

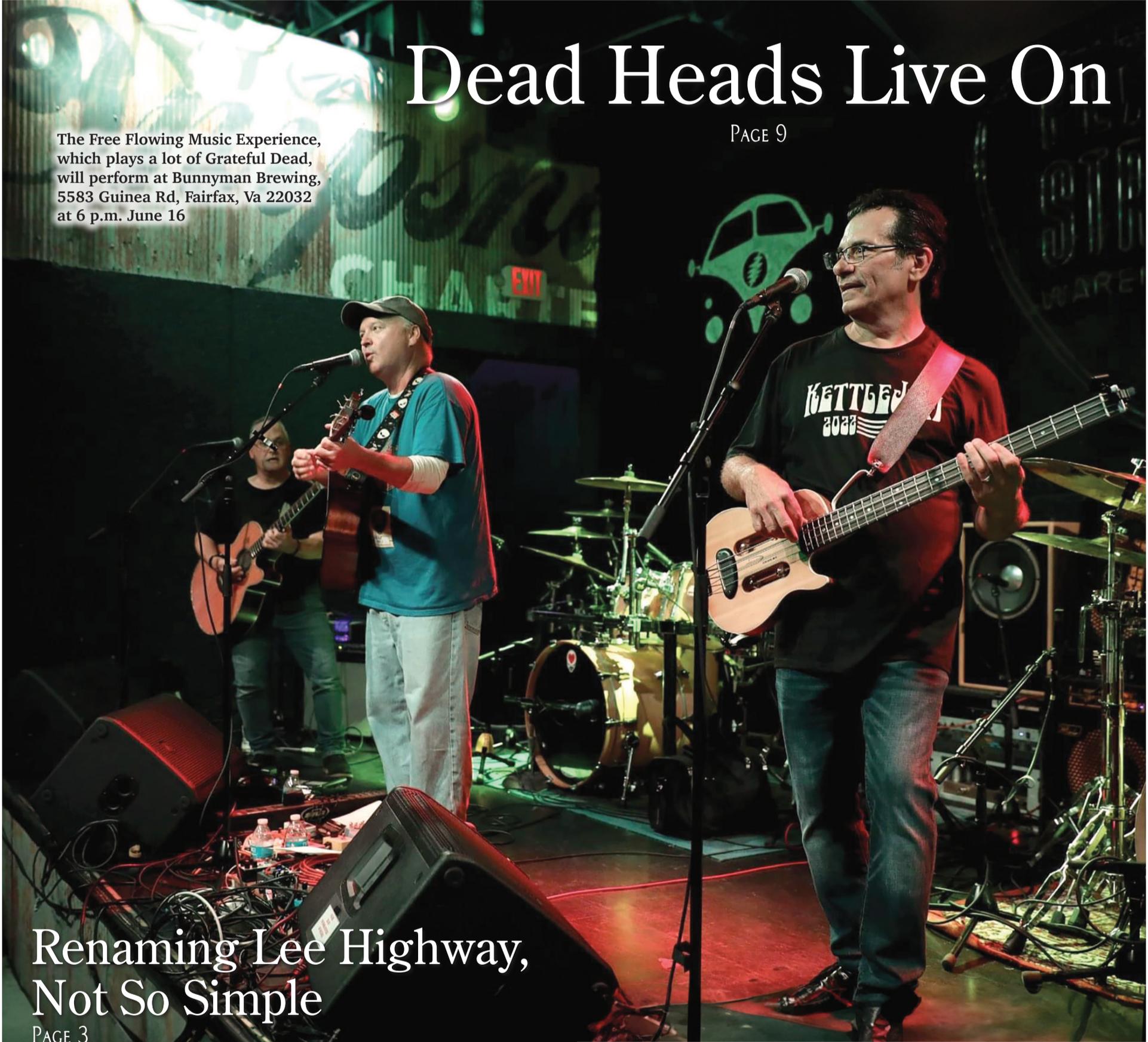
# CONNECTION

Burke ♦ Fairfax ♦ Springfield ♦ Fairfax Station

## Dead Heads Live On

PAGE 9

The Free Flowing Music Experience, which plays a lot of Grateful Dead, will perform at Bunnyman Brewing, 5583 Guinea Rd, Fairfax, Va 22032 at 6 p.m. June 16



## Renaming Lee Highway, Not So Simple

PAGE 3

## Honoring Long Hours, Late Nights

PAGE 4

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:  
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL.  
REQUESTED IN HOME 06-02-23

PRSRRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EASTON, MD  
PERMIT #322

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FREE FLOWING MUSIC EXPERIENCE  
OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

JUNE 1-7, 2023

ONLINE AT [WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

## NEWS

# Fairfax, Woodson High Nominated for Cappies

The local high schools have a long reputation for outstanding theater productions, and Fairfax and Woodson have just received a total of 14 Cappies nominations. Under Director Chris Whitney, Fairfax High's eight nods were for its musical, "Sister Act." Directed by Chris Rushing, Woodson High's six nods were for its play, "One Man, Two Guvnors."

The Cappies Gala will be Monday, June 12, at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., at which time the winners will be revealed. Westfield, Centreville and Chantilly students are competing for these awards against students from many other schools in the National Capital Area.

## Fairfax's nominations

Isabella Jackson – Lead Actor, Female Role in a Musical  
Best Song – "Take Me to Heaven" (Reprise)  
Ensemble in a Musical – Convent Nuns

Johanna Carroll, Taehyun Lee, John Mark Perry – Lighting  
Choreography – Logan Baker, Victoria Collins-Jost

Orchestra – "Sister Act" orchestra  
Jake Bae, orchestra conductor – Creativity  
Victoria Collins-Jost, Sydney Grossbard, Caroline Vigna, Kaylee Williams – Marketing and Publicity

## Woodson's nominations

Diya Selvan – Lead Actor, Male Role in a Play  
Silas Blocker – Featured Actor, Male Role in a Play  
Charlotte Willmore – Featured Actor, Female Role in a Play  
Peter Gardner – Comic Actor, Male Role in a Play  
Farooq Khan – Supporting Actor, Male Role in a Play  
Lea Mills, Will Shin, Nico Uy – Props

— BONNIE HOBBS



Event logo

# Fairfax City's First Pride Event is June 3

Get ready for an evening of fun and festivities. Fairfax City's Parks and Rec Department and GMU are partnering to present the City's first-ever Pride event. It's planned for this Saturday, June 3, from 5-10 p.m., at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive in Fairfax. All are invited and welcome to attend.

Pride is celebrated all year, but especially in June, as a time to reflect and celebrate both the progress and the people of the LGBTQIA+ community. Fairfax City's free event will kick off on the second floor of Old Town Hall, from 5-7

p.m., with informational vendors from both GMU and Northern Virginia, as well as children's activities, such as face-painting, fairy hair and crafts.

The rest of the entertainment will be on the first floor. At 6:30 p.m., attendees will be welcomed by both Fairfax City and GMU representatives to commemorate this new celebration. Then, from 7-10 p.m., the fun will continue with a Pride dance party, with several drag queens performing throughout the evening.

— BONNIE HOBBS

**Same Company, Same Employees,  
Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!**

## TWO POOR TEACHERS Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed  
Since 1999



**10% down**  
nothing until the job  
is complete for the  
past 17 years

**Free Estimates 703-999-2929**

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level  
<http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

**Visit our website: [www.twopoorteachers.com](http://www.twopoorteachers.com)**

**Sign up for  
FREE DIGITAL  
SUBSCRIPTION**  
to any or all of our 15 papers  
[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE)

# State Highways Officially Renamed

State decision snagged a month ago.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The Commonwealth Transportation Board approved renaming portions of U.S. Route 29 (Lee Highway) and U.S. Route 50 (Lee Jackson Memorial Highway) in Fairfax County. They are officially renamed “Rt. 29” and “Rt. 50” as of Wednesday, May 24. But the approval vote for the name change almost didn’t happen.

