

CONNECTION

Reston ♦ Oak Hill ♦ Herndon ♦ Chantilly ♦ CENTRE VIEW

Voters Turn Out On Election Day

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Iasha Jenkins of Herndon
with her daughter and future
voter, Noelle, 7. "I'm voting
now because it's easier."

Trunk or Treat With FCPD

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PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 3-9, 2021

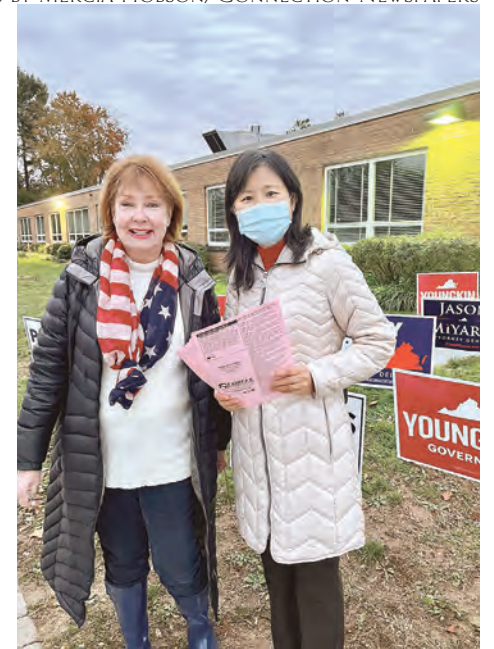
ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



In McLean, from left, Ronnie Raju, Heidi Appel, and Jennifer Adeli (former candidate) are the Democrat volunteers. Raju: "I voted early because I wanted to be sure to get it in, and I voted the straight Democratic ticket." Appel: "I voted early. We are in the process of moving to Arlington. I knew it would be too close to re-register." Adeli: "I always work Election Day, sunrise to sundown. I voted early last Saturday."



People line up to vote in Vienna.



From left, Marcia Close and Jane Yue in McLean: Close. "I early voted and voted straight Republican; always do. I'll be here all day, and they wanted us to vote early. But I wanted to vote today because it just feels right."



Noah Flaxman of McLean cycled to the polling place on his way to work and cast his ballot.

Snapshot of Election Day

Insight from voting and volunteering neighbors.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

On Nov. 3, voters from across Fairfax County turned out for the off-year General Election, which took place in the absence of a presidential or midterm election. Virginia is one of only two states in the country, New Jersey being the other, that holds gubernatorial and state office elections during a non-presidential year. The rest of the nation may be watching how Virginia and New Jersey vote to foreshadow the possible outcome of the 2024 presidential election.

Here are some snapshots and viewpoints

from these precincts. Others are covered in different Connection newspapers.

Reston-Precinct: 222 Reston # 3, polling place: Reston Community Center-Lake Anne, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston, in the Hunter Mill District

Great Falls-Precinct: 306 Great Falls, polling place: Great Falls Elementary School, 701 Walker Road, Great Falls, in the Dranesville District

McLean-Precinct: 304 Cooper, polling place: Cooper Middle School, 977 Balls Hill Road, McLean, in the Dranesville District

Vienna-Precinct: 214 Vienna #2, polling place Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, SE, Vienna, in the Hunter Mill Dis-

trict and

Herndon-Precinct: 320 Herndon #2, Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon, in the Dranesville District.

Comments from voters and others at the polling places said that the governor and other state office races were their primary reasons for voting in the off-year election. They also shared why they voted early or voted on Election Day, some telling how they cast their ballots and why.

The chief election officers at the named Reston, Great Falls, McLean, Vienna, and Herndon polling places reported their voting

SEE ELECTION DAY, PAGE 3



Marykay Ruwe of Vienna. "Forty years I've volunteered because I believe in democracy. I'm going to vote later today and bring my husband."



Lauren Staadecker of Vienna gets some help from her son, Ari, 5, a future voter. Asked why she chose to vote on Election Day and not early, she said, "I have no idea; I have kids."



Gretchen Schmitt, 13, of Vienna. "I'm here for service hours, and so people can know who they are voting for."



Bob Dawson of Reston delivers a paper ballot to the dropbox: "I tried to drop it off in Herndon on the 30th but couldn't, so I'm at the Reston Community Center."



The 6 a.m. voting line at Reston Community Center on Nov. 3.



Helen Dicky at the Republican table: "I'm here volunteering because I care about my country. I've been serving as a volunteer for five years."

