

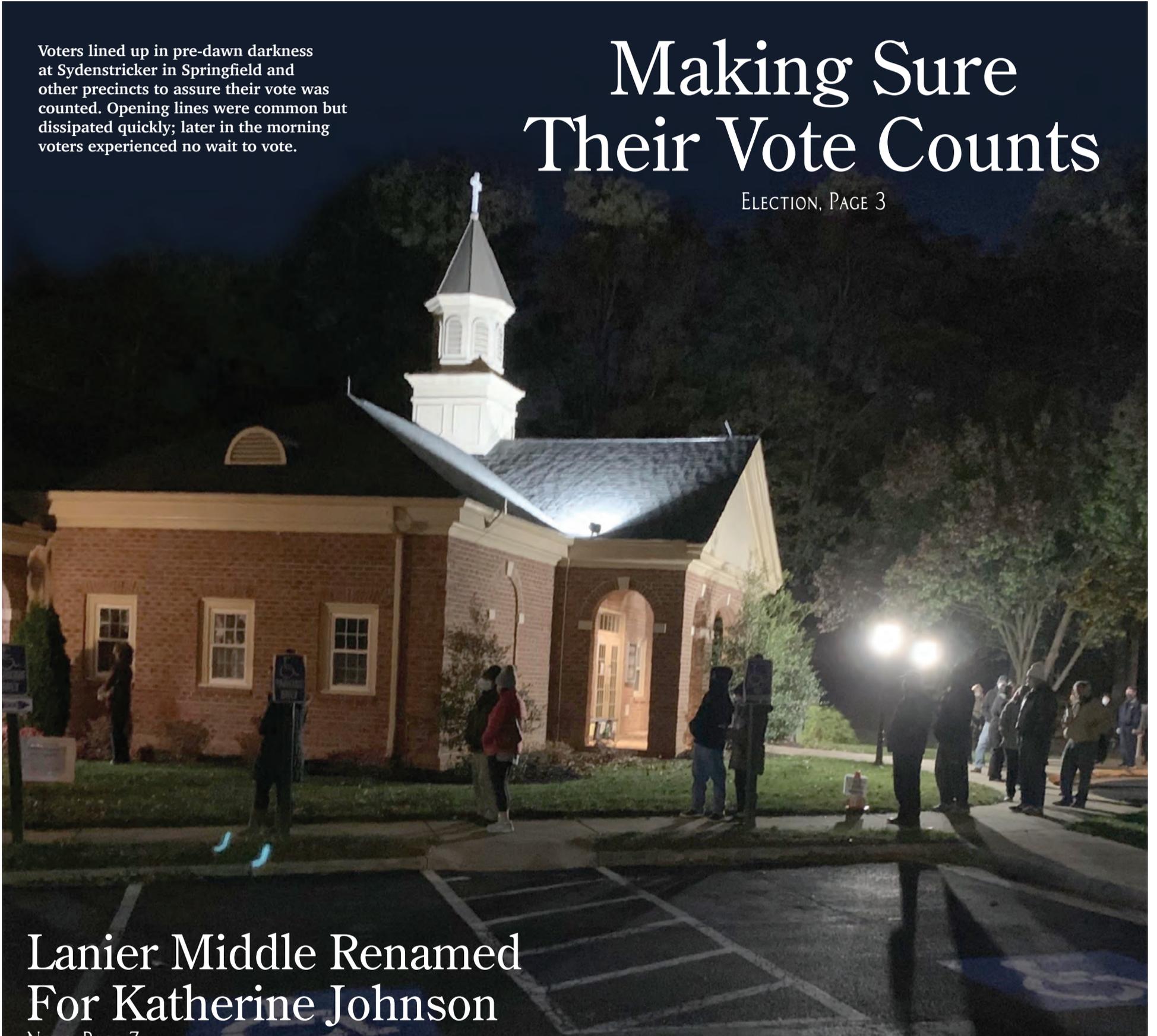
# CONNECTION

Burke ♦ Fairfax ♦ Springfield ♦ Fairfax Station

Voters lined up in pre-dawn darkness at Sydenstricker in Springfield and other precincts to assure their vote was counted. Opening lines were common but dissipated quickly; later in the morning voters experienced no wait to vote.

## Making Sure Their Vote Counts

ELECTION, PAGE 3



### Lanier Middle Renamed For Katherine Johnson

NEWS, PAGE 7

### Burke Gets New Grocery Store

NEWS, PAGE 8

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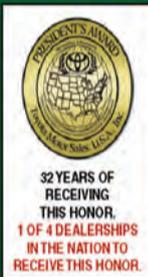
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# NEWS

## The Pandemic Election

Virginia voters support Biden, Warner and a new redistricting commission.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

Twenty years ago, Virginia was a red state. Republicans scored Virginia's electoral votes in every presidential election since LBJ was reelected in 1964. Republicans held both U.S. Senate seats. The Grand Old Party had all the statewide offices, a majority of the congressional delegation and both chambers of the General Assembly. That was the environment when Mark Warner and Tim Kaine, both Democrats, ran for governor and lieutenant governor.