“We don’t get to go back and change our history, but we do get to decide what in our history we want to celebrate and what we don’t want to celebrate,” McKay said to CTB members at their meeting in Charlottesville on May 24 before they voted.

The final step in the multi-year process was snagged unexpectedly last month at the April 19 meeting of the CTB in Bristol. Despite staff recommendations for approval of the highway name changes, the CTB delaying action until May 24 so further information could be accessed.

Some members of the governor-appointed 17-member board expressed concerns at both the April 19 and May 24 meetings with statements ranging from questioning if a number is a name, if there is a policy in the code for such a request, if Fairfax County’s public wanted the names changed, and if renaming the highways was erasing history. W. Sheppard Miller III, Secretary of Transportation, is chair of the CTB.

Commonwealth Transportation Board Meeting: April 19, 2023

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors had requested that the CTB rename a portion of U.S. Route 29, Lee Highway, located within the county’s boundaries, to “Route 29” and rename a portion of U.S. Route 50, Lee-Jackson Memorial Highway, to “Route 50,” also within its boundaries. The request, made in compliance with § 33.2-213 of the Code of Virginia, was conveyed through resolutions passed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on Sept. 13, 2022, and a letter dated March 8, 2023, to the CTB. Fairfax County had also agreed to cover the expenses of creating, displaying, and maintaining the signs that would draw attention to the new names.

Kevin Gregg, chief of maintenance and operation, confirmed to the CTB on April 19 that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted the two resolutions. “Code of Virginia 33.2-213 requires a majority of the CTB members to approve a resolution naming a highway or bridge as appropriate,” Gregg said. He added that VDOT was “aware of some opposition to this proposal. ... VDOT recommends this request be approved,” Gregg said.

Opposition to this proposal had been cited in the public feedback from the Confederate Names Task Force’s online and written survey responses. The state code for renaming

highways does not require a survey.

During the discussion by CTB members, Thomas Moore Lawson (At-Large Rural) brought forward his concern about suitable names for state highways, for which the code provides “a very detailed and easy-to-follow process for naming after State officials.”

“This one, for this board member, is new and different ... than commemorative naming,” said Lawson. “I have an issue with thinking of a number as a suitable name as defined in the code.”

E. Scott Kasprowicz (At-Large Urban) said that one of the requirements would be that they, Fairfax County, pay for the costs of the changes they initiated.

Bert Dodson Jr. (Lynchburg District) said, “The worst thing that could happen, in my opinion, is that the survey surfaces in the press after we make a decision.” Dodson requested delaying a month. “It is not going to change anything in relation to the information they’ve already given us if we have all the information in front of us.”

Mary Hughes Hynes (Northern Virginia District) said, “I am a bit surprised ... we would second guess the duly elected body by the people of Fairfax County, who’ve gone through a process [and] made a request of us to make a change.”

The CTB approved delaying the vote until May 24 for consideration. According to the motion, W. Sheppard Miller III, Secretary of Transportation chair, would gather additional information on the statute and the board’s authority and get more information from Fairfax County.

The vote to delay led McKay to present at the May 24 CTB meeting in Charlottesville at 8:30 that morning. In an interview later that week, McKay said that when he ran into Hynes in the lobby before the meeting, she said, “We have no idea how this is going to go because we’ve never seen anything like this before.”

Commonwealth Transportation Board Meeting: May 24, 2023

The resolution for Route 29 and Route 50 name changes reflected that the County Board of Supervisors checked all the boxes according to code requirements. McKay addressed the board, saying he was at the meeting “simply to support the road naming changes that are before you for Route 50 and Route 29.” He assured the CTB mem-



Chairman Jeff McKay (D), Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, speaks at the Commonwealth Transportation Board in Charlottesville on Wednesday, May 24, 2023.



Bert Dodson Jr. (Lynchburg District)



E. Scott Kasprowicz (At-Large Urban)



W. Sheppard Miller III, Secretary of Transportation, Chair



Mary Hynes (Northern Virginia District)



Frederick T. Stant III (Hampton Roads District)



Darrell R. Byers (Culpeper District)



H. Randolph Laird (At-Large Rural)

bers that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors went through extensive outreach on this subject over multiple years. “Our board stands very strongly in support of this name change by a vote of nine to one,” McKay said.

Going back in time, McKay told how the board started the effort by creating a Confederate Names Task Force in July 2021. The task force held 11 meetings in person and virtually to gain public support and awareness.

“We had nearly 23,000 people respond to the name-changing requests, and normally when you solicit input from the public, you’re going to more likely hear from a lot of people opposed to something than for it. Yet of those 23,000 respondents, it is a pretty close call between people who supported the name change and people who opposed it,” McKay said.

He told the CTB members when they asked the respondents what they would change the name to, “overwhelmingly, the public supported simplicity, just calling them by their route numbers. which is what we as a Board of Supervisors supported, and what we’re petitioning the CTB to do is to simply

change these names to Route 29 and Route 50.”

“Cut out any future controversy or challenges with the motoring public trying to figure out all these different road names throughout our region,” McKay said. “Lord knows there are enough of them in Northern Virginia that can change multiple times ... We wanted to make sure that we weren’t further confusing people.”

McKay addressed the county’s financial support for businesses and residents along the corridor, saying the Board of Supervisors had directed money aside through a grant program to help them pay for any administrative costs they might incur in making these name changes.

“Our board is not only picking up the \$1.4 million tab for changing the signs as would be required through this process but also setting aside a million and a half dollars to help anyone who requests financial assistance...— approximately 500 residents and 900 businesses,” McKay said. He noted that Fairfax County has twice the national average share of minority-owned employers

SCREENSHOTS VIA CTB



From left are Pete Murphy and Jim Hart after the ceremony.

From left are Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner, Jim Hart and Jeff McKay.

# Honoring Long Hours and Late Nights

Fairfax County dignitaries fete Jim Hart and Pete Murphy.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

At the outset of the recent luncheon feting past Fairfax County Planning Commissioners and one leaving his chairman's post, County Executive Bryan Hill told them, "Your time with us has been well-spent and we appreciate it. This is all about the county saying thank you, and to honor these great, county residents."

Emcee of the May 4 event at the Fairview Park Marriott was the new chairman, Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner – who, as Providence District's commissioner, knows firsthand what the position entails. "Serving on the Planning Commission involves long hours, late nights and complex, controversial issues," he said. "But Planning Commissioners get the job done."

Acknowledging the packed room filled with local dignitaries – including current supervisors and commissioners, plus former Board of Supervisors Chair Kate Hanley, former Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey and former planning commissioners Ron Koch and John Litzenberger – Niedzielski-Eichner said, "They've all made profound contributions to the historical evolution of Fairfax County and also to its future."

Current Supervisors Chair Jeff McKay then noted the attention to detail that's required of the commissioners and praised their families who "supported them in their long hours on the job, away from them." This article will focus on former At-Large Planning Commissioner Jim Hart of Centreville and Burke's Pete Murphy who's still a member but has stepped down as chairman.

## Jim Hart

Niedzielski-Eichner read Hart's biography and list of accomplishments and presented him with a plaque. Hart is a 23-year member



From left are Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner, Pete Murphy with plaque and gavel, and Pat Herryty.



From left are Charlene, Cherilyn and Pete Murphy.

of the county's Board of Zoning Appeals as well, serving on it since 2000; and in 2021, he was elected vice-chairman.

Originally nominated to the Planning Commission by then Board of Supervisors Chairman (and now U.S. Rep.) Gerry Connolly in 2004, Hart was an at-large representative for 16 years, until 2020. During his tenure, he served in various capacities, including parliamentarian, secretary and vice-chairman.

