45 to 9:00 p.m. beginning Sept.13 through Jan 7. Vienna Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of Maple Avenue (Rt. 123) and Park Street in Vienna, Virginia. Cost to cover materials \$20, scholarships available. 703-938-9050, www.viennapres.org, or send an email to Passages@ViennaPres.org

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to reston@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. during the summer. Nursery and childcare are provided starting at 8 a.m. until the end of the service. 703-437-5500 or www.trinityherndon.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston, holds weekly classes starting Sept. 12, Thursdays 7:30-8:30 p.m., for the general public which use Buddhist teachings to practice meditation. \$12 or \$6 for students, seniors and unemployed. 202-986-2257 or www.meditation-dc.org.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 1700 Wainwright Drive in Reston, holds Sunday services at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and contemporary service at 5 p.m. during the summer. Nursery, Sunday school and adult education available. 703-437-6530 or www.stannes-reston.org.

Washington Plaza Baptist Church will hold Adult Bible Study at 9:30 a.m. Sundays at Lake Anne Village Center. The group is studying the Gospel of Mark. Services follow at 11 a.m.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. ShalomDC.org.



The May 2016 opening of Mustang Sally Brewing Company in Chantilly indicated Fairfax County's interest in the craft beer business. Loudoun County currently has the most craft beverage producers of any county in the Commonwealth with 21 microbreweries; neighboring Fairfax County has 6.



Photos by Ryan Dunn/The Connection

New equipment was installed at Aslin Beer Co. currently located in Town of Herndon, yet the owners announced plans to leave their location at Sunset Park Drive and the Town of Herndon. Aslin enjoyed a reputation with beer advocates for their New England-Style IPA.

Changes Ahead For Herndon's Aslin Brewery

Fairfax County seeks to define business for breweries.

By Ryan Dunn The Connection

orthern Virginia experienced a beer explosion as microbreweries opened across Virginia and the nation. Herndon's Aslin Beer Company has entered the new year seeking new space. On Dec. 28, Aslin Beer Co. announced via Facebook, "As the new year is quickly approaching, we wanted to let you know that Aslin Beer Co. will be leaving the Town of Herndon in 2017."

Craft beer has enjoyed the spotlight, especially with changes in Virginia state law. In 2012 legislation such as Senate Bill 604 allowed production breweries to sell pints to customers. Rulings such as House Bill 359 and Virginia Farm Brewery Bill 2014 eased craft beer operations. In September 2015, Aslin Beer Co. opened in the Herndon business park at 257 Sunset Park Drive. Operated by Andrew Kelley and Kai Leszkowicz, they named the business after their wives' family name, Aslin. Third owner, Richard Thompson helps run the operation.

Despite snug quarters, Aslin enjoyed a reputation for their New England-Style IPA a juicy, hazy unfiltered beer with a cloudy appearance. Popular brews include: Mind the Hop, a single hop Citra double IPA; Orange Starfish; and Master of Karate, brewed with Galaxy, Mosaic and Amarillo hops. The owners decided to not focus on flagship beers, but enjoy freedoms of the creative process. "The micro brew scene is white hot and their success has definitely been part of that, as well as their beer. I truly love Mind the Hop," stated Herndon resident Bill McKenna.



Craft beer business in Virginia employs more than 8,900 people and produces more than \$1 billion in economic impact, according to the Brewers Association.

In January 2017, new brewery equipment was installed at Aslin's location, making the Herndon site into a German-made, 8.5-barrel brewhouse. Aslin's taproom was closed following a ruling by the Fairfax County Fire Marshal on zoning requirements, restricting Aslin to 49 patrons. While Aslin could expand to 80 patrons, owners decided it would not be worth the cost. The brewery is renting 600-square feet at Beltway Brewing in Sterling, and is using a new to-go model, where patron can put orders for growlers. In a Jan. 3 Brightest Young Things article with Philip Runco, co-founder Andrew Kelley expressed lack of community support for the business.

Even before the ruling, Aslin's 2,250-square-foot location already had no room for expansion. Town of Herndon Mayor Lisa Merkel posted a response on the Aslin's Facebook Page, included in her statement: "I also understand they may ultimately relocate outside of the Town limits. Either

way, I are (sic) committed to their success while they remain here and wish them continued prosperity, hopefully in Herndon."

Aslin has been one of seven breweries within Fairfax County. According to an Oct. 21 Washington Post article, Arlington County has three breweries, Fairfax County only seven compared to 21 for neighboring Loudoun County. Alexandria's Port City Brewing Co. brews about 17,000 barrels of beer per year and distributes along the east coast. (Many craft breweries produce about 3,000 barrels annually.)

Some of Aslin's old brewing equipment has been sold to Twinpanzee Brewing Company. A family owned nano-craft brewery in January obtained approval to operate in Loudoun County. Owned by Antonio Maradiaga and his wife, the family had initially planned to open in Fairfax County, but then decided on a location in Sterling.

As noted by beer blogger Paul Josuns, Fairfax County Planning Commission is

planning public hearings on an ordinance amendment in January and February 2017. The proposal indicates the county is asking to have a microbrewery as a distinct (and defined) use (called a "craft beverage production establishment") and also to allow a brewery to be in an additional zoning area. The County Board of Supervisors will follow up with a Feb. 28 hearing.

With the success of neighboring breweries, there has been some effort to ease microbrewery business into Fairfax County. Fairfax County hosted its first ever Workhouse Brewfest on August 2016. Supervisor Sharon Bulova, chairman of the county Board of Supervisors, recognizes the microbrewery business could bring in sources of revenue to the county, which has historically relied on federal contracting businesses. "Fairfax County is really interested in helping to grow the tourism community, wine industry and now the microbrew industry," said Bulova.

Sean Hunt founder of Mustang Sally Brewing Company (MSB) in Chantilly notes the opening of his brewery could have been less complex if zoning regulations had been identified. Fairfax County's Zoning department requested a meeting with MSB owners so that it could propose amendments to the Code to enable breweries to open within the County; MSB successfully opened in May 2016.

While Fairfax County reviews regulations and red tape, Loudoun County continues to develop its reputation as home to the most craft beverage producers of any county in the Commonwealth. Neighboring Loudoun and Prince William counties have specific zoning rules in place for craft breweries and distilleries. After residents in the Fairfax County Town of Clifton objected to a proposed business called Loudmouth Brewery, the same owners were approached to do business in Prince William County. The site is expected to employ more than 100 people to make and sell craft beer.