"Over the last 20 years, we've engineered the biggest political turnaround in the United States of any of the 50 states," said Sen. Tim Kaine as he watched voting totals on election night. "Partly it's our population. Partly it's Democrats in Virginia. We govern in a way that we're practical progressives. We're solving people's problems, and that's a good model."

The 2020 presidential election has yet to be resolved. But Virginia is now a solidly blue state, delivering 13 electoral votes to Joe Biden and handing Mark Warner a third term in the United States Senate. Election officials will continue receiving mail-in votes until Friday at noon, although the results of all the key races have already been determined. One result that is clear, though, is the success of a constitutional amendment creating a new 16-member redistricting commission to draw political boundaries for the General Assembly and Congress.

"Tonight is historic," declared FairMapsVA executive director Brian Cannon and campaign co-chairs Wyatt Durette and Bobby Vassar. "Virginia has now become the first state in the South to create a bipartisan redistricting commission to draw electoral district lines."

**AT THE TOP** of the ticket, Warner scored a solid victory against Republican Daniel Gade although Biden had more votes and a larger margin of victory. Appearing at his campaign headquarters in Del Ray, Warner called on Republicans and Democrats to put the divisive campaign in the past and look ahead to surviving the health risks posed by the pandemic and the economic uncertainty caused by the downturn.

"The only way we're going to be able to defeat that and truly build back better is if Americans become united," said Warner, speaking to a room of journalists and staffers. "That means ending the kind of attack rhetoric and mean-spiritedness that too often has infected our political discourse."

For now, though, the political discourse remains at a fever pitch. At press time, the presidential election is unresolved. Two hotly contested congressional seats in Virginia are too close to call. And lawyers are preparing for a season of legal challenges and trench warfare in the courts challenging state election laws on signature matches and late-arriving mail-in absentee ballots. Never-



PHOTO BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Democratic Party committee poll watchers offered a sample ballot card instead of hand-out information in a nod to Covid-19 safety, here at Pohick Precinct, and polling places throughout Fairfax County. Republican Party workers used the traditional written sample ballot method.

### Fairfax County Unofficial Results

#### PRESIDENT

Joe Biden: 405,000 votes, 70 percent  
Donald Trump: 162,000 votes, 28 percent  
Jo Jorgensen: 7,000 votes, 1 percent

#### SENATE

Mark Warner (D): 401,000 votes, 70 percent  
Daniel Gade: 172,000 votes, 30 percent

#### HOUSE DISTRICT 8

Don Beyer: 124,000 votes, 72 percent  
Jeff Jordan: 48,000 votes, 28 percent

#### HOUSE DISTRICT 10

Jennifer Wexton: 70,000 votes, 60 percent  
Alicia Andrews: 46,000 votes, 39 percent

#### HOUSE DISTRICT 11

Gerry Connolly (D), 198,889, 72 percent  
Manga Anantatmula, 82,044, 28 percent

SOURCE: Votes cast in Fairfax County only. Congressional Districts include other jurisdictions. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/sites/elections/files/assets/result/resu1120.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/sites/elections/files/assets/result/resu1120.pdf)

#### AMENDMENT 1 (REDISTRICTING)

Yes: 301,000 votes, 54 percent  
No: 259,000 votes, 46 percent

#### AMENDMENT 2

Yes: 508,000, 77 percent  
No: 156,000, 24 percent

#### COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOND

Yes: 508,000 votes, 77 percent  
No: 156,000 votes, 23 percent

#### PARKS BOND

Yes: 408,000 votes, 72 percent  
No: 155,000 votes, 28 percent

#### LIBRARY BOND

Yes: 372,000 votes, 66 percent  
No: 191,000 votes, 34 percent

#### TRANSPORTATION BONDS

Yes: 381,000 votes, 68 percent  
No: 182,000 votes, 32 percent

theless, Republicans are facing an uncertain future in a state that has gone from ruby red to deep blue.

"They have to denounce Trumpism," said former Republican Del. David Ramadan (R-87), who is now at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. "They have to denounce white supremacy and go back to the basics of conservative principles versus winking at white supremacy and nationalism."

**FOR VIRGINIA**, the most important result of the election might end up being the amendment creating the new constitutional

amendment. It was an issue that split Democrats in Virginia, with Senate Democrats supporting the amendment and House Democrats mostly in opposition. FairMapsVA, which supported the amendment, raised more than \$2 million to support the ballot initiative. Fair Districts, which opposed the amendment, accused the campaign of using big money donors to tilt the outcome.

"Our campaign was truly a grassroots campaign that was outspent over 50 to 1 by out-of-state dark money groups and was fighting an uphill battle against biased language on the ballot meant to gain votes for

the measure," the statement said. "The people who pushed Amendment 1 know of its flaws, and it is now incumbent upon them to seek real solutions to fix those flaws, not just lip-service efforts like 'consideration' of Virginia's diversity."