Hart was formerly on the county's Board of Equalization and on the countywide Non-Motorized Trails Committee from 1994-2004. But that's not all. Before that, Hart served 10 years on the West Fairfax County Citizens Association Land-Use Committee, including as its chairman from 1998-2000. He was also president of its umbrella organization, the WFCCA, from 1996-98.

A Virginia Run resident, Hart also previously represented the Virginia Run Community Association, on the Sully District Council. And in 2016, he received a citation of merit from the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations.

An attorney, he graduated from UVA's School of Law, receiving an undergraduate degree in architecture. He's lived in the county for 40 years and, since 1998, he's been director of the law firm of Hart & Horan PC. in Fairfax City.

"I consider myself very fortunate," said Hart at the podium. "Over the years, I've been allowed to participate in all kinds of things I've never volunteered for. Kate Hanley and Michael Frey asked if I'd go on the BZA; and at some point, Gerry Connolly asked me to join the Planning Commission, too. And for 16 years, I did."

"I heard it all – lots of interesting things," continued Hart. "I learned a lot and chaired the [Commission's] Environment Committee for 13 years. I've appreciated the opportunity to work with so many fine people, including Pete – a monument. The Planning



PHOTO COURTESY OF MAX TAYLOR

From left, IDI's Enrico Cecchi; Fairfax City Councilmembers So Lim, Tom Ross and Jeff Greenfield; IDI Project Manager Patrick Rhodes; City Councilmember Billy Bates; and IDI's Carlos Cecchi.

## Flats at Boulevard VI Is Completed

The IDI Group celebrated the completion of its 137-unit condominium community, The Flats at Boulevard VI, with a May 20 cookout for its residents and Fairfax City Officials. Residents already moved into phase one of the condos, and all of phase two has now been sold.

IDI is developing Boulevard VI on 18.5 acres formerly occupied by Paul VI High School. Its plan preserves and adapts the original 1934 portion of the school building into 24,000 square feet of com-

munity and office space. The project also includes retail use, plus 115 townhouses and seven single-family homes being developed by NVR.

The lawn in front of the original school building will become a village green for hosting events. Planned, as well, are five pocket parks, including two onsite playgrounds, an outdoor fitness area, a perimeter biking/walking path, and informational signage detailing the site's history.

— BONNIE HOBBS



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Kathleen McGurk and Patrick Smith enjoying chicken dishes at last year's Beer in the 'Burbs.

## Beer in the 'Burbs, this Saturday, in Fairfax

At first glance, a beer festival with a Disney theme may seem a bit odd. But in Fairfax City, it makes perfect sense because the suds vendors will be in one area, and children's activities in another. The City's annual Beer in the 'Burbs celebration is set for Saturday, June 3, from 2-6 p.m., in Old Town Square, 10415 North St.

Besides featuring more than 15 Virginia craft breweries – including some from Fairfax City – this free, family-friendly event will also offer food trucks, live music and fun for all. Beer will cost \$3 for a 3.5-oz. taster and \$8 for a 16-ounce cup.

Fairfax City breweries participating will be Audacious Aleworks, Chubby Squirrel and Ornerly. Hailing from Chantilly will be Ono Brewing Co., and Honor Brewing Co. will come from Fairfax (just outside the City). Also there will be Lazy Dog, with locations in Chantilly and Fair Oaks, plus Caboose Brewing, which is in both Vienna and the Mosaic District.

Children's entertainment will include visits from princess characters, from 2:30-4:30 p.m., and a Disney singalong band, The Little Mermen, from 3:30-6 p.m.

— BONNIE HOBBS

## Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber Awards \$26,000 In Scholarships

BY DAVID GRIFFIN  
MOUNT VERNON SPRINGFIELD  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Thirteen scholarships were awarded to local high school students by Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber of Commerce to recognize outstanding achievement of 2023 graduating seniors planning to continue their study in a business-related field.

The 2023 Distinguished Business Scholars are Bianca Blancaflor, Lake Braddock High School; Jackson Brown, Edison High School; Lauren Cremer, Bishop Ireton High School; Julia Hopper, West Potomac High School; John Hood, Mount Vernon High School; Jada-Ane Larkin, Hayfield Secondary School; William Michael



PHOTO COURTESY OF TISARA PHOTOGRAPHY

From left, Don Cammarata, Covanta Fairfax; Mike Murphy, Mount Vernon Knights of Columbus; Laura Ridgeway, Thomas Jefferson High School; Travis Clarke, Burke & Herbert Bank; Scott Stroh III, Gunston Hall; Nicole Trejo, John Lewis High School; Julia Hopper, West Potomac High School; Bianca Blancaflor, Lake Braddock High School; Jada-Ane Larkin, Hayfield High School; Mike Meares, West Potomac High School; General Robert Jorgensen, The Fairfax; Maxwell Riggs, Hayfield Secondary School; Lauren Cremer, Bishop Ireton High School; George Ksenics, Andrews FCU; Steven Liu, Annandale High School; Alex Thalacker, Fairfax County EDA; Jackson Brown, Edison High School; Adam Peverill, Mount Vernon High School; John Hood, Mount Vernon High School.

SEE SCHOLARSHIPS, PAGE 7  
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## What Is Going On with Virginia Taxes?

BY DEL. VIVIAN WATTS

**F**irst in a series of monthly columns from Del. Vivian Watts

Virginia normally passes a two-year budget and, then, we update it going into the second year. Thus far, even though the second year starts July 1, we've only passed a few technical amendments focused on our rainy day set aside, retirement funds, and federal income tax provisions.

Why the holdup? Essentially, it started last December with a proposed \$1.4 billion-dollar permanent tax cut versus funding K-12 education and the mental health crisis. Resolving the budget has been made significantly more challenging by the federal debt ceiling standoff and efforts to control inflation.

When Gov. Glenn Youngkin proposed his tax cut, state income and sales tax revenues were running

well ahead of what was needed to balance the budget. Ever since then, monthly collections have been falling and, now, the total for the first nine months of this budget year is up just 0.6%.

The good news is that part of the drop in revenue is due to tax cuts we passed last year. Income tax refunds are way up due to increasing the standard deduction and allowing low-income working families to get the federal tax credit. As of April 1, refunds totaling over \$2.5 billion are going back to taxpayers compared to just \$1.1 billion as of April last year.

The month after month fall in state revenues since December has made Virginia Senate and House budget negotiators reluctant to agree to \$1.4 billion permanent tax cuts proposed by the Governor.



Vivian Watts

Added to that downward trend, national speculations about the impact on the economy of an unprecedented refusal to raise the federal debt ceiling are very disturbing. With 30 percent of our workforce dependent on federal spending, resultant job losses will hit Virginia harder than virtually any other state.

Just as our state revenue is affected by federal decisions, local government budgets are affected by Virginia not updating the state budget. This is particularly true for K-12 school funding. The lower the share the state ends up funding, the more pressure on the local real estate tax. In other words, cuts in the state income tax and in the corporate tax – which are taxes based on ability to pay – may well result in higher local real estate taxes.

This isn't good tax policy given real estate taxes are based on the re-sale value of the home – not on the current owner's income.

Even if the federal debt ceiling crisis is resolved, the federal budget negotiations that follow will still leave Virginia revenues in jeopardy given our military and civilian federal workforce and related private sector support. If, by July 1, Virginia budget negotiators nonetheless decide a tax cut is necessary to get a budget passed that increases funding for education and mental health, hopefully, it will be as we did last year: give all taxpayers an equal, one-time rebate. This is far preferable to the House budget that gives a permanent and sizable tax cut of \$1000 and \$1000 to those at the high end. Minimum wage workers will get nothing, most beginning teachers get \$30-\$35, and three-quarters of all other taxpayers get less than \$100.

