

THE CONNECTION

CENTREVIEW ❖ Chantilly ❖ Great Falls ❖ Herndon ❖ McLean ❖ Oak Hill ❖ Oakton ❖ Reston ❖ Vienna

Madison Football Undefeated

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Visionaries

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Candidate Connection

PAGES 4, 6, 7 AND 15

Coping with Climate Change, Part 1

PAGE 8

Chief Resists Some Recommendations

PAGE 10

Dominic Knicely powers his way into the endzone for undefeated Madison, beating Westfield.

Inside Peek at Cirque du Soleil

PAGE 15

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL.
REQUESTED IN HOME 10-12-23

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

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 12 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

OCTOBER 11-17, 2023

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



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www.NewNovaHome.com

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#1 Virginia Agent 2020 - NEWSWEEK



JD Sold More Homes Last Year in 22101 Than Any Other Agent!

Per MLS



FOR SALE!

Offered for...\$1,699,000

1313 Merrie Ridge Road, McLean

Stunning Colonial nestled on a private cul-de-sac in the coveted Dogwoods at Langley. This inviting home offers approximately 4800 sf, with 6 BR, 3BA, and 2 half BA. The gourmet kitchen features breakfast bar, ample cabinet storage, and eat-in breakfast area w/ skylight and deck. Primary BR w/ separate dressing area with tons of storage and ensuite; upper level has 4 add'l spacious BR's with BA w/ soaking tub and luxury shower. LL features a large rec room w/ fireplace, 6th BR w/ spacious BA, and walk-out entrance and access to 2 car garage. Beautifully landscaped property with a private expansive flagstone patio. **McLean HS pyramid!**



Under Contract!

Offered for...\$1,199,000

6219 Park Road, McLean

FABULOUS Custom mid-century modern home in Franklin Park! Take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to live in this 3 BR/2.5 BA home, where indoor and outdoor spaces seamlessly blend to create a comfortable living experience. This property features an open layout w/ vaulted beamed ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, and an iconic foyer w/ floating stairway. The main lvl offers the living & dining area, gourmet kitchen overlooking a spectacular screened in porch area to relax and entertain. The lower-lvl features primary BR with en-suite; 2 spacious BR's; exercise/office area; full BA; and laundry/storage room. **McLean HS Pyramid!**



FRANKLIN PARK!

2049 Rockingham Street
McLean, 22101

\$4,695,000

NEW CONSTRUCTION!



Under Contract!

Offered for...\$1,199,000

6706 Pine Creek Court, McLean

FABULOUS 4BR/3 full BA contemporary home located on quiet cul-de-sac! This mid-century modern features fresh paint, new HVAC and roof! As you enter the bright foyer area, the open layout enhances the flow of natural light; the living room features a vaulted beamed ceiling which flows into the dining room area; the gourmet kitchen offers an large island with cooktop, SS appliances, and ample cabinet space. The kitchen opens to a family room w/ access to patio area. Additionally, off the kitchen is a fabulous sunroom w/ tons of windows and walk-out to the deck. **Kent Gardens, Longfellow, McLean Schools!**



1405 Layman Street
McLean, 22101

\$1,420,000



6631 Tucker Avenue
McLean 22101
\$1,824,750



1562 Forest Villa Ln
McLean, 22101
\$1,550,000



2336 N. Oak Street
Falls Church, 22046
\$2,000,000



1639 Macon Street
McLean, 22101
\$2,215,000



2204 Beacon Lane
Falls Church, 22043
\$1,795,000

Curious what your home is worth? Call to chat with JD and Ed today!

Visionaries of Equity and Justice Honored at CIF Banquet

Founders Alice and Jerry Foltz receive Visionary Award.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

If two people ever deserved the Centreville Immigration Forum's (CIF) first-ever Visionary Award, it's Alice and Jerry Foltz, who founded this nonprofit to provide jobs for and improve the lives of local immigrants. And they received it at CIF's annual banquet, Sept. 27, at the International Country Club in Chantilly.

"Their unwavering commitment to equity and justice has had a profound impact on our community," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jeff McKay, who presented their award. "This award isn't just an acknowledgment of achievements, it's a celebration of the power of human imagination, dedication and the relentless pursuit of a better future."

The honor came as a surprise to the cou-

"This award ... is a celebration of the power of human imagination, dedication and the relentless pursuit of a better future."