Election Day Morning, 2021

FROM PAGE 2

tallies, time-stamped 11:30 a.m. on Election Day. McLean-Vienna, Reston-Herndon and Great Falls Connections all go to press before the polls close on Election Day. For more, see www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Chief Election Officer Geoff Emmer, precinct 306 Great Falls, reported 347 ballots cast by 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday.

Chief Election Officer Elizabeth Schreffler, precinct 222 Reston #3, reported 385 ballots cast by 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday.

Chief Election Officer Lori Krause, precinct 214, Vienna #2, reported 692 ballots cast by 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday.

Chief Election Officer Steve Wales, precinct 320 Herndon # 2 reported 521 ballots cast and one provisional ballot by 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday.



William Berkson of Reston and Jim Vollmer of Herndon volunteer at the Democratic table outside the Reston Community Center.

Berkson: "I've been doing this, volunteering, a very long time, 30 or more years."

Vollmer: "I've been doing this for over 20 years."



Brenna Crombie, visiting from Virginia Beach with Signe Friedrichs of Herndon.

Crombie: "I'm helping Irene Shinn."

Friedrichs "I voted early because it was convenient, and I'm volunteering today."



Iasha Jenkins of Herndon with her daughter and future voter, Noelle, 7. "I'm voting now because it's easier."



Political signs in front of Herndon Community Center.

Needed: Tasers and Deescalation

By Ken Moore
The Connection

The Board of Supervisors thought every officer in the police department would carry a Taser (electronic control weapon or ECW) after the program was initiated.

The Board of Supervisors also thought that every officer was going to be trained in de-escalation techniques (crisis intervention or CIT) to respond to crisis situations. Only about 34 percent of Fairfax County officers have received CIT training.

And currently, the police and Community Services Board have implemented a co-responder pilot program to ensure that a crisis intervention specialist assists police in responding to situations that involve mental health or behavioral crisis.

But on July 19, 2021, police entered a group home in Springfield with guns drawn through the back door.

They were called to the house because of a 911 call that a resident was "being violent, throwing things in her room, running up and down the house, threatening to kill

staff and herself," according to police reports.

"This group home in Springfield is known to the Fairfax County Police Department," said Police Chief Kevin Davis at a briefing just after the incident. Police have responded to other 911 calls there. He described the scene the officers entered as "chaotic."

"They were confronted and advanced upon by a woman with a large knife," Davis said.

Police shouted commands for the woman, who was holding a Cuisinart knife, to "drop it" and "stop."

The woman appeared to be further provoked by the officers yelling at her. She screamed, "I will not stop." She took steps from the kitchen sink where she had been standing toward the two officers and yelled at them, "I will stab you."

NEITHER OFFICER was carrying a Taser. The group home resident was shot in the abdomen. She was in critical condition but survived.

See body camera footage, just over three minutes long, here <https://youtu.be/t0J3uDm8vDI>

During the Board of Supervisors' Public Safety Committee meeting on Oct. 26, 2021, Davis said there's been a lot of discussion about Tasers (ECWs) since the shooting in Springfield.

Chairman Jeff McKay asked Davis why all police officers are not carrying a Taser.

"Can you help us understand what the challenge might be with getting a taser in the hand of every officer?"

—Chairman Jeff McKay

"For those of us who were on the Board when the Taser program was approved, we believed that every officer would be issued a taser," said McKay.

"Can you help us understand what the challenge might be with getting a taser in the hand of every officer? Some have reasonably asked why that is not an instrument that is issued to everyone who wears a uniform."

Every 2nd lieutenant and below as well as police detectives on the

street and captains on duty will be "personally issued a Taser," said Police Chief Kevin Davis. "So there will be no if ands or buts about whether one is available."

Davis said the department is currently procuring 350 new Tasers.

"You can imagine every couple of years ... they come out with a new model and as the years go by the replacement parts for the older models become impossible or too expensive to obtain so we're in the process now of updating all of the tasers," said Davis.

"It would just be a matter of looking at the finances and what it would take to outfit the entire police department but we can certainly explore that," said Davis.

"That would be helpful," said McKay.

Davis said police are also reviewing the department's Critical Incident Release Policy. "Now that we have body worn cameras, we need to go back and revise our critical incident release policy to reflect the new realities of body worn cameras and community expectations about the release of

body cam footage."

Police released the body cam footage a week and a half after the non-fatal shooting at the group home, but don't appear to have released the name of the officer who fired the shot.

Officers immediately assisted the woman, after handcuffing her, and one of the officers was able to help the critically wounded woman calm down and breathe as they rendered aid.

"It hurts," she said.