## Fiscal Cliff Lite

DEL. KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

**F**or weeks we have been hearing the steady chatter about the fiscal crisis our country confronts as we face going over a fiscal cliff if our members of Congress and the president fail to come to some negotiated agreement on raising the debt ceiling. In the previous presidential term the debt ceiling was raised twice without fanfare as part of the accounting system our nation uses. Current circumstances, with a Democratic president and a Republican controlled House of Representatives, are just too much of an opportunity for political mischief to extract concessions from the administration and/or to make sparring points on a variety of issues—some are unrelated but meant to embarrass the administration. As I am writing this column there are indications that an agreement might be nearing. Once again, with a divided government we have been freed from the horrors of a plunge over the fiscal cliff. My hope in all this is that our most vulnerable citizens will be spared in the final compromise for in the protracted discussions their benefits were the ones most often on the chopping block. Squeezing a few more nickels from the ever-increasing billionaires in this country seemed never to be seriously discussed.

The Commonwealth of Virginia is in a fiscal situation that I hesi-

tate to call a cliff for fear that the term might catch on, and we never hear the end of it. It is somewhat like the federal situation in that the legislative and executive branches are controlled by different political parties with the ensuing gamesmanship that encourages. The two are different in that the federal government is looking to increase its debt ceiling in order to pay its bills, and the Commonwealth is looking for ways to distribute an abundance of cash. Virginia does not face an impending deadline because it is midway in a biennium budget with



Ken Plum

an additional full year already budgeted. The challenge that those who govern Virginia have is what to do with the unbudgeted amount of cash it holds.

The last General Assembly session adjourned with no agreement among the governor, House of Delegates, and State Senate as to how the budget should be modified to reflect the increased revenues the state has been receiving. The economy is much stronger in the state than it was projected to be when the budget was constructed. The state currently has a balanced budget, a

fully funded rainy-day provision, a reserve fund within the budget and a couple of billion dollars of monies unappropriated despite the needs in the state that go unmet.

It is now looking like there will not be a budget reconciliation this year. The government will continue to operate on the previously approved budget. A big consideration in the current political races is how Virginia's budget challenges are to be resolved in the coming session. While I will not be there as I am retiring, I know that strong leaders like Karen Keys-Gamarra who shares my values and possesses strong leadership skills will be able to resolve the budget in the best interest of all citizens.

**CALENDAR**

			1	2	3
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

**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.

**Send letters**

Online [www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/)  
By email: [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com)

**By mail to: Letters to the Editor The Connection**  
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314

**You can comment on our Facebook page or find us on Twitter**  
[www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers](http://www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)  
<https://twitter.com/alexgazette>  
<https://twitter.com/mtvernongazette>  
<https://twitter.com/followfairfax>

Never miss an issue, get a free digital subscription, <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe/>

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

Twitter @followfairfax

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by  
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

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

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

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

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

Mike Salmon  
Contributing Writer  
[msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com)

Ken Moore  
Contributing Writer  
[kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com)

Susan Laume  
Contributing Writer

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk  
Display Advertising/National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

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

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

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

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

**In Memoriam Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic

**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

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



# State Highways Officially Renamed

FROM PAGE 3

and minority-owned firms, at 8,000, with 85,000 employees working for those minority-owned firms.

“That is 33 percent of all of our county payroll and business taxes. So minority-owned businesses are literally the heart and soul of our reputation in Fairfax County,” McKay said.

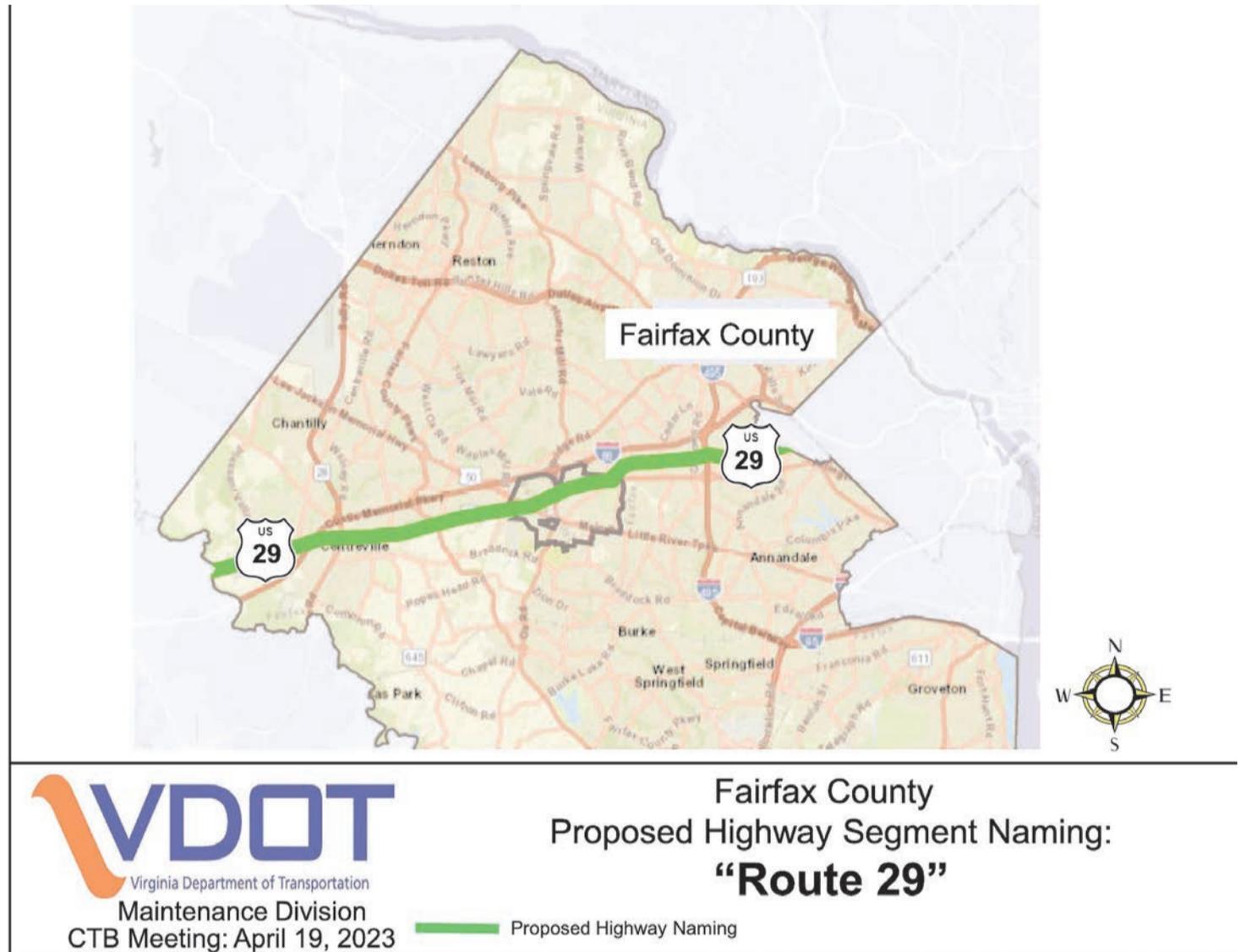
McKay said the county built an inclusive economy, the economic engine of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

“The symbols that we have, including signage right after international travelers get out of Dulles International Airport ... are not necessarily the symbols that make them feel good and make them want to invest and continue to invest in Northern Virginia. So, this was not a close call for us in terms of the right thing to do,” said McKay.

During the discussion, CTB Board member Frederick T. Stant III (Hampton Road District) said the bottom line was that he was voting in favor of the resolutions, but it was not easy.

“Various governing bodies sought to name these roadways after these Virginians to honor the memories of those Virginians, and we’re now asked to rescind that honor. I don’t have any problem with that; I think that they probably should be rescinded ... The issue is, what do you do with those memories of those Virginians? Memories are history, and we can only learn from history by not erasing it,” he said.

The CTB approved renaming the two highways to Route 29 and Route 50. Darrell R. Byers, Culpeper District, and Bert Dodson Jr., Lynchburg District, voted no.