Now that voters have approved of the new Virginia Redistricting Commission, retired circuit court judges from across Virginia will be sending resumes to the Virginia Supreme Court. The chief judge of the court has until Nov. 15 to select a list of 10 judges to submit to the General Assembly, where Democrats in the House and Senate get to pick two judges and Republicans in the House and Senate get to pick two judges. Those four judges will select a fifth judge to complete the panel, and they will select citizen members from a list submitted by the General Assembly. The deadline for candidates to file for office is March 25, which means maps must be finished by then.

"The only way we're going to be able to defeat that and truly build back better is if Americans become united. That means ending the kind of attack rhetoric and mean-spiritedness that too often has infected our political discourse."

— Sen. Mark Warner

"The legislators cannot control or override the citizen voices as six of the eight citizen members must vote for any map for it to be approved," said state Sen. George Barker (D-39), who was one of the leading voices in support of the amendment. "Additionally, the voting rules also preclude the types of outcomes we have had previously because the maps cannot unduly favor either political party."

The redistricting amendment was not the only successful ballot initiative on the ballot. Voters across Virginia also approved an amendment creating tax breaks for veterans. Voters in Fairfax approved bonds for transportation, libraries, parks and health and human services. In Norfolk, voters approved a new waterfront resort and casino, which will be built by the Pamunkey Indian Tribe on the Elizabeth River next to Harbor Park.

# OPINION

## Springfield Voters: Who Did They Vote for and Why?

PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION



Mark Holmes, general contractor, & Tracy Holmes, United Way worker, Sydenstricker Precinct. Voted Biden - Mark as a "lifelong Democrat hate seeing the divisiveness." Tracy: "Hope; this is not how we are; we need to get back on track."



Stephen, student, Robert, computer security, and Elizabeth Fike, financial risk manager; Hunt Valley Precinct. Voted - all for Biden. Stephen drove from Newport News college to vote in his first presidential election. He said, "It's every citizen's duty to vote; share most values with him, while he may not be perfect he will be best." Elizabeth: "Can't complain if you aren't going to vote."



Suzanne Metz, Hunt Valley Precinct, teacher. Voted Biden: "Looking for a brighter future."



Roz Johnson, retired, Orange Hunt Precinct. Voted Trump: "Continuity of government with conservative values"



Matt Stalker, Hunt Valley Precinct, not working. Voted Biden: "He's not crazy."



Ryan Yanchuleff, with daughter Eleanor, Hunt Valley Precinct, software developer. Voted Trump: "Lean more in the conservative ranks."



Romyne Pereira, program assistant, Pohick Precinct. Voted Biden: "He tries to bring unity amongst everyone and will bring things back to normal. Will do his job so we don't have to worry; most of all he will bring peace."



Haley Blankinship, student, Orange Hunt Precinct. Voted Trump: "He's most peaceful, extremely successful, and follows what he promises."



Mike Droblinis, Hunt Valley Precinct, IT company owner. Voted - write in: "Policy wise align with Republicans, but don't feel President Trump does; Democrats won't be good for the country."



Julia Davis, homemaker, Orange Hunt Precinct. Voted Trump: "I'm really happy with his policy positions and his accomplishments and policies."

## Kindness During a Very Difficult Year

To the Editor:

The lines to vote early at the Springfield-Franconia Government Center were a 3-4 hour wait every day for two weeks. I was heartened to see people with children, pregnant women and disabled older Americans insist on voting in person rather than use the convenient curbside voting alternative. The determination emanated everywhere.

Then along comes World Kitchen: Peruvian Brothers delicious beef or vegetable em-

panadas handed out free to the voters. If that isn't enough, Mediterranean food take out restaurant chef comes along from "Little Sesame" and distributes free cauliflower shawarma pita sandwiches and water. . Delicious!

For once, I saw kindness during a very difficult year. I thank those companies for their acts of kindness and I wanted to let others know, the food was great!

Lillian Brooks  
Springfield



PHOTO BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION

Voters lined up around the corner at Franconia Road on Monday, Oct. 26.

## CONNECTION

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## Help Sherwood Center Giving Tree Program

Fairfax City's Parks and Recreation Department is partnering with the City's public schools to help City families in need this holiday season. And local residents may lend a hand by participating in the Sherwood Center Giving Tree program.

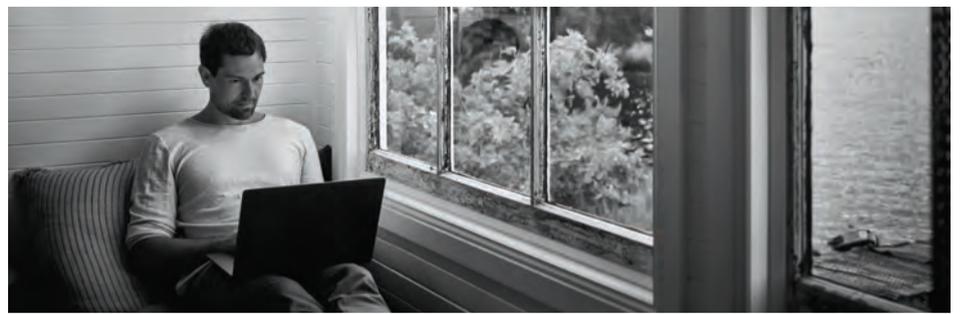
Parent liaisons and counselors from Daniels Run and Providence elementary schools have assisted in identifying these families each school. And children in need from Fairfax City Connected Care and the Main Street Child Development Center will also be sponsored.