"I know it hurts," the officer reassured her, as he explained that he needed to stop the bleeding and was applying pressure to the gunshot wound.

Officers were not charged with criminal conduct and their names were not released in Commonwealth's Attorney Steve Descano's report.

"The officer in question was reasonable in fearing that the resident intended to either kill him, or cause him serious bodily injury, and it was therefore legally permissible for him to use the level of force used to repel the assault. Accordingly, I decline to bring any criminal charge against the officer," said Commonwealth's Attorney Steve Descano.

Overall Crime Down: But Overdoses, Mental Health Crises on the Rise

By Ken Moore
The Connection

Crime is notably down in Fairfax County, even though calls mental health crises are on the rise.

Suspects in nearly a third of Fairfax County's 19 homicides this year were sons in their late teens or twenties in mental health crisis, killing their mothers, fathers, or in one case, a sister.

"That's a startling startling statistic," said Police Chief Kevin Davis, in his 100-Day Plan Update to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, Oct. 26 in its Public Safety Committee meeting.

Hunter Mill Supervisor Walter Alcorn noted the county police department's co-responder pilot program with the county to address

"This is becoming a bigger issue," said Alcorn.

"I want thank you chief for working with [Fairfax County Community Service Board] and others," said Alcorn, "and looking to see where we can do a better job of service to folks that are having

mental health and behavioral crises."

See <http://www.connection-newspapers.com/news/2021/oct/27/alternatives-police-intervention/>

Suicide prevention calls and mental health crises are "dramatically on the rise," according to

"We have 3,614 fewer overall crime victims in Fairfax County."

— Police Chief Kevin Davis

Davis, There were six more carjackings and an increase of 24 non-fatal overdoses compared to last year, Davis said.

He described police and Fire and Rescue responding to one scene where they had to administer NARCAN to "all six of those individuals in what was a chaotic chaotic scene." That resulted in two fatalities.

Overall, crime is down and "we have 3,614 fewer overall crime vic-

tims in Fairfax County," said Davis. "So what's down? Robberies, burglaries, auto-theft, assault and domestic assault, bias incidents, fatal crashes, fatal pedestrian crashes, fatal overdoses are slightly down."

Lee Supervisor Rodney Lusk chairs the Board's Public Safety Committee.

"I have heard and I have seen so many posts that crime is out of hand in Fairfax County that we are in a desperate situation. Clearly the numbers don't prove that out, we're in the exact opposite situation," said Lusk.

"I hope that people are listening and can hear this. We have lower crime in Fairfax County than virtually any of our neighboring jurisdictions. When we talk about Northern Virginia as a whole, the crime statistics for the region are significantly different than the crime statistics here in Fairfax County. Things are going a lot better here than in other places."

Chairman Jeff McKay said, "We owe it to our officers to report these successes, too."



From left, Madison Jayleen Mejia, 2, Gabriela Mejia Santos, Tiffany Aileen Mejia, 3, and Stefany Mejia Santos enjoy a night out trick-or-treating in the Town of Herndon.

Trick-or-Treat

An evening of Halloween fun and trick-or-treaters resuming their door-to-door visits this year brought much joy to children and parents after a pause in 2020 due to the pandemic. Since the CDC reported that the coronavirus spreads primarily through respiratory droplets and the risk of infection from surfaces is considered low, it was considered generally safe for outdoor activities and for children to ring doorbells and collect candy in 2021. Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, earlier in October encouraged families to go trick-or-treating outdoors, saying the risk was very low.

— MERCIA HOBSON

The Grim Reality of the High Maternal Death Rate among Black Women

Racism and access to medical care are among the causes.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Chest pains during and after her pregnancy were the first sign that something might be wrong. When Corretta Lewis of Alexandria visited her doctor, she was told that her pain was the result of low iron levels and a nutrition-deficient diet. She was skeptical of her physician's diagnosis.

"I had a friend that died at 21 with her 3-day old baby in her arms because the doctors didn't take her seriously, so I was scared," said Lewis.

She adjusted her diet but the discomfort persisted.

"I nearly died while in labor with my son and then I was dismissed by my OB-GYN during postnatal care," she said. "After giving birth, I was still experiencing severe chest pain and after a few weeks my wife forced me to go to another doctor to have them look into it further."

A cardiologist ordered an echocardiogram. "It turns out that the doctor saw something on an ultrasound of my heart," said Lewis. "I could have died. I was dismissed because I was a young black woman."

Lewis' experience is not uncommon. Black women are three-to-four times more likely to die of pregnancy-related causes at a higher rate than white women in Northern Virginia and parts of Montgomery County. A lack of access to healthcare and racism from medical professionals are among the top reasons for this gap.