VDOT- Fairfax County Proposed Highway Segment Naming “Route 29”

# Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber Awards \$26,000 In Scholarships

FROM PAGE 5

Meares, Mount Vernon High School; Adam Peverill, Mount Vernon High School; John Shaffer, South County High School; Laura Ridgeway, Thomas Jefferson High School; Maxwell Riggs, Hayfield Secondary School; Steven Liu, Annandale High School; and Nicole Trejo, Lewis High School.

Scott Stroh, a past Chairman of the Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber and chairman of the Chamber’s 501(c)3 foundation, opened the evening by welcoming the award recipients, their families and introducing members of the Education Partnership Board of

Directors. These directors raise the money for the scholarships and select the scholarship recipients: Scott Stroh III, Gunston Hall; Michael Bennett, Ourisman Automotive Group; Travis Clarke, Burke & Herbert Bank; Don Cammarata, Covanta Fairfax; Holly Dougherty, Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber; George Ksenics, Andrews Federal Credit Union; Mike Murphy, Mount Vernon Knights of Columbus; Alex Thalacker, Fairfax County EDA; Eric Christensen, Springfield Town Center; Genie Wilford, Edison High School Academy.

The event was sponsored by two hosts: The Fairfax Retirement Community, and the

Army Retirement Residence Foundation - Potomac. The latter’s president, Brigadier General Retired Robert Jorgensen, spoke about how wonderful it was that our youth in the area are developing their talents, abilities and preparing themselves to make a difference in the community before announcing the award recipients.

“The Chamber is committed to providing scholarships for local high school students,” said Holly Dougherty, president of the Mount Vernon Springfield Chamber of Commerce. “We think this is the right thing to do and we consider the scholarships an investment in the future of the community.”

Scholarships are made possible by the generous donations of local businesses and by funds raised at the annual Chamber Golf Classic. Businesses that provided complete scholarships are Covanta Fairfax Inc., Ourisman Automotive dealerships, CDI Inc. Rubrik, and Cisco.

This continues the Chamber’s annual tradition of providing scholarships to students planning to study business. The Chamber has awarded scholarships for more than 20 years and these scholarships totaling \$26,000 brings the Chamber’s cumulative scholarship giving to more than \$294,000.

## BULLETIN BOARD

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.

### VRE TO OFFER FARE-FREE FRIDAYS DURING SUMMER

To promote the Virginia Railway Express (VRE) as a travel option for both commuters and day-trippers, the rail service will offer fare-free rides on its trains each Friday from June 2 to September 1. Fare-free travel will be available to passengers on both the Fredericksburg and

Manassas lines for rides originating at any of VRE’s 19 stations. Tickets will not be required.

VRE ridership is historically lower during the summer and on Fridays year-round, so the rail service can accommodate additional passengers, including larger groups looking to spend a day in the nation’s capital, or National Landing or Old Town Alexandria in Virginia.

VRE runs 32 trains each weekday, generally north in the morning and south in the afternoon and evening. It is the nation’s 13th largest commuter rail service, connecting Central and Northern Virginia with the District of Columbia. VRE is recognized for its provision of safe, reliable, convenient, and comfortable transportation. Additional information is available at [www.vre.org](http://www.vre.org).

### VIRTUAL MEETING, OPEN HOUSE SET TO DISCUSS FUTURE OF MOUNT GILEAD

The Fairfax County Park Authority has set an initial series of public meetings to begin the discussion concerning the future of the Mount Gilead property and historic house in the Sully District. The initial public meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, at 7 p.m., will

provide a broad overview of the Park Authority’s Resident Curator Program and discuss the future uses and considerations for the Mount Gilead property as part of the program. This will be a virtual meeting hosted via Zoom.

Mount Gilead is an 18th-century vernacular-style house that was originally built as a combined residence and tavern. Several

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 8

# Honoring Long Hours and Late Nights

FROM PAGE 4

Commission started in 1938, and to its current members I say, 'Do your job, ask questions and vet proposals. Don't take anything for granted and, hopefully, the county will be a better place.'

## Pete Murphy

As for Murphy, McKay called him "an institution – a true public servant who always puts the interests of the community first. On behalf of the 1.2 million [county] residents, we salute you."

Then Niedzielski-Eichner read Murphy's biography and achievements.

A Boston College graduate, he received an Army commission through the Reserve Officers Training program and worked in public relations and communications as a civilian. In December 1982 – more than 40 years ago – the Supervisors appointed Murphy as Springfield District representative to the Planning Commission.

"After serving two terms as vice-chair and three terms as secretary, he was elected chairman in 1989 – and served in that capacity for an astonishing 33 years," said Niedzielski-Eichner. "During that time, he's served on and led a multitude of Planning Commission committees and served on various task forces."

On the Celebrate Fairfax Board of Directors for many years, Murphy helped organize that event and several others. He's a member of the Old Guard Monument Campaign Leadership Council; and in 2010, he was selected to serve on the Department of Defense's 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration Commission.

He's received a slew of awards and honors over the years, including the Department of the Army Commanders Award for Public Service, the Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award, the Distinguished Public Service Leadership award presented by the Springfield District Council, the Fairfax County Volunteer of the Year award in the "Community Leader" category, and an award from the county's Department of Planning and Zoning.

Murphy was also given the Army Ten-Miler Leadership Award and the James Scott Public Community Spirit Award from Celebrate Fairfax. And he was named honorary chief of the Burke Fire and Rescue Station. Yet there's more.

He was named the Springfield District's Lord Fairfax and received the Celebrate Fairfax Ambassador award, presented to those who've dedicated themselves to that event's success, served extended periods of time and significantly improved the organization



Jim Hart



Pete Murphy

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Bryan Hill



From left are Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner, Pete Murphy, Pat Herryty, Jeff McKay and Dan Helmer.

**"[Murphy's] played a critical role in transforming the county from a sleepy, bedroom community to the economic powerhouse it is today."**

— Supervisor Pat Herryty (R-Springfield District)

and event. And on May 7, the county Federation of Citizens Assns. gave him an award of special gratitude.

Supervisor Pat Herryty (R-Springfield) also spoke at the luncheon. Saying Murphy couldn't have done all these things without his family's support, Herryty had the attend-

ees applaud Murphy's wife Charlene and daughter Cherilyn. And, he added, "You can't go to a Burke Volunteer Fire Department dinner without having one or more of the three Murphys recognized for something, so thank you for all your service to the community, as well."

During Murphy's time as Planning Commission chairman, said Herryty, "He's played a critical role in transforming the county from a sleepy, bedroom community to the economic powerhouse it is today. He's been [instrumental] in forming land-use policies in Fairfax County, and his steady leadership is one of the elements that's enabled the county's development success."

Addressing Murphy directly, Herryty said, "I'm proud to call you my friend – you represent the best of Fairfax County. The Supervisors [previously] recognized your service, and today you've earned the Springfield District challenge coin."

Next, Del. Dan Helmer (D-40th) presented Murphy with a gavel and a proclamation from the Virginia General Assembly in his honor. Then Murphy, himself, took the podium, acknowledging everyone present and thanking his wife and daughter for all their "years of service," making his accomplishments possible. He also stressed that crucial to his success were "the great people I worked with."

"We've had differences on the Planning Commission, but they've been professional ones," he said. "We've worked together as a team, even though we don't agree all the time – so it's like a family." Murphy said the county's changed over the years, but reminded his colleagues that "Citizens and their testimony [on land-use cases coming before the county] are important."

Regarding the luncheon, Murphy said, "It was overwhelming, and I felt proud, to hear over 100 people signed up for it. Knowing that former and current commissioners and all the people on the different staffs, in different areas of the county, responded to this event made me feel really good, and I thank you all very much for this wonderful honor."