Families completed a form with their information and wish list, and this giving program is an opportunity for departments, companies, individuals or anyone wanting to give back. Participants must commit by Nov. 20.

People may choose to buy gifts for a large or small family; donate gift cards, checks or cash; make online donations at [www.fairfaxva.gov](http://www.fairfaxva.gov); purchase items from a particular, Amazon wish list; and/or contribute giftwrapping supplies. Those sponsoring a family will receive information about their needs.

To make donations and for specific information about participating, contact Karen Lussier at [Karen.Lussier@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:Karen.Lussier@fairfaxva.gov) or call 703-591-3689. All gifts must be delivered unwrapped to the Sherwood Center, 3740 Old Lee Hwy., Fairfax, no later than Friday, Dec. 4. Parks and Rec staff will wrap and deliver all presents to the recipient families before winter break.

— BONNIE HOBBS



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## Troop 1104 Thanks Clifton Community

To the Editor:

BSA Troop 1104 of Clifton wishes to thank the Clifton community for your generous donations of food and supplies to Western Fairfax Christian Ministry's food pantry during the Troop's Scouting for Food event in October.

Thanks to you, Troop 1104 collected 2,658 lbs of food and supplies for the pantry.

Thank you for making a difference in our community. We greatly appreciate your thoughtful generosity in helping to provide clients of the food pantry the extra resources to draw upon during this difficult year.

Gary Liske  
Fairfax Station

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**NEWS**

**Springfield Rallies Seek to Get Out the Vote**

The last weekend before Election Day saw “get out the vote” rallies in Springfield by Biden/Harris supporters. A caravan, the “People’s Parade for Joe & Kamala,” honked through West Springfield on Saturday afternoon. Later, canine supporters with the same “vote” message gathered for “Barks for Biden” at Springfield’s South Run Dog Park.

Barks for Biden drew humans and their canines to Springfield Dog Park.

Canine enthusiasts hope for a return to a time of canines in the People’s House. Donald Trump is one of only 14 other presidents who have not had a dog during at least a portion of their term in the White House. President Joe Biden and his wife, Dr Jill Biden, have two dogs in their family: Champ and Major, both German Shepherds.

— SUSAN LAUME



PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION

Delegate Kathy Tran, here with her children, and Virginia House Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn, spoke before the car parade rally.



Jessica Brown, of Fairfax, with her message “Vote.”



Speaker of the Virginia House, Eileen Filler-Corn called it the “cutest idea” and “most fun event” as she greeted participants at “Barks for Biden,” here with James Migliaccio, Alexandria, and his dog Maia

**Phishing Scam Results in Arrest**

A registered sex offender is facing charges after unlawfully accessing Snapchat accounts belonging to several local high school students. Detectives from Major Crimes Bureau began investigating last week after students from South County and West Springfield High Schools reported being contacted by another Snapchat user who was in possession of sensitive content from the victims’ accounts. The offender used the account name pviexposed when he contacted the victims and threatened to expose their

private videos and images.

An investigation revealed that Christopher Martini, 33, of Lorton sent text messages posing as a Snapchat representative and lured the victims into providing identifying information and login credentials. This technique is referred to as phishing.

Detectives charged Martini with two counts of using a computer to gather identifying information and two counts of computer trespass. Additional charges are pending further investigation. Martini is being held at the Adult Detention Center without bond - according to FCPD

Media Relations Bureau.

Detectives are asking anyone with information about these crimes or anyone that was contacted by Snapchat user pviexposed to call Major Crimes Bureau at 703-246-7800, option 6. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477), by text – Type “FCCS” plus tip to 847411, and by web – Click HERE. Download our Mobile tip411 App “Fairfax Co Crime Solvers”. Anonymous tipsters are eligible for cash rewards of \$100 to \$1,000 dollars if their information leads to an arrest.

# 'Eagles Can Soar beyond these Skies'

## Lanier Middle renamed for NASA figure, Katherine Johnson.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

The City of Fairfax School Board voted unanimously Monday night to change the name of Lanier Middle School to Katherine Johnson Middle School. The change will take effect in July 2021, before the start of the 2021-22 school year.

Johnson helped send astronaut John Glenn into orbit around the earth and, later, was an integral part of Neil Armstrong's moon landing. She was also one of the brilliant, Black, female mathematicians featured in the book and movie, "Hidden Figures."

BY RENAMING the school after her, said City School Board member Toby Sorensen, "The message to our middle-school students is 'Eagles can soar beyond these earthly skies at Katherine Johnson Middle School.'"