Most pregnancy-related deaths are preventable, according to the CDC. Racial and ethnic disparities in pregnancy-related deaths have persisted over time, the CDC reports. Even in states with the lowest pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births, and among women with higher levels of education, significant racial differences persist. These findings suggest that the disparity observed in pregnancy-related death for Black and American Indian/Alaska Native women is a complex national problem, according to the CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2019/p0905-racial-ethnic-disparities-pregnancy-deaths.html>

"Institutional racism, implicit bias, toxic stress, and intimate partner violence ... are contributing factors to the staggering disparity among black women," said Joanna Hemmat, assistant director, Health Services Division, Fairfax County Health Department.

The actions that are associated with these behaviors are dismissing a patient's symptoms, making assumptions and generalizing.

"We work on addressing institutional racism and implicit bias—in collaboration with One Fairfax, our county-wide initiative to bring an equity lens to all areas of operation throughout the county, including



PHOTO COURTESY OF CORRETTA LEWIS
Corretta Lewis, pictured with her wife Mea and their son Caleb says that she almost lost her life due racism in healthcare.

"Institutional racism, implicit bias, toxic stress, and intimate partner violence ... are contributing factors to the staggering disparity among black women."

— Joanna Hemmat, Health Services Division, Fairfax County Health Department

health," Hemmat said.

A lack of access to prenatal and postnatal healthcare is another barrier to closing the maternal mortality gap between Black and white women. "Uninsured women are less likely to seek routine health care and more likely to receive episodic care in the emergency department," said Hemmat. "The diagnosis and management of chronic health conditions may be delayed and follow-up care is not coordinated."

To address the issue of a lack of healthcare, local counties are partnering with medical facilities to offer services on a sliding scale for uninsured patients. For example, Arlington County

teams up with the Virginia Hospital Center to provide services to pregnant women, says Kurt Larrick, assistant director of Arlington County Department of Human Services. "They do all deliveries and we actually send any high risk pregnancies to them immediately as well," he said.

Addressing pre-existing medical conditions and creating an overall healthy lifestyle can help lower maternal mortality rates among women of color.

"Mental Health screening, screening for intimate partner violence and substance use, as well as subsequent referrals, are essential components of care provision during the prenatal and postpartum periods. In order to reduce maternal deaths due to suicide, overdose, and intimate partner violence," said Hemmat.

Though she survived her pregnancy and now has a happy family of three, Lewis is still concerned about the plight of other women of color.

"It's not asking a lot for all black women to live long enough to see the child they carried celebrate their first birthday, and many others," Lewis said.

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Trunk-or-Treat Offers Thrills and Candy

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PFC MEG HAWKINS



(From left) Fairfax County Police Officer Kyler Racey, PFC Troy Hill, Det. Kenner Fortner and Officer Henry Viar in Jurassic Park costumes.

Fairfax County police, local businesses and organizations held a safe and socially distanced Trunk-Or-Treat in Bull Run Regional Park. Residents drove by decorated Halloween trunks/displays, and their children received treats at the end.



Virginia State Police Troopers Eric Thomas and Stefanie Kapusta with their googly-eyed trunk.



Fairfax County Sheriff's Office Deputy Michael Baroni and his decorated vehicle.



Employees from Smiles for Centreville get into the spirit of the event.



Mission BBQ employees brought Baby Yoda to the festivities.



NOVA Parks' display features skeletons on a campout.



Calletana's Peruvian Fast Food included a llama in its display.



Fairfax County Police MPO Reanna Taylor and APO Anthony Maiello having fun.

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CALENDAR

NOW THRU NOV. 7

A Disco Musical Comedy - Disaster. At NextStop Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. By Seth Rudetsky and Jack Plotnick. Concept created by Seth Rudetsky and Drew Geraci. Additional material by Drew Geraci. Directed by Evan Hoffmann. Choreography by Ashleigh King. Music Direction by Elisa Rosman. Visit www.nextstoptheatre.org.

NOW THRU JAN. 2, 2022

LuminoCity Festival. 6-9 p.m. At Roer's Zoofari, 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. The LuminoCity Festival, a one-of-a-kind, immersive light display experience, will be a festive experience for guests of all ages. Be ready to enter a world straight out of your wildest imaginations as you step into an unforgettable spectacular night of lights. The festival includes African, Asian, Arid, and Ancient-themed exhibits of spectacularly lit art displays set up in the zoo's walk-through area. Visit the website: www.roerszoofari.com.

