# CONJECTION Reston\*Herndon\*Chantilly\*Centre View



Farmers Market

Fun Days in Herndon

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### News

### Town of Herndon Recognized for Commitment to Veteran Recruitment

he Commonwealth of Virginia's Department of Veteran Services named the Town of Herndon a certified employer for its commitment to recruiting, hiring, training, and maintaining employment of Virginia's veterans. Governor Glenn Youngkin issued and presented the certification to the town on July 1, 2022.

Herndon earned certification by completing requirements developed by Virginia Values Veterans (V3), a veteran services department program that promotes hiring veterans among Virginia organizations. Its mission is

to increase awareness of veteran recruitment resources available to employers; work with employers toward achieving veteran hiring goals; and serve as a clearing house to distribute best practices in veteran recruitment and retention.

"The discipline, work ethic, and inspired leadership skills instilled in veterans are tremendously beneficial in the workforce," said Sheila Olem, mayor of the Town of Herndon. "V3 certification signals to veterans... (and) to their spouses and families, that Herndon is committed to their career success and advancement."

Herndon's V3 certification comes amid a tight labor market and specialized job requirements. The town's Human Resources Department has been creative and resourceful in meeting these challenges, including creating a full-time position focused on recruitment and targeting groups likely to qualify for town employment. Visit Herndon-va.gov/careers for more information.

Human Resources Generalist Brendan Butler and Human Resources Director Tanya Kendrick received the V3 certificate on behalf of the Town of Herndon.



### FCPS Laptops Stolen; Local Man Charged

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

airfax County police have charged a Centreville man and two Fairfax County Public Schools employees in connection with a crime involving the theft of some 35,000 laptop computers. The Centreville resident is Fadi Atiyeh, 36.

According to police, detectives from the Major Crimes Bureau's Criminal Investigation Division were notified in March that several thousand FCPS laptops were believed to have been illegally real-located. They say these computers have an estimated value of more than \$2 million.

These laptops were stored at a warehouse in the 6800 block of Industrial Road in Springfield and were slated to be auctioned. But instead, say police, they were diverted to a computer-recycling business in Loudoun County. Doing surveillance at the warehouse, detectives observed a box truck going there many times and were

able to identify it as being registered to Attyah Computer Recycling of Ashburn.

"The driver of the truck would not exit the vehicle, nor provide the necessary paperwork required to receive auctioned goods," said police. "Laptops and computer parts would be loaded into the truck, and the driver would leave. Through investigation, two warehouse employees were identified as facilitating the unlawful transactions."

On the morning of July 14, de-

tectives saw the truck arrive at the location, as usual. But this time, they conducted a traffic stop and allegedly found stolen laptops inside the vehicle. They arrested the driver, Atiyeh, and charged him with receiving stolen property and larceny with the intent to distribute.

Detectives determined that Atiyeh was employed by Attyah Computer Recycling. They then executed a search warrant at the business and recovered additional evidence.

Later that day, police also arrested two warehouse employees, Franque Minor II, 35, of Maryland,

and Mario Jones Jr., 21, of Woodbridge. Both men – who were FCPS employees – were charged with embezzlement and larceny with the intent to distribute.

Meanwhile, detectives continue to comb through a significant amount of evidence to determine the extent of the embezzlement. They believe the offenses date back to November 2020.

Anyone with information about this crime is asked to call detectives at 703-256-8035. Tips may also be submitted anonymously via Crime Solvers by phoning 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

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# NEWS

## 'When Trust Is Broken'

### Greenbriar East Elementary health aide charged with stealing students' medication.

By Bonnie Hobbs The Connection

school health aide at Chantilly's Greenbriar East Elementary (GBE) was indicted last week on 11 criminal charges. Fairfax County police say Jennifer Carpenter, 45, of Chantilly, allegedly stole students' medications for herself and swapped them for other types of pills.

Some of these medications were narcotics – including Ritalin, Adderall, and Focalin - all commonly used to treat ADHD (attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder). As a result of these drugs being diverted, say police, the students were deprived of their medication aimed at improving their attention in class.

"As parents, we have an expectation that a person in a position of trust will care for our children," said Capt. Frederick Chambers, commander of the police department's Criminal Investigations Division. "When that trust is broken, we can feel betrayed."