"Her contributions continued to serve the nation and helped ensure that the 'Eagle had landed...and landed safely,'" added Board member Jon Buttram. "So I think it appropriate that the name Katherine Johnson for our middle school will inspire new generations of 'Eagles' for our community, and I look forward to watching them fly."

The school's former namesake, poet Sidney Lanier, was also a Confederate soldier. So, in light of this summer's Black Lives Matter movement – and a deeper understanding of why the school's name is an affront to Black Americans – the School Board voted in September to rename Fairfax City's middle school.

It did so after a three-month, public-comment period to collect feedback from the community. And more than 85 percent of those responding said the name should be changed. Nearly 300 suggestions for the new name were submitted, and an advisory team to Superintendent Phyllis Pajardo whittled them down to six.

The finalists were: Maya Angelou, Katherine Johnson, Legacy, Fairfax Woods, Independence and City. On Oct. 5, Pajardo presented these names to the Board; then during their Nov. 2 meeting, the members selected Johnson as the new name.

Born in West Virginia in 1918, Johnson always loved and excelled at math. She started high school at age 10 and graduated from college at 18. She was also one of three Black students to integrate West Virginia's graduate school in mathematics.

In 1952, she joined the all-Black computing section at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA). Five years later, the launch of the Soviet satellite Sputnik refocused Johnson and the U.S. on the race for space, and she became part of NACA's Space Task Group which later became NASA.

She was a team member who worked on various space projects. And according to NASA, in 1962, Johnson "was called upon to do the work she would become most known for" – preparing for Glenn's orbital mission and controlling the trajectory of his Friendship 7 capsule mission from liftoff to splash-down.

With the introduction of IBM's calculating machines and the glitches accompanying them, Glenn famously asked engineers for Johnson to run the numbers before his takeoff. "If she says they're good, then I'm ready to go," he said. The flight was a success and marked a turning point in the space race between America and the Soviet Union.

JOHNSON retired in 1986, after 33 years at NASA. And in 2015, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor, by President Barack Obama. After her death this February, at age 101, NASA Administrator James Bridenstine said, "She was an American hero, and her pioneering legacy will never be forgotten."

Pleased to have Fairfax's middle school named after such a special and accomplished woman, Pajardo said, "Katherine Johnson has been an inspiration to me for many years, and I know she will be an inspiration to our students. I look forward to working with the Board and the school community to dedicate the building to this extraordinary person in the spring."



Katherine Johnson

**"Katherine Johnson has been an inspiration to me for many years, and I know she will be an inspiration to our students."**

— Superintendent Phyllis Pajardo

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### NOW THRU DEC. 13

Holiday Greenery for Delivery. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thru Assistance League of Northern Virginia, P.O. Box 209, Herndon. The holidays are just around the corner and Assistance League of Northern Virginia has teamed up with Lynch Creek Farm to offer holiday décor. Purchase wreaths, garlands, and centerpieces for your home or as gifts for family and friends.

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

Your orders will be sent directly to the recipients. Shipments to Northern Virginia should take about 5 business days. Assistance League will receive 15% of the cost of every purchase and 100% of any donations. Those funds will help the charity provide food, new clothing and books to many needy children in our community. Here's the link to shopping: <https://www.lynchcreekfundraising.com/teams/250781>. Shipping is free. Contact [info@alnv.org](mailto:info@alnv.org). Visit [www.alnv.org](http://www.alnv.org).

**NOW THRU NOV. 19**  
Elementary Gym Class. 4-5 p.m.  
At Nike field, South County Middle School, 8700 Laurel

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 8

14th Annual 

# Alexandria Film Festival

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## November 12-15

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PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION



Crowd which grew to approximately 200 shoppers awaits new Lidl grocery store 8 am opening.



Store Manager Richelle Thompson promises focus on “availability and our great customer service.”

# Burke Gets New Grocery Store

BY SUSAN LAUME  
THE CONNECTION

In a line that rivaled those for recent early voting, about 200 shoppers awaited the opening of the new Lidl grocery store in Burke at the Rolling Valley Shopping Center on Old Keene Mill Road on Oct. 28. The first shopper, in line about 4 a.m., and the next 99 received gift certificates valued at between \$5 -100 dollars, along with shopping tote bags while supplies were available.

Cassie Porter, student, and her friend, Mariel Otero, food truck owner, both of Springfield, expressed excitement about the opening and the excuse to grab a coffee and have an outing with a friend as they waited in the line that snaked through the shopping center driveway. Debbie Hawks, retired, Springfield, was in line early “hoping for a gift card”, saying she “loves Lidl” from her trips to the current Springfield location. Gifty Dodoo, home health nurse, Burke, indicated this “grocery store is very close to me and I’ve been waiting. I knew I’d meet a lot



Supervisor Herry (right) thanks Lidl for investing in the community at ribbon cutting ceremony, with (from left) Brooke Freel, Lidl management; first in line shopper; store manager Richelle Thompson: with her store staff in background.

of people here. I want to get inside and see what they have for us.”