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

restorative changes were made to the property to preserve and rebuild the home in the mid-1930s and again during the 1950s and 1960s. The house

was recorded as part of the Virginia Landmarks Survey, as well as in the 1969 Historic American Buildings Survey. The 6-acre property and historic house was purchased by the Park Authority in 1996.

In addition to the initial Zoom meeting,

an in-person open house has also been planned on Saturday, June 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Members of the community and prospective applicants to the Resident Curator Program are welcome to visit and tour the property, ask questions

and share thoughts and feedback with staff. The property is located at 5634 Mount Gilead Road in Centreville, Virginia. Questions may be directed to the Public Information Office at Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.

**FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED**  
Interested in becoming a foster parent? There is always a need for caring foster parents looking to open their homes and hearts

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

# ENTERTAINMENT

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE FREEFLOWING MUSIC EXPERIENCE



On stage, it's a colorful site with the Freeflowing Music Experience.



Grateful Dead songs dominate the show.

## Tie Dye and Grateful Dead Are Alive Among Local Bands

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen the Grateful Dead's singer Jerry Garcia died on Aug. 9, 1995, it seemed like the idyllic, tie-dyed culture of Garcia's following might die too, but that's not what happened. The Dead Heads lived on, listening to the Grateful Dead's music and seeing all the tribute band shows they could. That's still happening today, 28 years later.

In June, one of the bands called the "Jerry Tripsters," will be playing at Jammin' Java in for local Grateful Dead fans keeping the spirit alive.

"It's the last place that people can let their freak flag fly," said one fan.

Alexandria musician John David Coppola went to 54 Grateful Dead shows back in the 1980s and now his band Freeflowing Music Experience, rocks to Grateful Dead music as well as some of their own originals. Around Northern Virginia, they've played at the Birchmere, the State Theater, Earp's Ordinary and Jammin' Java.

Grateful Dead songs "are our common theme," said. "We're all Dead Heads," he said, and the other band members have been to at least 50 shows back in the day, and maybe more. Although there are staple Grateful Dead songs on the play list, like "Truckin'," "Sugar Magnolia," and "Bertha,"



The Freeflowing Music Experience consists of John David Coppola, left, Scott Fallon and Gregg Park.

that may be old favorites around the circuit but some of the young listeners are hearing these songs for the first time. "It still seems to be pretty popular," Coppola said.

Jerry Tripsters and the Freeflowing Music Experience are among a handful of Grateful Dead-themed bands that play around town and they bring out a big crowd due to the popularity of the Grateful Dead's music and the spirit of a live show. "There is something special about the Grateful Dead music performed live that attracts old 'dead heads' and younger fans," said Luke Brindley at Jammin' Java. It's not only the older crowd either, the twentysomethings like the music and the party, he added.

Coppola remembered going to a show for



The Freeflowing Music Experience plays originals too, and could be making an album soon

the first time years ago, and the crowd was into it, there are tie dyes everywhere and dancing in the aisles. "That was my favorite part, it was like a carnival," Coppola said.

Want to experience the scene yourself? In addition to the Jerry Tripsters and the Freeflowing Music Experience shows on June 16, there is a "Grateful Dead Meet Up

at the Movies," event in June as well, showing a film of the Grateful Dead in Chicago on June 22, 1991. There will be a showing of this documentary June 22, 2023, at AMC Tysons Corner, the Angelika Mosaic and the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema in Crystal City. Go to [meetupatthemovies.com](http://meetupatthemovies.com) for more information.

### CALENDAR

**JUNE 1-4**  
**Tysons Library Quarterly Book & Media Sale.** At Tysons Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Thursday, 1 June, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Friday, 2 June, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, 3 June, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, 4 June, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Bag sale. \$10 for a full grocery sack or half price if less. Large selection of books and media for all ages and interests.

**JUNE 1-4**  
**Used Book Sale.** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. At Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. Thousands of like-new books to choose from. Thursday, June 1st, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, June 2nd, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday, June 3rd, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Contact Friends of

Richard Byrd Library at [rbfriends@gmail.com](mailto:rbfriends@gmail.com)

**JUNE 1-4**  
**Herndon Festival.** At Northwest Federal Credit Union, 200 Spring Street, Herndon. It will include musical entertainment, a carnival, and business vendors. Kicking off the Herndon Festival on Thursday, June 1 will be Herndon's own Pool Boys. Headlining Thursday night will be Uncle Jesse, taking festival goes back to the 90's and 2000's, covering hits from Avril



The Herndon Festival takes place June 1-4, 2023 in Herndon.

acts, such as Northern Virginia's very own Carribean band Tobago Bay, Latin tropical music from Pab-

lo Antonio y La Firma, and more. Closing out the weekend on Sunday, June 4, is Festival headliner

p.m. At Reston Station, Reston.

**THURSDAYS, JUNE 1 - AUG. 31**  
**Take a Break Concert,** 7 p.m. - 8:30

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10

**Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!**



**ERIE** Metal Roofs  
FREE ESTIMATE  
**1.844.902.4611**  
Expires 6/30/2023

**Limited Time offer! SAVE! 60% OFF ON YOUR INSTALLATION + TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 10% OFF**  
Additional savings for military health workers and first responders

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on [homeservicescompliance.com](http://homeservicescompliance.com). All rights reserved. License numbers available at [eriemetalroofs.com/licenses/](http://eriemetalroofs.com/licenses/). VA License Number: 12705029944.

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

**Human Trafficking? NOT ON MY ROUTE**



Let's keep Virginia safe. If you see signs of human trafficking abuse, just call #77, and you can be a human-traffic hero!



**GENERAC**

**Prepare for power outages today**

WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR

**\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS**

Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE**  
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE  
**(844) 947-1479**



**FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty\***  
- A \$695 Value!

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

**Legals**

**ABC LICENSE**  
Bohemish LLC trading as Bohemish, 7701 Southern Dr., Suite R, Springfield, Fairfax County, VA 22150-3643. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Wine Wholesaler & Wine Importer license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Nataliya Georgieva, President. 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](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

**Be a part of our:**

**Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

**Senior Living**, fourth week of every month.

**Questions?**  
E-mail [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9431



**CALENDAR**

			1	2	3
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

FROM PAGE 9



**Paws on the Plaza will take place Saturday, June 3, 2023 at Tysons Corner Center.**

Beginning with Don't Back Down, a Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers tribute band, the Take a Break concerts fill the plaza atop the Wiehle-Reston East Metro station. Other performers include Texas Chainsaw Horns, Loudoun Jazz Ensemble, Scott Kurt and Memphis 59.

**FRIDAYS, MAY 26 TO OCT. 13**

**Darden Purcell and Friends.** 5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. At Reston Town Square Park, Reston. Jazz vocalist and series curator Darden Purcell brings her group to open the summer series of "Darden & Friends" in Reston Town Square Park. This concert will feature exciting new arrangements of Great American Songbook repertoire and jazz standards.

**JUNE 2 – SEPTEMBER 1**

**Fab Fridays.** 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. At Reston Station, Reston. Kick off the weekend with Fab Fridays featuring the U.S. Army Blues Big Band, festive rhythms from Dogo from Togo, merengue with Latin pop band Ocho de Bastos and many more. See the full concert schedule here: RCC Fab Friday Concerts. Three hours of free parking are available in the ParkX garage with validation. Concerts are presented by RCC in cooperation with MSE Productions, Inc., and are hosted by Reston Station.

**SATURDAY/JUNE 3**

**Paws on The Plaza.** 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. At The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, Tysons. Pups are invited to roam the dog park with obstacles and splash pads, while adults are invited to enjoy the Beer Garden, visit local vendors, including Woofbowl + Woofie's of McLean or take part in other activations, like a pet friendly photobooth and free caricatures of your pet.