NOW THRU NOV. 7

The Turn of the Screw. At NextStop Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Adapted by Jeffrey Hatcher from the story by Henry James, this classic ghost story depicts the trials of a young governess, haunted by ghosts while caring for two orphaned children on a remote estate in the English countryside. This innovative adaptation is a spine-tingling, tour de force for two actors and will be directed by Christopher Richardson. Visit www.nextstoptheatre.org.

NOW THRU NOV. 28

Artworks by David Alexander. At the Jo Ann Rose Gallery, 1609-A Washington Plaza N, Reston. "In Between: Phantom Algorithms Joining Worlds" artworks by David Alexander use the totem motif to bridge the digital, physical and spiritual worlds. Nov. 1 through 28 2021. Call 703-476-4500. Visit <https://enoarts.com/press>

NOV. 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13

Sound of Music. 7:30 p.m. at Capital Community Church, 20430 Ashburn Village Blvd., Ashburn. The Pickwick Players present Rodgers & Hammerstein's "The Sound of Music," starring local talent from the Northern Virginia area. Cost: Adults \$22, Seniors/Children \$17, Group discount available for 8 or more. Visit the website: thepickwickplayers.com

NOV. 5-6

Everything Christmas Sale. Friday 3-7 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. At Herndon Moose Lodge, 779 Center Street, Herndon. You'll find thousands of items related to Christmas - from artificial trees to ornaments. Many are one-of-a-kind items. Sponsored by The Closet, a nonprofit organization impacting the local community. Visit the website: www.theclosetofgreaterherndon.org

NOV. 5-31

"The Artist's Palette." At Great Falls Studios Gallery, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. "The Artist's Palette" features the work of members of

NOVA Plein Air Artists. Founded in 2016, NOVA Plein Air Artists was initiated due to a shared desire to explore the idea of painting outdoors. Since then, Plein Air Artists has evolved into a creative, educational and social network of local artists committed to painting weekly at organized "paint-outs." Plein air locations are chosen for their diversity, varying from state and county parks to rustic farms, vineyards, and urban settings within the Northern Virginia and Greater Washington, DC area. NOVA Plein Air Artists is primarily a plein air group but members also engage in painting other subjects including still life, genre, and portraiture.

SATURDAY/NOV. 6

Clifton Lions Pancake Breakfast. 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. At Clifton Presbyterian Church 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. Come and enjoy a yummy breakfast, with pancakes, bacon, orange juice and coffee. 100% of proceeds go to local charities. Cost: \$10 Adults, \$5 Children under 12, under 5 Free

SUNDAY/NOV. 7

Pilobolus "Come to Your Senses." 7:30 p.m. At The Alden, McLean Community Center, McLean. Engage with childlike wonder in the miracle of your senses through both classic and brand-new repertory that begins by examining our biology and ends by utilizing the senses in a refreshing immersion in the



The Left Bank Quartet will perform at Church of the Holy Comforter in Vienna on Nov. 7. (From left to right): Eric Kutz, Sally McLain, Katherine Murdock, David Salness.

biosphere. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit: www.aldentheatre.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 7

Traditional Celtic Concert. 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. At the Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Part of a five-concert series of top quality music from the British Isles, Brittany (France), the Celtic areas of Northern Spain, and the Americas, staged in the listening room Snuggery (dining room). Tickets must be purchased in advance at oldbrogue.com - \$20 general admission.

SUNDAY/NOV. 7

Into Vietnam War. 2-3:30 p.m. At the Cold War Museum (online only

in the Museum's Zoom Room), 7134 Lineweaver Rd., Warrenton, Va.. The Vietnam War was the most controversial US war since the Civil War. How did we get in...and how did we get out? An eyewitness tells you. Cost is \$20.

SUNDAY/NOV. 7

String Quartet Concert. 4-6 p.m. At Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road NE, Vienna. Concert by the Left Bank Quartet featuring Schubert's well-known "Death and the Maiden" string quartet together with works by Haydn and the 20th-century composer Erich Wolfgang Korngold. Visit the website: <https://hollycomforter.com/>

NOV. 12-14

"The Eye of the Beholder." The McLean Art Society, a local group of professional artists and art enthusiasts is sponsoring an Art Show and sale on Friday Nov. 12, 5-8 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday Nov. 14 10 a.m.-1 p.m., hosted by Walker Chapel United Methodist Church, 4102 N Glebe Rd, Arlington. There will be all original framed paintings in many styles with a large variety of subject matter as well as less expensive matted pieces and originally designed greeting cards. Everyone is welcome in a Covid safe environment.