While Hawks might not have arrived early enough to receive a gift card, there is little doubt Dodoo will be happy with the store. Local shoppers know the store from area locations in Springfield and Woodbridge; known for variety and reasonable prices. New store manager, Richelle Thompson, previously assistant manager at the Springfield location, said she “knows quite a few were waiting” for the Burke location opening; several of whom she’s gotten to know. In the new store she said, “My focus will be availability and our great customer service.”

Lidl, a German company with its United States headquarters in Arlington, has a targeted expansion plan for stores on the east coast; now with stores open from Long Island, New York to Atlanta, Georgia. Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield) said, “I love coming to these.” He was on-hand to cut the opening ribbon, thanking Lidl for investing in the community and bringing more than 50 new jobs to the supervisory district.



Friends Mariel Otero, and Cassie Porter, Springfield, happy for an excuse to get out for an adventure and coffee.



Debbie Hawks, Springfield, loves Lidl



Gifty Dodoo, Burke, has been waiting for the store opening

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

Crest Drive, Lorton. One hour, 2 days per week, outdoor elementary gym class for kids in grades K-6 taught by a former Division 1 athlete and current South County High School teacher. Cost: \$15 per class or 10 classes for \$120. Contact: <https://bit.ly/SCAAFallGym>

THURSDAY/NOV. 5

Wine & Design Remodeling Seminar. 2-4 p.m. Virtual Zoom meeting. Hot New Features to Turn Your Master Bathroom into a Personal Spa. Sponsored by Schroeder Design Build. Free. RSVP: Email at [Marketing@SchroederDesign-Build.com](mailto:Marketing@SchroederDesign-Build.com) to receive your Zoom link.

SATURDAY/NOV. 7

Grand Opening, B2R. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Bach to Rock Music School/Fairfax. 9558 Main Street, Fairfax. Free. Join in a fun and music-filled open house as they celebrate community at the grand opening of the new Bach to Rock Music School in Fairfax. All ages. Visitors are welcome to take a tour of the school, enjoy a free music lesson, learn about individual lessons and group classes, try out free toddler “Mommy and Me” classes, enter prize drawings and giveaways, check out the recording studio, and enjoy performances by instructors. The school will serve students from (but not limited to) Fairfax, Annandale, Oakton and Vienna. Visit the website: <https://fairfax.bachtorock.com>

WATERSHED CLEANUPS

Do your part to help the environment. Volunteer for a “Watershed Cleanup Days” event at a park or recreation center near you this fall. These community service events are great for individuals, families, service groups and students. Work outdoors helping to clear Earth’s arteries by removing tires, bottles, cans and other debris dumped in local waterways. All ages are welcome to take part. Cleanups are currently scheduled:  
Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020: Cub Run RECenter, Hidden Pond Nature Center, Providence RE-Center and Riverbend Park. Visit the website <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/volunteer>

FAIR OAKS DICK’S OPENS

The new Fair Oaks Mall DICK’S Sporting Goods and Golf Galaxy location in Fairfax celebrated its Grand Opening on Friday, Oct. 30. At the new location customers can expect to find top-of-the-line in-store services and exclusive offerings in apparel, footwear and equipment from the Company’s own private brands, such as DSG, Tommy Armour, CALIA by Carrie Underwood, Field & Stream and Fitness Gear, as well as popular national vendors like Nike, adidas, YETI, The North Face, Callaway and TaylorMade. Visit [dicks.com/Fairfax](https://dicks.com/Fairfax).



## Families Enjoy Fairfax's Drive-By Pumpkin Patch

Fairfax City's Parks and Recreation Department, plus Daniels Run and Providence Elementary schools, hosted a Drive-By Pumpkin Patch, Friday night, Oct. 30, along Lions Run in front of Fairfax High. Families driving by saw 109, creatively carved jack-o-lanterns and donated food and money for nonprofit A Place to Stand.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/  
THE CONNECTION



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**Announcements**

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**Announcements**

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## NEWS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ERIN MOLEK

### Fairfax High Distributes Supplies to Students

Fairfax High School (FHS) faculty and staff had a great time connecting with students and families (in a socially distant manner) during the school's recent, "Bus Full O' Lions" outreach events. Faculty members shared school supplies and answered questions from both students and parents, and the ESOL teachers distributed small care packages, while all participants enjoyed the friendly visits.



**Announcements**

**Announcements**

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**Announcements**

**Announcements**

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**Announcements**

**Announcements**

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**Legals**

**NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS FOR ANGELUS ACADEMY**

Angelus Academy admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Angelus Academy is a private, non-profit elementary school sponsored by the Women's Apostolate to Youth and located at 7644 Dynatech Ct. Springfield, VA 22153. For more information, contact Angelus Academy at 703-924-3996.