During the school day, Carpenter – then employed by the county Health Department - was responsible for maintaining and administering the prescription medication kept at GBE for several students requiring it. However, on May 27, detectives from the

Criminal Investigations Division began investigating after a Health Department supervisor noticed a discrepancy in the amount of medication at the school.

"Detectives determined Carpenter was [reportedly] falsifying documentation on medication she gave students," say police. "They believe she was [allegedly] dispensing sugar placebo pills and/or over-the-counter medicine in place of the prescribed narcotics. Detectives believe Carpenter was keeping the scheduled narcotics, which included [the ADHD medications] for personal use."

During the investigation, detectives identified seven students whose medicine was being abused. Last Monday, July 18, a detective provided testimony before a Grand Jury, which led to Carpenter's indictment.

She was indicted on seven counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor; one count of unlawful possession of a controlled substance, Methylphenidate (Ritalin); one count of unlawful possession of a controlled substance, Amphetamine/Dextroamphetamine (Adderall); one count of obtaining drugs by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, embezzlement or subterfuge; and one count of unlawful dispensing of a drug in place of another one, without permission of the person ordering/prescribing it.

"Thanks to the swift notification of the



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Greenbriar East Elementary School in Chantilly.

health department and schools, our detectives were able to immediately begin their investigation when the discrepancy was noticed," said Chambers. "We will continue to hold anyone who abuses their position of power accountable for their actions."

Detectives are asking anyone with information about this case to please call 703-591-0966. Tips may also be submitted anonymously via Crime Solvers by phoning 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477)

According to Commonwealth's Attorney Steve Descano, Carpenter allegedly took these medications prescribed to children by their doctors and used them for herself over a five-month period. If she's eventually convicted of all charges, she could receive a potential maximum sentence of more than 32 years in prison and up to \$25,000 in fines.

"It is a gross breach of trust and safety when something like this happens, and we are committed to acting swiftly to ensure our children are protected," said Descano. "This situation could have easily evolved into a medical emergency for any of the children affected."

"Parents and their children depended on and trusted this individual to provide necessary medical care," he continued. "As always, we will seek accountability and a path forward for the victims and their fam-

# Disturbing Video of Police Shooting

Police release video of police shooting death of Reston man at Springfield Town Center; chief defends officers' actions.

The Connection

olice hoped to apprehend Christian Parker, 37, before he entered his car parked outside Springfield Town Center.

"Best case scenario; we get him before he even gets into that car," said Fairfax County Police Department Chief Kevin Davis.

But the seconds that permitted Parker to get into his car as police vehicles blocked his car from both sides also gave Parker time to reveal a Glock semi automatic pistol, a weapon officers knew he had stolen from his brother, pointed at a family member, and discharged www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

By Ken Moore in their parent's Reston home four days before.

> "Obviously, he was in some type of crisis," said Davis.

> Parker was the first of two men shot and killed by the police in apparent mental health crises. Police shot and killed Jasper Aaron Lynch, 26, in a McLean home on

Police's fugitive task force made apprehending him a priority, Davis said. Officers knew he and his car were outside the Springfield Town Center on June 30, 2022.

"It's an absolute priority of the Fairfax County Police Department to take that person into custody because he remains a danger to



Fairfax County police officers with guns drawn approaching Chris-

### "They're begging him to drop his gun and he just doesn't."

-Kevin Davis, Fairfax County Police Chief

himself, and his family and others. It was a priority for us to find him and apprehend him," said Davis last week at a press conference on July 22, 2022.

Three officers who surrounded

Parker's car ordered Parker to drop

"Hands, hands, show me your hands," they said. "Put your hands in the air."

"Put your hands in the air, I will

shoot you," an officer warned.

"Gun, gun, he's got a gun," they warned each other.

"Drop your gun, drop your gun," said another.

"You're going to get shot," said

First-Class Daniel Houtz and Officer Ryan Sheehan discharged their firearms, according to police reports. PFC Houtz is an eight-year veteran of the Franconia Police District Station and OFC Sheehan is a two-year veteran of the Mount Vernon Police District Station. Both officers were assigned to the Summer Crime Initiative Team.