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Reston-based Tephra ICA Presents “A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats”

Artwork projects local climate change disasters.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art held an in-person gallery opening on Oct. 22, its first since the COVID-19 restrictions. The nonprofit organization presented the exhibition, “A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats,” featuring works by D.C.-based artist Andrea Limauro (b. 1976, Rome, Italy) at Signature Apartments and sponsored by Reston Community Center.

Robert Goudie is board chair of the nonprofit organization Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE), rebranded as Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art (Tephra ICA).

Goudie expressed pride in the work done by staff in the space. He said that three years ago, the organization had no idea whether this satellite gallery would work. “Boston Properties was nervous about it. We were nervous about it. The whole idea was to try to introduce people to this concept of living with art,” he said. It worked.

Jaynelle Hazard, the executive director and curator introduced Limauro. She said his mixed media works explore migration and migrant identity issues, nationalist narratives, gun violence, and other social issues.

According to Limauro, many of the pieces on display that night were inspired by his day job as a city planner in Washington, D.C. He spends his days looking at floodplain maps, “depressing statistics” about global warming, and the District of Columbia’s flood and sea level rise projections.

Limauro referenced the pending climate-change-induced future of Washington, D.C., based on the current trajectory of greenhouse gas emissions. He said that we must reduce carbon pollution and our reliance on fossil fuels based on economic considerations. Our climate and energy choices will shape different scenarios over the next few decades.

The exhibition’s centerpiece is a four-panel acrylic painting on canvas with gold leaf, metal and paper titled, “A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats, 2018.”

“I like the irony of the title. It was chosen because that phrase is usually associated with neoliberal economic policies that justify overproduction,” Limauro said.

Limauro’s work depicts a panoramic view of Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Maryland at possible future sea levels. The viewer is seated on a boat in the middle of a churning Potomac River. The national mall

has been submerged, the monuments have been flooded, and the parkways have been flooded.

Limauro took a cue from the old world cartographers of the Middle Ages and Renaissance. They tucked beastly monsters into their maps, images they believed were reliable to illustrate possible dangers. His work depicts the turbulent waters in which immigrants struggle neck-deep with their arms raised, and monuments are tossed around like toys.

Limauro adapted the technique of painting dates in red from antique Roman murals. “Those are the dates of the real historic floods in our region,” Limauro said. Finally, Limauro employs gold leaf in his work. He grew up in Rome, where gold leaf embellished panel paintings, backgrounds, and frescoes.

Tephra ICA at Signature is located at 11850 Freedom Drive in Reston. The gallery is open to the public for free, Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.– 5 p.m.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS



Artist Andrea Limauro (right) discusses his work with Robert Goudie, executive director of the nonprofit organization Greater Reston Arts Center, rebranded as Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art (Tephra ICA), and Lisa Mariam, director of grants and services at ArtsFairfax during the opening reception of his exhibition “A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats, 2018.”



Artist Andrea Limauro at the opening reception and artist talk, Friday, Oct. 22 for the exhibition of “A Rising Tide Lifts All Boats,” at Tephra ICA at Signature | Signature Apartments, presented by Tephra Institute of Contemporary Art and sponsored by Reston Community Center.

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Struggling to pay rent due to the pandemic?

The Virginia Rent Relief Program may be able to help.

Virginia is offering relief for renters who are having trouble paying rent and related fees. A local nonprofit will help renters one-on-one apply for the Virginia Rent Relief Program to receive the help they need. If you or someone you know is in need of rent assistance call: **877-315-1200**

For eligibility, visit: HOMEofVA.org/RRPinfo

Housing Opportunities Made Equal conducts the outreach and engagement initiative for the Virginia Rent Relief Program to provide one-on-one application assistance.

The Virginia Rent Relief Program is administered through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. Residents in Fairfax and Chesterfield counties should reach out to their counties' programs.

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Chantilly Mews Apartments
 Effective November 10, 2021, the Waiting-list is closed for 2 and 3-bedroom Apartments.
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Legals

ABC LICENSE
 Tyche Lee LLC trading as Woo Mi Ga, 14015 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy, Chantilly, Fairfax County, Virginia 20151-1601. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises and Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Yea K Lee, Member. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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NEWS

Carter Honored as Officer of Quarter

BY BONNIE HOBBS
 THE CONNECTION

PFC Brian Carter was selected as the Sully District Police Station's Officer of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2020. He was honored at a recent meeting of the station's Citizens Advisory Committee.