**Announcements**

**Announcements**

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**CALENDAR**

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

**Let us know about an upcoming event**

[connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar)

# CALENDAR

## HAYFIELD HAWKS FUNDRAISER

The Hayfield Hawks football team is trying to raise money in order to provide players with new practice equipment and uniforms. Due to COVID, all of the fundraising is virtual this year. They have partnered with local businesses to create a discount card, which can be purchased for \$25 and entitles the cardholder to discounts and perks at a number of local restaurants. Delivery of the discount cards will be by mail/contactless and all proceeds will go directly to the program and helping the student athletes. Email Meredith Richard at EVHenderson@fcps.edu or call 703-408-4212.

## NOW THRU NOV. 12

Haunted Wine Tours. Sunday to Thursday, 6:30 p.m.; 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. At The Winery at Bull Run, 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. The Haunted Wine Tours are back for the fifth year in a row, in a new condensed version, so you can enjoy real ghost stories and award-winning wine all while staying safe. Due to the restrictive environment surrounding COVID, there are far less tickets available this year. Therefore priority access to tickets go to wine club members.

## NOW THRU DEC. 7

MCC Fantastic Fall Scavenger Hunt. Join your friends, family and community for McLean Community Center's Fantastic Fall Scavenger Hunt. This exciting fall virtual event allows for you and your team to compete against others and win prizes. This is the perfect event to stay local and have fun with your friends and family. The Fantastic Fall Scavenger Hunt is a game played on a smart phone in which teams complete 75 missions (or challenges) both indoors and outdoors. Missions include answering questions, taking specific photos or videos, finding a specific item, geocaching or completing specific tasks as given in a list provided by the Game Master. The scavenger hunt will take place in and around McLean and from your own home. Participants work in small teams of 4-10 players. Team captains must be 16 years old or older. Visit the website [www.McLeancenter.org](http://www.McLeancenter.org).

## NOV. 3 TO DEC. 6

Nature's Palette. At The Loft Gallery of Occoquan, 313 Mill Street, Occoquan. Featuring work by Patricia Hafkemeyer and wood artist, George Jones III. Gallery Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, Noon-5 p.m. Artist's Reception: See Facebook Live Reception on Saturday, November 7 at 3:30 p.m. at <https://www.facebook.com/loftgalleryoccoquan>

## FRIDAY/NOV. 6

Nature at Night. 5:30-7 p.m. At Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Discover what critters are on the move in local parks after people go home for the day. Join the "Nature at Night" program at Riverbend Park, and learn what happens in the forest, on the river, in the pond and at the meadow after dark. Enjoy a nighttime hike, make an awesome craft, get a peek at nocturnal critters, and discover how these animals wake up when we go to sleep. Cost is \$8 per person. Call 703-759-9018.

## FRIDAY/NOV. 6

Wilderness Walk. 1-2 p.m. At E.C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Get off the beaten path with a naturalist and explore some of the less popular trails at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. During this program for adults, you will identify plants and learn which animals left behind the tracks you discover in the park. Cost is \$7 per person. Call 703-631-0013.

## FRIDAY/NOV. 6

Campfire and S'Mores. 7-8:30 p.m. At Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Come to Lake Fairfax Park for an evening campfire and s'mores the whole family

can enjoy. During the "Campfire Fridays" program, you will explore the wonders of the natural world through events, such as nature walks, interactive activities and animal presentations. Learn about nature and our place in it. Topics for this monthly program vary by date. The cost is \$12 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-471-5414.

## NOV. 6 THRU HOLIDAYS

Santa at Springfield Town Center. Santa and his reindeer will be arriving at Springfield Town Center on Nov. 6 to kick-off the holiday season. In an effort to create touchless experiences and accommodate varying levels of visitor comfort, Santa will be available at Springfield Town Center via numerous experiences and offerings: Picture with Santa; Virtual Experience; Family Pet Photos on Mondays; Family Photos and Visits with Santa. Reservations are required for all Santa and photo offerings.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 7

Flag Retirement Ceremony. 11 a.m. At Fairfax Fire Station 38, 6001 Oday Drive, Centreville. American Legion Post 1995 will conduct a flag retirement ceremony on November 7th at Fire Station 38 located at the corner of O'Day Drive and Stone Road beginning at 11:00 am. The public is invited to participate and/or to donate American, state, or county flags for a respectful retirement.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 7

Raising Theatre Babies. 2 p.m. Part of Theater and Parenting. Artists reimagine their lives in theatre post COVID-19. Part of the Virtual Round Table Discussion Series at 1st Stage in Tysons. Free. In these forums, they'll talk and share questions and thoughts with artists, actors, designers, musicians and directors about experiences they have faced as professional artists. Artists participating include Debra Kim Sivigny, Bob Barlett, Ron OJ Parsons, José Carrasquillo, Themi Duncan, and more. Pre-registration is required and space is limited. Registration at [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org).

## NOV. 9, 16, 23

Family Fishing. 11 a.m. to noon. At Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Park staff will provide all the equipment and bait you need to start you on your way to creating your own fish tales. The program is designed for family members age 5 to adult. Cost is \$10 per person. Meet at Shelter Call 703-323-6600, or visit Burke Lake Park.