Police called Fire and Rescue, and after determining Parker was no longer a threat, broke into the car and attempted to render aid. Parker died at the scene.

"They're begging him to drop his gun and he just doesn't," said

In Fairfax County, police re-

SEE POLICE SHOOTING, PAGE 5 Oak Hill/Herndon / Reston / Chantilly Connection / Centre View & July 27 - August 2, 2022 & 3

### COMMUNITY



Drew Blue Shoes and his interactive magical show is the second of seven once-a-week Farmers Market Fun Days in the Town of Herndon through August 18.



The second of seven once-a-week Farmers Market Fun Days in the Town of Herndon happened July 14, featuring Drew Blue Shoes and his interactive magical miracles.



(from left) Emily Raval of Vienna with her infant son and the Doak family of Herndon

# Farmers Market Fun Days 'On' in Herndon

# Come for the market, a walk through the Red Caboose, and Market Fun Days.

Mercia Hobson
The Connection

he much-loved Town of Herndon Farmers Market Fun Days are back every Thursday from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. at the Town Hall Square, located at 730 Station Street, thanks to Herndon Parks & Recreation. Department. Free and open to the public, the July 14 fun day featured Drew Blue Shoes executing his interactive magical miracles, slights of hand, and showmanship. "I'm going to perform a magic show which includes lots of surprises, souvenirs, and magical feats. I'm excited to be back

here in the Town of Herndon," Drew said.

The Leber family of Herndon came because the older son "heard it was magic." Nearby, Kelsey Doak of Herndon said, "We came to meet up with friends and have some fun outside in the summer under the shade (of the big tree)." Thank goodness it is here; we need it today." The Doak family was there with the Raval family of Vienna, mom Emily, and her infant son.

The Herndon Farmers Market Fun Days run through Aug. 18. Check the town website for the performance lineup. https://www.herndon-va.gov/recreation/program-classes/performing-arts-series



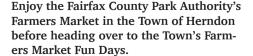
A crowd settles under the big tree on the Town Hall Square, ready for Farmers Market Fun Days.



The Leber family of Herndon with Nana



The Hoffmann family of Herndon (far right) wait in line to go inside the Red Caboose after visiting the Farmers Market and before walking over to the Town's Farmers Market Fun Days.



4 Oak Hill/Herndon / Reston / Chantilly Connection / Centre View July 27 - August 2, 2022

# **OPINION**

# Life and Struggles after Roe

Delegate Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum

he history of our country has been one of ever-evolving rights and freedom to fulfill the promises contained in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. The one notable exception occurred last month when the Supreme Court over-

turned the Roe v Wade decision of almost 50 years ago that had given women some control over their reproductive health decisions. It was, as so many have cried out in horror, the first time the Supreme Court had taken back a right that had been granted to citizens! The decision was concurred in by justices who had lied to get confirmed in their positions by saying that the issue of abortion was settled law.

Vice President Kamala Harris came to Virginia last Saturday to hold a roundtable discussion with state legislators and community organization members on the steps that need to be taken to overcome the ramifications of this unfortunate Supreme Court decision. She



was adamant that the administration was going to be taking all the steps it could to get the standards in the original Roe decision to be written into federal law and to protect those innocent victims who in the meantime would be hurt by the reversal. She is also encouraging states to take action to protect women and their rights to control their own health care decisions. I was honored to

be part of the discussion. The public part of the roundtable can be viewed at https://youtu.be/fdrnGwCcSYs

Virginia women legislators provided pointed testimony that their own daughters would have fewer rights than they did in growing up. At a time when women are achieving such incredible success in the business and political worlds this setback was unwarranted. A majority of members of the Democratic caucus in the House of Delegates are women. Virginia is the first state in the South to be a safe haven for abortion. That came about when Democrats controlled the legislature and the governorship. It has not always been so.