His supervisor, Lt. Christina Burrow, nominated him for this award. She wrote that, on April 10, 2020, Carter was working patrol within the Sully District Police Service Area when a call was received at the Department of Public Safety Communications (911) from a frantic man advising that his wife was unconscious and pinned between their vehicle and the garage.

"The man stopped responding to the call taker and could be heard screaming and crying in the background, followed by loud banging," wrote Burrow. "PFC Carter immediately proceeded to the event. He arrived on scene in less than five minutes and prior to the arrival of Fairfax County Fire and Rescue personnel.

"PFC Carter immediately located the unconscious woman slumped over next to the driver's side of the vehicle. The woman's husband was frantic and could not explain to Carter what was going on. Carter quickly took control of the hectic scene, directing the husband and citizens who arrived to back away. Carter then pulled the woman into the open area of the driveway and began administering CPR."

Burrow said the officer continued to administer CPR until fire and rescue personnel arrived and took over. Carter remained calm and helped them as they provided aid to the woman.

"Her husband was inconsolable, and PFC Carter continually provided support to him, while maintaining the safety of the fire and rescue personnel," wrote Burrow. "As additional units arrived on scene, he directed them to assist the husband, as well as the couple's two young children inside the residence."

Burrow stressed that, while Carter was performing all these duties, he "maintained the highest level of professionalism and diligence, while not becoming distracted by

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DON SWEENEY



Allen Yang



Jennifer Grinnell Van de Vijver

Park Authority Honoring Two Local Residents

The Fairfax County Park Authority will honor two Centreville residents with 2021 Elly Doyle Park Service Special Recognition Awards. Jennifer Grinnell Van de Vijver and Allen Yang will each be feted this month at a virtual, volunteer celebration.

*Jennifer Grinnell Van de Vijver is president of Ellanor C. Lawrence Park Friends Inc. and was the driving force behind the formation of the group in October 2019. A brand developer, she has provided pro bono design services for Park Authority projects, including the design for the new Sully Woodlands Stewardship Education Center signage.

According to the Park Authority, "She tirelessly fundraises – working to obtain sponsorships for educational exhibits at the center – and already has secured several, large donations for sponsorships of exhibits. She has strengthened ties between the park and local businesses."

*Allen Yang has volunteered at Arrowhead Park for more than seven years and is the volunteer site leader for the Invasive Man-

agement Area program. The Park Authority says his "dedication to the health and beauty of Arrowhead Park is apparent to those who walk down the asphalt path and see an incredible diversity of native species. He has made great progress in the restoration of habitat and has increased the aesthetic value of the park. Arrowhead is now thriving with diverse native species, and it is in large part thanks to Yang's efforts over the years."

The Park Authority established the Elly Doyle Park Service Awards in 1988 in recognition of former Park Authority Board Chairman and member Ellamae Doyle's many accomplishments. She put in years of outstanding service toward the preservation of parkland and the establishment of natural and recreational areas for the benefit of Fairfax County residents. The purpose of the award named in her honor is to publicly recognize a volunteer or group of volunteers for outstanding contributions to Fairfax County parks.

— BONNIE HOBBS

Scouting for Food on Nov. 13, 2021

On Saturday, Nov. 13, Scouts and their adult leaders from Troops and Packs all over Northern Virginia will be gathering food from their neighbors and bringing it to local charities in the annual Scouting for Food collection. Operating the food drive safely during the pandemic is a primary concern for Scout Leaders. Scouts will be masked and will conduct the food drive outdoors for maximum safety while serving their community.

All food is donated to local charities that distribute the food to those in need in our community. All of the charities will also observe pandemic safety precautions.

Four charities will accept food donations between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Nov. 13 and

the public is also welcome to drop off non-perishable food. The charities are:

- ❖ **LINK** receiving food at Trinity Presbyterian Church at 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon;
- ❖ **Community of Faith UMC Food Pantry** at 13224 Franklin Farm Road, Herndon;
- ❖ **Cornerstones**, receiving food at the 11484 Washington Plaza West, Reston, and
- ❖ **South Lakes High School PTSA Food Pantry**, will receive food from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 1133 Reston Ave, Herndon.

Last year, over 400 scouts and 300 adult leaders collected 38,978 pounds of food in the Powhatan District covering Great Falls, Herndon, Reston, Oakton, and Chantilly.

made an effort to show their appreciation to PFC Carter for his actions."

For all these reasons, said Burrow, Carter was deserving of being named Officer of the Quarter. At the CAC meeting, Lt. John Lieb, the assistant station commander, also praised Carter, noting that the officer "checked on the woman in the hospital for five days and showed compassion and empathy for her family."