**SATURDAY/JUNE 3**

**Onstage: Josanne Francis.** 7:30 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. D.C.-based award-winning artist, composer and educator Josanne Francis began playing steelpan at age 9 in her native Trinidad & Tobago. She delivers unmatched technical mastery and an energetic and emotional complexity that enchants listeners across the world. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/josanne-francis>

**SATURDAY/JUNE 3**

**Inova Saville Cancer Screening and Health Fair.** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Inova Schar Cancer Institute, 8081 Innovation Park Drive, Fairfax. The free community event is open to all and will provide valuable information to anyone interested in learning more about their own risk factors for developing cancer, or for those who have questions about cancer screening and prevention. Complimentary on-site and take-home cancer screenings will be provided, as well as interactive,

educational exhibits about cancer prevention and genetic research at Inova. In addition to the screenings and educational programs, attendees can enjoy local food trucks, family activities, sport and exercise sessions, and art therapy.

**SATURDAY/JUNE 3**

**Pickleball Tournament.** 9 a.m. Weichert, Realtors' Burke/Fairfax Station Office to host Amateur Pickleball Tournament to benefit charity. At Rolling Valley West Park on Sydenstricker Road, next to Pohick Regional Library. Players of all skill levels are invited to participate. The festivities will continue until late afternoon, depending upon the number of teams and games played. In addition to pickleball, there will be a variety of activities for the whole family, plus refreshments and raffles. To compete in the tournament, please visit the Weichert Burke/Fairfax station website to register. Each \$30 registration fee includes a tournament hat, and all proceeds go to the winning team's charity of choice. Call 703-569-7870.

**SATURDAY/JUNE 3**

**Gardens of Note.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Presented by the Reston Chorale in partnership with the Reston Garden Club and Hidden Lane Residential Landscapes. Enjoy the sights, sounds and scents of five beautiful, private Reston Gardens, open to the public for one day only. Cost is \$20 in advance; \$25 on tour day. Tickets are available online at [RestonChorale.org](http://RestonChorale.org).

**SATURDAY/JUNE 3**

**AutoWorks Festival.** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. There is a \$30 car registration for individuals who would like to participate by showcasing their classic cars. Car enthusiasts can attend the AutoWorks Festive for free, browse at their leisure while listening to live music, and vote for their favorites in the following car categories: Antique (pre-1960), American Classic (1950+); Import Classic (1950+); Sportscar; Muscle Car; Truck/SUV/Wagon; Unrestored & Well Preserved; Diamond in the Rough; Hot Rod & Custom; and Modern Marvels. Visit <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/auto-works-festival>.

**SATURDAY/JUNE 3**

**SYA (Southwestern Youth Association)** is celebrating 50 years in youth sports! June 3rd from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. will be the big 50th anniversary party at SYA Sports Park. If you have been a part of

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

SYA in the past 50 years... you are invited. There will be sports demos, giveaways, local celebrities, food and drinks. Visit <https://www.syasports.org/e-newsletter>

## SUNDAY/JUNE 4

**An Irish-American Concert.** 4:30 p.m. At Annandale United Methodist Church, Annandale. Presented by the Focal Arts Ensemble. With special guests Cool McFinn, a Celtic music combo, and dancers from the O'Neill James School of Irish Dance. Tickets \$30; students \$15.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 4

**Book Drive and Concert.** 4:30 p.m. At Annandale United Methodist Church, 6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale. VAE will be working with Food for Others for this concert to support their Books Are Food for Your Brain program, which works to improve literacy for low-income children in Northern Virginia. Please consider bringing new/gently used children's books including board books, picture books, easy readers, and chapter books through 5th grade level. Dictionaries and bilingual books (especially Spanish) are welcome. Religious books cannot be accepted. A donation box will be set up in the lobby prior to the concert.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 4

**Curtis Salgado.** 7 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Visit the Website: [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com)

## SUNDAY/JUNE 4

**Grind Day and Blacksmith Demo.** 12 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Rd., Great Falls. Cost is \$10. Register Online.

## NOW THRU JUNE 25

**Falls Church Arts All Member Show L-Z.** At the Falls Church Arts gallery, 700-B West Broad St. (Route 7), Falls Church. Eighty-eight artists with last names from L-Z will be featured in the second part of the All Member Show at the Falls Church Arts Gallery. An opening reception will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 27. The reception is open to the public. The show features the work of emerging and established member artists from Falls Church Arts and encompasses an extensive range of media from the more traditional watercolor, acrylic, mixed media, pastel, fused glass, oil, photography, and sculpture to a wide variety of mixed media and printing techniques. Visit the website [www.fallschurcharts.org](http://www.fallschurcharts.org).

# BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 8

to foster youth. Get in touch to learn more. Email [fcsvanow@gmail.com](mailto:fcsvanow@gmail.com). Website: [www.FCSVA.org](http://www.FCSVA.org). Call 703-817-9890.

## TOWN OF VIENNA WINS THREE NATIONAL AWARDS

For the second year in a row, the Town of Vienna is getting national recognition with three Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Awards from the National Association of Government Communicators (NAGC). The awards were announced April 19 at the organization's annual conference in Portland, Oregon. The Town was recognized for excellence in the digital e-newsletter category taking first place for the "Vienna Happenings" weekly e-newsletter. The publication, written by commu-

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



The AutoWorks Festival takes place on Saturday, June 3, 2023 at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

## NOW THRU JUNE 3

**"Urinetown."** 7:30 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides that he's had enough and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom! Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/urinetown>

## NOW THRU AUG. 23

**Art Wednesdays.** 5 p.m. At The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center, McLean. The first four Wednesdays starting May 3 watch live graffiti art come to life. The Lorton Workhouse and Live Art International introduces alternating art concepts for participants to take a drawing class, take home personalized airbrushed swag and more. All materials will be provided.

## NOW THRU AUG. 31

**Game Night Thursdays.** 6 p.m. At The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Starting May 11th, DC Fray will host a free game night every other Thursday. Game concepts will rotate between Cornhole, Roller Skating, Ping Pong, Bingo, RC Racing and Pickleball. Prizes will be awarded!

## NOW THRU AUG. 11

**Music & Dance Fridays.** Classes: 6 p.m. or 6:45 p.m. At The Plaza at Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Join Silvia and La Musica the first two Fridays of each month starting May 5 through August 11 for salsa lessons and a musical workshop. For beginners, Salsa lessons start at 6 p.m. and bachata lessons begin at 6:45 p.m. The La Musica: World of Encanto music workshop for kids will feature musical genres from successful Disney films: Coco, Saludos Amigos, The Three Caballeros and Encanto for karaoke session with live percussion instruments.

nications specialist Caleb Lester, highlights upcoming events and activities in the Town of Vienna, and Caleb's efforts to update the publication's look and feel were recognized as key factors in a growing subscription rate and a very high open rate. Anyone can sign up to get the newsletter at [www.viennava.gov/happenings](http://www.viennava.gov/happenings).

The Town of Vienna also took first place in the video documentary category for the "What's Your Story" segment called "The Gravy Lady," featuring Vienna resident Shirley Martin. The video, produced by Sean Metzger, documents the beloved, 97-year-old resident's memories of growing up in Vienna and her continued service to the Vienna community through the American Legion's Post 180 Ladies Auxiliary. The video can be seen online on the Town's YouTube channel at <https://bit.ly/GravyLady>.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

CALL 703-549-0004

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

<b>ELECTRICAL</b>	<b>ELECTRICAL</b>
<b>K &amp; D ELECTRIC</b>	
<b>COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE</b>	
Family Owned & Operated	
Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc...	Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com

<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	<b>LANDSCAPING</b>
Landscape Drainage	Landscape Drainage

**ProDrainage**  
A JES Services, Inc Company  
Eco-Friendly Landscape Drainage Experts  
Drainage, Erosion, Landscaping, Hardscaping, Patios, Retaining Walls & More  
Your Neighborhood Company since 1987!  
**703-772-0500** [www.ProDrainage.com](http://www.ProDrainage.com)  
VA. Licensed Class A Contractor

**Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION**  
to any or all of our 15 papers  
[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE)

**We Need Your Help Again**  
We are sincerely grateful and thankful to you for helping in 2021 to save one of America's oldest newspapers, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, publishing continuously since 1784

**Alexandria Gazette Packet**  
Publishing Since 1784

And affiliated newspapers  
**THE CONNECTION** Newspapers & Online  
**Mount Vernon Gazette**  
**Potomac ALMANAC** CENTRE VIEW

Thank you to the hundreds of supporters who helped to keep all your Connection Newspapers alive throughout Alexandria, Fairfax County, Arlington County and Potomac, Md. along with affiliated websites and digital media. Now we need help again in 2022.