In the half century since the Roe v Wade decision, the Republicans in the state put into place a number of measures designed to make it more difficult for a woman to get an abortion since they could not prohibit it outright. There was the requirement for an ultrasound examination that medical doctors testified was unnecessary, but the requirement was passed anyway along with waiting periods and counseling requirements. Already 15 states have passed laws to ban abortions, and the governor in Virginia has indicated support for a ban after 15 weeks without exceptions for rape, incest, or health of the mother

In the years I have been in the legislature I have heard incredibly moving testimony as to why abortion as an option must be left in place. Real stories of rape and incest told by the victims, fetal abnormalities, and health threats to women are realities as well as the myriad of circumstances that women face in making decisions about their reproductive health — all of this makes it clear that the government must not make the decisions for them. Support and vote for candidates for office that will keep Virginia the safe haven that it is for women and their reproductive health decisions.

# Disturbing Video of Police Shooting

From Page 3

lease body worn camera footage within 30 days of a police involved shooting except when to do so would interfere with the investigation.

"The officers were faced with a very dangerous situation," said Davis. "They are protecting the community, they are dealing with a person who is armed and dangerous, and they are in a crowded shopping center parking lot filled with mothers, fathers and children," said Davis.

"I think these officers did the very best they could," he said.

Civilian members of police oversight groups have called for the chief of police to maintain a neutral position on police actions until after the internal affairs and police auditor investigations are complete.

TACTICAL POSITIONING is a tool police use to try to prevent officer-involved shootings, using time and space to de-escalate situations involving mental health crises.

But in this case, concerns about families walking in the parking lot prevented that approach, Davis said

"If we were to have backed up or if we were to have tactically repositioned ourselves, retreated, it would have afforded him the www.ConnectionNewspapers.com opportunity to do a number of different things that would have been very dangerous to the community at large," Davis said.

"There were many, many civilians who were walking right by this scene as it unfolded," Davis said. "It could have been a much much more dramatic situation if he got out of the car with a gun."

**POLICE SHOOTING** video "is never pretty, especially when somebody's life is lost," said Davis.

Police released body worn camera and dash cam footage; viewers were warned that the footage could be disturbing.

Davis said: "There now exists an absolute expectation that police chiefs do two things that we never before were afforded the capacity to do," he said. "Number one, provide an assessment regarding the performance and conduct of police actions in real time and, number two, publicly release body worn camera footage to the community and to the media in a timely manner."

There have been four officer involved shootings in 2022, even though the yearly average has been 1.5 a year the last decade, and last year there was only one, Davis said. Three of the four incidents this year involved people in mental health crises, including Parker.

"That's not lost on us," said Davis.
Davis was asked if a mental
health clinician could have been
on scene. He said they are working
in a co-responder model with mental health clinicians.

But in this case, Davis said, a clinician would not have been used because of the danger of the situation.

Supervisor Rodney Lusk held a July 21 virtual town hall meeting on public safety to discuss recent police activity and concerns by residents.

A criminal investigation into the use of force is being conducted by the Major Crimes Bureau. The offi-

cers have been placed on restricted duty pending the outcome of an administrative investigation by the Internal Affairs Bureau.

An independent review will be conducted by the Fairfax County Independent Police Auditor, Richard G. Schott. The Office of the Independent Police Auditor was established by the Board of Supervisors on the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, in the wake of the police shooting death of John Geer of Springfield in August 2013. The recommendations of the commission also led to the timeline for release of information.

### Let Us Know Your View

Connection Newspapers welcomes views on any public issue. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers; we will only print your name and town name. Letters are routinely edited for length, libel, grammar, good taste, civility and factual errors.

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### **Questions?**

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### CALENDAR



The DuPont Brass will perform at McLean Central Park on Sunday, July 31, 2022 in McLean

### WEDNESDAY/JULY 27

Town Hall Meeting. 6:30 p.m. At 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The Great Falls Grange Foundation will host a Town Hall Meeting open to the public at the Grange. Come and learn about all the exciting things happening there. Board members will provide an update on investments, introduce the new program director and announce an expansion of board members. Email info@grange.org.

### **JULY 28-AUG. 7**

The Logan Festival of Solo Performance. Presented by 1st Stage of Tysons. In the show, "Tomatoes Tried to Kill Me but Banjos Saved My Life" by Keith Alessi, Keith tells the story of his boyhood, meteoric rise in the boardroom, and the startling news that changed his life forever. He candidly reveals how he used that obstacle to find a new passion in music and a cathartic outlet in storytelling. It will run on July 29 at 8 p.m., July 30 and 31 at 2 p.m., and on August 2 at 7:30 p.m.