Carter Honored

FROM PAGE 10

the husband, and multiple citizens exiting their home to see what was going on."

Due to Carter's actions, she wrote, the emergency personnel "were able to regain a pulse on the woman and transported her to Inova Fairfax Hospital. Both fire and rescue personnel, as well as the citizens on scene,

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Diffusing But Still Losing



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And not too proud or embarrassed to admit it. Although it's hardly an AA-type situation where I'm also powerless against its pull, I am nonetheless acknowledging my weakness. With five cats living exclusively indoors - under one roof in approximately 1700 square feet, the ruckus is non stop. Trying to integrate into an animal-family unit an older pair of siblings, a single female and a new pair of siblings, has not been easy. Granted, we haven't exactly followed the presumptive advice cat whisperer Jackson Galaxy might have recommended: slowly introducing and acquainting the various cats to one another and into shared areas of the house. Unfortunately, we're way past being able to undo any inadvertent psychological animal trauma we may have caused. Though our house remains standing with relatively minor impact, there does appear to be a path forward to possibly upend the "territorializing" that goes on when new cats are added to a household where older cats have already taken up residence - and staked their claims. The answer is a product called "Feliway." Or so I hope, and have been led to believe - by my wife, Dina.

"Feliway" is a retail product we are now buying online from Chewys, the online pet superstore. It is similar in design and application to a plug-in room freshener. There's a part which plugs into an electrical socket: the diffuser, and another part, a liquid which is inserted into the diffuser. This heated up liquid is supposed to release a sort of calming vibe throughout the house and promote peace among the warring cat factions. Moreover, it's supposed to prevent fighting, staring, posturing and chasing. So far, three-plus months or so into it, the results are mixed. The cat mood in the house seems occasionally tranquil with cats coexisting and tolerating. Though nobody is making new friends, there does seem to be some allowances from some cats for other cats to sometimes occupy similar/familiar spaces. And it's only apparent to us that this is happening when it's not happening. And by that I mean, when our supply of diffuser refills run out - and we don't immediately replace them with new. Then there seems to be an upset/upheaval of sorts among the various cat groups. The cat groups being Andrew and Sloane, the oldest siblings and longest living in the house; Twinkle, the middle cat and not part of a pair; and the newest additions, siblings Louie and Mia. The siblings get along with one another perfectly well, but when any other group appears, aside from feeding time (we feed the three groups in separate rooms in an attempt to keep the peace) when the fighting is minimal, chaos usually ensues. And since diplomacy does not work, Dina and I are forever reacting to the sound of a cat screaming, locating it and running off to protect/prevent any unnecessary fistcuffs (invoking one of my fathers' expressions from my youth). Since we're reacting, we're usually too late, but we do what little we can and try to comfort whomever seems the most distressed.

As a consequence, I am constantly on the phone with Chewy buying diffusers and diffuser refills, and/or checking the fluid levels of the in-home diffuser refills trying to determine how much time/relative peace we may have until war breaks out. It seems unlikely that we'll have enough diffusers in the house, or have enough refills in inventory, to maintain the calm. Quite frankly, we're running out of electrical outlets in which to plug in the diffusers. Our house is over 250-years old and aside from limited closet space, there are also minimal electrical outlets. Throw in the number of outlets which are already being used for non-Feliway uses: lamps, television, stereo, miscellaneous other electrical appliances, and then consider that some of the outlets are old and tired and no longer working and you have a recipe for disaster, at least as far as living in a house with five cats - most of whom don't get along, is concerned. Trying to regulate the peace becomes next to impossible. Feliway may not be the answer, but I'm addicted nonetheless. Their products are all I think about; morning, afternoon and evening.

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



Examining the engine of this 1966 Ford Mustang are (from left) Eric Stiegmann and the car's owner, Sylvain Mora.

Public Safety Cadets (high-school students) hand out police "swag" at the police-recruitment table.



(From left) Saurabh Kumar, son Rohan, 3, and wife Richa pose by a 1958 Lister Recreation. Centreville's Bob Williams built it from scratch.



This flashy vehicle is a replica of the DeLorean from the movie, "Back to the Future."

Cool Cars, Cops, Cruisers and Community

Fairfax County police recently hosted an evening Cops & Cars Community Cruise-In, outside the Chantilly Walmart.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION



Dressed as Star Wars Imperial Navy characters are 501st Legion Inferno Squad members (from left) Neil Umayam, son Scott, 13 (with the Galactic Academy), Felix Tao and Whitby Miller.