## NOV. 11, 13, AND 14

Christmas Bazaar for Charity. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At 1025 Bellview Place, McLean. Sale of new and vintage Christmas items, including a huge collection of ornaments, tabletop decor, and kids' crafts, handmade wreaths and gift items. All proceeds donated to Jill's House and Operation Christmas Child.

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 11

Saluting Independence. 10 a.m. Virtual event. Join in Saluting Independence as they present the Col. E. David Woycik, Jr., Esq., USA (Ret.) and Lance Corporal Matias Ferreira, USMC (Ret.) Outstanding Service Award. The virtual event honors veterans and raises support and awareness for Canine Companions, a non-profit organization that provides highly trained assistance dogs to children, adults and veterans with disabilities at no cost to the recipient. Unable to attend the premier? The event will still be available for you to watch at your convenience. Registration is required to receive access to the event. Register now at [www.cci.org/salutingindependence](http://www.cci.org/salutingindependence). A suggested donation of \$75 would be appreciated.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 14

Lesson Zero. 7:30-10:30 p.m. At P.J. Mulligans, 2310 Woodland Crossing Dr., Herndon. More information available on [www.youtube.com/lessonzero](http://www.youtube.com/lessonzero) or [www.reverbNation.com/lessonzero](http://www.reverbNation.com/lessonzero).

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## Better Late Than Never ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

... to get a second opinion about one's first cancer; especially if there's now a second cancer to consider. For most of the nearly 12 years during which I've been a cancer patient, my diagnosis has been non small cell lung cancer stage IV. Within the past 10 months or so, it has become apparent and subsequently confirmed by a surgical biopsy of a tumor located in my lungs, that I have papillary thyroid cancer. The big question remains - and has not been agreed to by my endocrinologist and oncologist, is whether I have two types of cancer or just one. And moreover, whether I've always had two types or one primary - previously undiagnosed, that has now metastasized after 10-plus years from the thyroid into the lungs?

From my understanding - or actually what I've been told, it's possible, though hardly prudent to biopsy all the remaining tumors in my lungs to confirm exactly what type (types) of cancer I have. According to my doctors, the medical risks to me are too great. Therefore, the decision has been made to treat the thyroid cancer and to monitor - for lack of a better description, the lung cancer. And I can live with that (hope to live with that I should say). Nevertheless, it seemed an opportune time to get, for the first time in my cancer life, a second opinion. This week, after waiting out the transfer of medical records and a thyroid cancer specialist's evaluation, Team Lourie will be going to the Lombardi Cancer Center at Georgetown University Hospital for an independent assessment. To say we are extremely anxious is an understatement.

When I was initially diagnosed in late Feb., 2009, we did not get a second opinion. Perhaps we were naive, but at the moment the oncologist told us my diagnosis - and prognosis: non small cell lung cancer stage IV. he was not the least bit perplexed and the path forward seemed clear, and we didn't question him too much. A week later, I began chemotherapy. I have never wavered in this decision and I have no regrets about the path I chose. The fact that I have lived years beyond my prognosis has occasionally given me moments of curiosity as to why I was so amazingly lucky to have survived when so many others have not. Not wanting to look a gift oncologist in the mouth (if you know what I mean), I rarely thought to ask. I mean, I was doing so well.

Then about two years ago, a lump appeared under my Adams Apple. Upon examining me/it, my oncologist characterized it as a clone of my lung cancer and did nothing more than note its size and shape when he regularly examined me until the first of three biopsies (of a lymph node) was ultimately performed. It indicated thyroid cancer. This was new information to my oncologist. And so I was referred to an endocrinologist. She took one look at my "Adams Apple tumor" as I called it, and did a needle biopsy right then and there - in her office. She called me two days later with the results. Again, it confirmed thyroid cancer which subsequently led to the removal of my thyroid a month or so later. A few months after that, a hospitalization followed for radioiodine treatment to locate and kill any remaining thyroid cancer. Within another month I began chemotherapy treatment for thyroid cancer. Which is how I am presently being treated. Nothing more has changed. However, we wondered, what about my lung cancer? It was not being treated? As George Costanza asked after having sex with the cleaning lady on an old Seinfeld episode: "Was that a bad thing?"

And so we have taken steps to find out what it is we don't know that maybe the doctors know. Unfortunately, my original tissue sample is too degraded to re-biopsy, but all other relevant medical information has been transferred. I don't suppose we'll be able to go too far back in time, but given the future that I ended up having, there's no time like the present to review the past.

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



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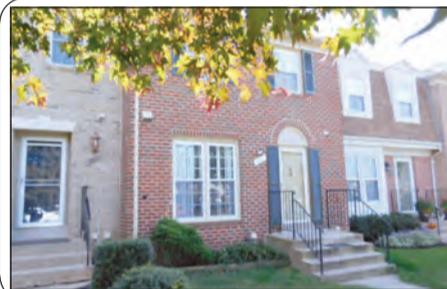
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