In "Spanking Machine" by Marga Gomez, Marga

In "Spanking Machine" by Marga Gomez, Marga performs her by turns funny, intense, and heart-rending memoir of growing up brown and queer in Washington Heights. Devil Dogs, sadistic nuns on poppers, childhood pranks, assault, and suppressed memory play their parts in Marga's shift across gender, latitudes, and generations. It will run on August 3 at 7:30 p.m., August 5 and 6 at 8 p.m., and August 7 at 2 p.m.

"Wanda's Way" by Caleen Sinnette Jennings is the first of 1st Stage's Commissions of Solo Work to premiere at the Logan Festival. Based on real interviews, Wanda's Way explores the journey of a Black female police officer as she explains how and why she got into law enforcement. This intricately woven tale is one of corrupted dreams, seemingly impenetrable systems, and the extreme consequences of both acting and failing to act. It will run on July 28 at 7:30 p.m., July 30 at 8 p.m., July 31 at 7 p.m., August 4 at 7:30 p.m., and August 6 at 2 p.m.

Visit www.1stStage.org or by calling the 1st Stage box office at 703-854-1856.

### THURSDAY/JULY 28

Seth Kibel & The Kleztet. 7:30 p.m. At Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. The Alexandria Kleztet is a genre-bending klezmer band founded by Seth Kibel in the Baltimore/ Washington area. Kibel was named "Best World Music Instrumentalist" by WAMA every year from 2003 through 2011. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) for inclement weather updates.

### FRIDAY/JULY 29

"Cruella" Movie. 7 p.m. At Tysons Corner Center, www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

McLean. Part of the Outdoor Family Movie Night on the last Friday of the month. Make sure to bring your chairs and blankets for a movie under the stars! Complimentary popcorn and soft drinks will be provided (while supplies last).

### FRIDAY/JULY 29

"The History of the African American Spiritual" with Calvin Earl. 7 p.m. At The Alden
Theater, McLean Community Center, 1234
Ingleside Ave., McLean. Presented in partnership with the Fairfax County Public Library.
Singer-songwriter, guitarist, storyteller and
activist Calvin Earl is a champion of the
African American spiritual and has devised
this program about the history and legacy of
how enslaved Africans in America created an
original music known today as African American spirituals. Created in the cotton fields of
the Old South, it is the foundation of many
popular American music genres.

### SUNDAY/JULY 31

Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. At the Village Centre Green, Great Falls. Featuring Hit or Miss - Classic folk and rock songs from the '60s, '70s, and today

Hosted by TD Bank, Great Falls. Come relax at the Village Centre Green and enjoy laid-back evenings of good music and good times with your neighbors.

### SUNDAY/JULY 31

DuPont Brass Performs. 3 p.m. At McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean. DuPont Brass is a unique, soulful brass ensemble hailing from the DMV. Originally composed of five Howard University music majors working to raise money for tuition, the rising supergroup now tours nationally and has developed a sound that mixes varied genres of music, including jazz, hip-hop and R&B.

### AUG. 4-7

4-H Fair and Carnival. At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road

Herndon. The carnival runs 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Big Truck Night is Friday from 5-7 p.m. The 4-H Static and Animal exhibits run Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Educational Community Tables run 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

### SUNDAY/AUG. 7

Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. At the Village Centre Green, Great Falls. Featuring The Oxymorons - New Orleans funk, soulful blues, Americana roots and classic rock. Hosted by Bic DeCaro & Associates, eXp Realty. Come relax at the Village Centre Green and enjoy laid-back evenings of good music and good times with your neighbors.



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### No Guessing



### By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm having a difficult time this week finding a topic to write about. I don't think it's writer's block, although after nearly 25 years a of publishing columns, I imagine it's possible. No, the problem is that the topic I want to write about weekly, whether it's cancer related or not, is what I feel. And this week, what I feel, I can't write about out of respect for the subject. I just can't discuss it publicly. I can only deal with it privately. If it were about me/my health, I'd feel free to elaborate. But it's not. And so, writing about what I couldn't write about seemed like a compromise of sorts. Given the intensity of my feelings right now, it would be impossible for me to write about anything else other than what I'm not writing about. I hope you all understand. If not, see this space in the future for an update. I'll try to be more clear next

Not that you all read my column for breaking news or Jack Anderson-type muckraking, but I know you expect honesty. And in this column, I am being honest. I just can't talk about what I'm not being honest about. I can only admit to remaining silent, on the advice of counsel you might say, and try to write between the lines in a way that communicates to you regular readers the weight I'm carrying. Though I am not alone is this burden, I can only mention, indirectly, how it's affecting me.