Each local newspaper's mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support from readers and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuild Virginia in early February that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we need help to survive the first quarter, always a brutal time for cash flow in weekly newspapers. Thank you.

Please, help save these historical papers. All gifts will be used to fund our printed newspapers and websites and to meet obligations to our loyal and patient employees, writers, contractors and suppliers.

The ongoing pandemic continues to crush many newspapers across the country, and our newspapers continue to be at risk. The Northern Virginia area's best read and most trusted source for community news includes the Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette and all Connection Newspapers in the metropolitan region.

The pandemic has hit small businesses hard, which in turn has reduced advertising revenue that keeps these local newspapers alive to provide hyper-local news to residents. It feels like no small miracle to be looking forward into 2022.

Connection Newspapers has been offering these local newspapers to residents for over 200 years. Countless residents have grown up with these papers covering significant moments in the lives of family and children, news, community events, school activities, and even pictures of your dogs and cats. Internet news and large national newspapers cannot provide the local connection or historical connection that local papers like Connection Newspapers and the Alexandria Gazette Packet provide. If your child, dog, mother, father, neighborhood, school has been featured, you understand the value of local community newspapers.

Visit [connectionnewspapers.com](http://connectionnewspapers.com) or <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-keep-your-newspaper-printing>  
Connection Newspapers... Alexandria Gazette Packet, Mount Vernon Gazette, Centre View, Potomac Almanac  
1606 King Street • Alexandria, VA • 703-778-9431

# In-Laws or In Trouble



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm quite aware, as a longtime married man, that when one refers to in-laws, he or she is referring to the parents of their spouse. However, what does one refer to the parents of your nephew's wife? They're his in-laws, not mine, right? Regardless of what we call them, they're flying in from Kansas next week to sight-see in the nation's capital and we've been asked by our nephew to offer a helping hand. Though they're not staying at our house, they are nonetheless local and our guests, sort of, so we will be, as my friend Sean says: "pulling duty." Since Dina and I are both retired, as Curly of The Three Stooges said: "It shouldn't be a total loss."

Exactly how much time we'll be spending together is unknown. And neither are we aware of their expectations/interests/commitments, et cetera. What is known is that we are picking them up at Reagan National Airport Saturday night and driving them to their hotel in Old Town. (When they texted us about how they far/how to get to their hotel, we offered to pick them up. No problem.) After we confirmed that we'd be happy to pick them up and take them to their hotel, I was going to joke in our text back to them that we're less expensive than Uber. I decided to ask my wife, Dina, if texting this text attempt at disarming humor was OKAY? She said, "Absolutely not! Sometimes humor doesn't come across in a text." And since I value our marriage, I omitted my joke.

Now we've only met these quasi-in-laws once, at our nephew's wedding to their daughter some 10 years ago or so and have never communicated/exchanged any information about the other (no phone numbers, no emails, no landline; nothing. We couldn't get a hold of them if our lives depended on it). And though the reception was outside at their home - in a comfortable and welcoming environment, I can't say Dina or I spent much one-on-one time with either of them. Nor would we have remembered their first names, or last name even for that matter until our nephew reminded us - in advance. Furthermore, we're not sure if we'll even recognize them at the airport, nor they us. So far, through multiple texts back and forth with one another, they've expressed their appreciation and good fortune - referring to us as "guardian angels" concerning our willingness to pick them up at the airport and "tour-guide" them around Washington, D.C. We're definitely off to a good start, I would say. Still, I'm going to keep my powder dry until I see the whites of their eyes - and to quote my late father: "the cut of their jib."

I imagine we'll get through the week relatively unscathed. As multi-decade "DVM-ers," having the opportunity to revisit the spectacular sites and Memorials in Washington, DC is worth any awkwardness that may ensue.

Certainly, we won't be discussing politics (they're from a red state in the Midwest) or religion/abortion (since they're regular church goers), so I won't be taking the name of the Lord in vain. And there won't be any swearing - on our part. We will try to seek some common ground and navigate the terrain - literally and figuratively, as carefully and respectfully as possible. Come to think of it, they may even be younger than we are, but we don't know that either (add it to the list of things we don't know).

All we have in common is the simple fact that our nephew married their daughter. Beyond that we're clueless. On balance I would say however, that Dina and I are sort of looking forward to the week. We'll have to play the arrangements and mutual commitments by ear, so to speak, knowing as little as we do about them. And even though I'm a good listener and not a know-it-all control freak, the challenge will be integrating their expectations about Washington DC/the visit with our reality/availability and personalities. I have no doubt we'll get through the presumptive ordeal as we've experienced family members. Nevertheless, I must admit to being a bit anxious concerning our total lack of knowledge about who they are - really, and especially about the lack of any details about their reasons for coming to Washington, DC. And our exact role in any of it. Though we know visiting Washington, DC has world-wide appeal and is one of the great tourist destinations, we can't help but be curious about why now, why them? Their daughter, along with my nephew and their children visited us for July 4th holiday in 2022, perhaps that gave us a solid recommendation. If so, additional pressure may be on. Wish us well. We may need it.

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

# MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2023



Reston: At the North Shore pool down the street from Lake Anne, Hayden, 8 of Reston, enjoys the 82-degree heated water.



Griffin Fallon, 5, and mom. Liz Young. Liz says they will be here yearly for the Memorial Day weekend event.



Guest speaker, Vice Admiral Jeffrey Trusler, deputy chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare, N2/N6, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations/Director of Naval Intelligence



David Womack, commander of the Herndon-Reston Wayne M. Kidwell American Legion Post 184



Friday Night Live! May 26



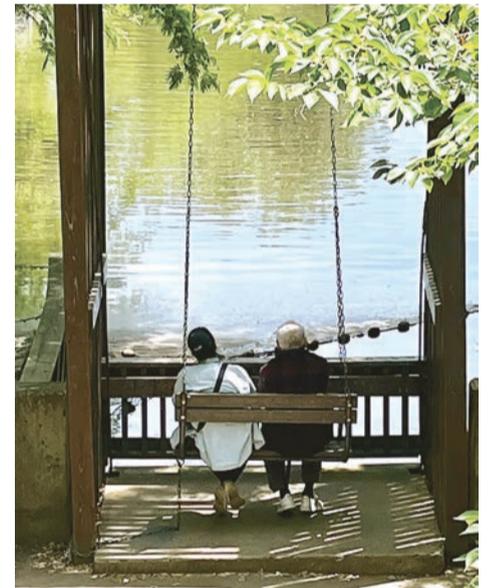
ViVa! Vienna! festival-goers pack Church Street.



Dan and Michell Marcinak of Herndon and their family attend the Memorial Day observance by The Wayne M. Kidwell American Legion Post 184 of Herndon-Reston and the Town of Herndon. Post members distribute the Poppy Flower, a long-time symbol of fallen soldiers, and raise funds for veterans.



The Vienna Singing Princess at the annual ViVa! Vienna! charity event by the Rotary Club of Vienna



Reston: At the North Shore Recreation Area, Linda Vallejo and her grandpa, Daniel Coello, share the porch swing.



Layla, 5, Elena, 2, and Benjamin, 10 months