My late father used to say about me that I have broad shoulders, that I can take it. Well, the subject that I'm not talking about this week will definitely test my father's very reassuring assertion about his baby son. And in an odd way, though his statement goes back more than 20 years (he's been deceased since Dec. '06 and suffered his first stroke approximately 18 months prior), it's helpful to repeat it to myself and to write about it as well. Because what it is I'm not writing about is the fear of the unknown.

The unknown to which I vaguely refer is future feelings. I'm not exactly worried per se, as I've held up pretty well over these last 13 and a half years of being a cancer patient, and one who might have been misdiagnosed at that; and previous to my diagnosis, having both my parents die within two years of one another. Still, life goes on and it has gone on so I'd like to believe it will continue to go on even if this worst-case scenario plays out and reaches its ultimate end.

I remember when my father, the first of my parents to die, finally succumbed to his illness/age (he was 87). I was nervous and afraid how I'd respond, how I'd live my life without one of the most important influences in it. I survived it. But I think I survived it because my mother (another major influence in my life) was still alive, as she was for another two years until she succumbed to her illness/age (she was 86). However, when she died, my brother Richard I became orphans, as it were. That feeling of finality, the end of an era, both parents being deceased, never quite leaves you. There's always a missing piece, but it is sort of the natural progression of things, so over time, at least for my brother and I, you find a place for your grief and eventually wonderful memories come flooding back and you smile when you think

Well, I'm trying to smile now. That's all I'm not going to say.

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

### COMMUNITY



Joy: "Even in Hard Times, You Can Find Joy" is about finding happiness, despite the pandemic.

# Sacred Threads Quilts Evoke Strong Emotions

his is Part II of the recent Sacred Threads quilt exhibition at Floris United Methodist Church in Oak Hill. These photos depict the themes of peace and brotherhood, spirituality, joy, grief and healing.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/ THE CONNECTION



Grief: "Sea Level Rise" shows a coastal city crumbling, the ocean overtaking it, and fish swimming peacefully afterward.



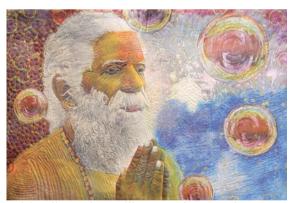
Healing: "COVID-19 Hope Quilt" is in remembrance of medical personnel, first responders and others who died during the pandemic.



Joy: "Give Thanks.



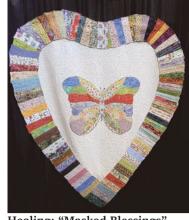
Grief: "Transformation" depicts this quilter's late husband becoming free of pain and soaring with the birds.



Spirituality: "Chant" illustrates how music enables people to become more aware of the divine.



Healing: "Free at Last" honors the lives lost to COVID-19.



Healing: "Masked Blessings" incorporates masks this quilter made for others during the pandemic.



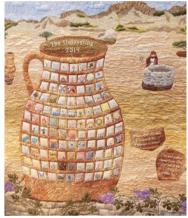
Spirituality: "Rootedness."



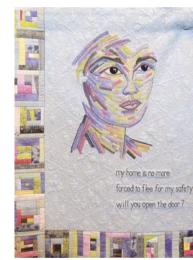
Spirituality: "Goddess Emerging from the Dreamtime" shows feminine movements and wisdom via a Greek Key design.



Grief: "Wish You Were Here" is a tribute to the quilter's deceased husband.



Spirituality: In "The Vision," the mosaics on this clay jar symbolize God's power in people's lives.



Peace & Brotherhood: "Sharbat" depicts an Afghan refugee named Sharbat and her plea for asylum.



Spirituality: "Love, Power, Joy"