— Chairman Jeff McKay

ple; and after event attendees gave the Foltzes a standing ovation, McKay continued. "Through their limitless dream, they've challenged conventional wisdom and dared to ask, 'What if?'" he said. "They saw an increase in immigrants looking for work in their neighborhood and asked, 'How can the community make them feel welcome?'"

"They founded CIF, embracing each challenge and opportunities for growth. And in its 12 years, CIF has served as an example of what's possible when a community comes together. Through the Foltzes' dedication



Alice and Jerry Foltz with their Visionary Award trophies.



Jerry and Alice Foltz wearing tradition clothing of the Ixil Mayan people of Guatemala to honor the CIF members from that region.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Honored guests (from left) Monica Sarmiento, Hassan Ahmad and Annabel Park.



Mary Villatoro, 6, demonstrates weaving in the Ixil Mayan tradition during the banquet.

to making the world a better place, they've challenged ideas and systems and ignited the spark of inspiration in countless others."

Not only could they picture a brighter future for Centreville's immigrant population, but they devoted themselves to making it happen as soon as possible. "They've inspired us all to think bigger and to strive for greatness," said McKay. "Jerry and Alice serve as a beacon of hope – a testament to the incredible potential of the human spirit. Their story reminds people that no idea is too big. We can all strive to push the boundaries of what's possible and leave a lasting legacy for future generations."

Alice Foltz then thanked everyone who's been part of the work they've been doing together at CIF since its inception. "It's been an amazing joy for us to be part of this community," she said. "That includes people who are immigrants and those people and organizations who speak up for the rights of all of us to live and work together. Thanks for working for the kind of open and welcoming

SEE FOUNDERS ALICE AND JERRY, PAGE 12

About the Centreville Immigration Forum

❖ The Centreville Immigration Forum (CIF) operates the Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC), which provides a safe space for employers and workers to meet to negotiate fair terms of employment. At 5944 Centreville Crest Lane, it also provides job training so workers

will have the specific skills required for their jobs.

❖ CIF's mission is to implement sustainable programs that provide immigrants in need with the means to improve their lives and become more integrated into the community. It also seeks to improve communica-

tion and cooperation among all groups serving immigrants, as well as build community recognition that there's strength in diversity.

❖ CIF's vision is a community that accepts and provides opportunities for all immigrants. It includes members in leadership positions, including on its Board of

Directors. CIF undertakes the work of organizing, building community power, supporting self-sufficiency, and making strong partnerships to advocate for immigrants and advance systemic change.

For more information, go to www.centrevilleimmigrationforum.org.

CANDIDATE CONNECTION

Candidates for Sheriff, Fairfax County, City of Fairfax

Vote for one. Three candidates appear on the ballot in the order they appear here. Candidates were asked for a brief bio and to tell us about one voter who tried to find common ground with them regardless of their political party whose questions spurred them to action, with a tight word limit.

Envisioned and compiled by Mercia Hobson.

For information on how and where to vote, see <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/>

More than 8,000 Fairfax County voters have already voted as of Oct. 10.

Sheriff Stacey Ann Kincaid

Sheriff Stacey Ann Kincaid (D) is a 36-year veteran of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office and the first woman to lead the agency in its 281-year history. She serves over 1.1 million residents in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the Towns of Herndon and Vienna.

Kincaid received her bachelor's degree in political science/criminal justice from Frostburg State University in 1987. Starting as a sheriff's deputy right after college, she worked her way up to the rank of captain before being elected Sheriff in 2013.

One of her top priorities continues to be changing the way our criminal justice and behavioral health systems interact, resulting in better outcomes for individuals and a safer and healthier community for all. She helped spearhead Diversion First, the county's collaborative initiative that offers



Sheriff Stacey Ann Kincaid

alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness, co-occurring substance use disorders, and/or developmental disabilities who come into contact with the criminal justice system for low-level offenses.

In the Adult Detention Center, she has expanded opportunities for education, life skills programs, job training, mental health services, substance abuse treatment and re-entry initiatives to help inmates better themselves while incarcerated and increase their chances of becoming productive community members upon release from the ADC.

Within the Sheriff's Office, Kincaid has created a culture of engagement. She and her staff meet people in their neighborhoods, clubs, schools, businesses, and places of worship. She listens to their concerns and finds solutions to improve the administration and operation of the Sheriff's Office.

Response: When I was first approached about starting a Medication for Addiction Treatment (MAT) program in the Adult Detention Center (ADC), it was controversial. Many in law enforcement felt MAT "provided addicts with drugs." The person I was talking to was well-versed in opioid use disorder, and I had witnessed the awful effects of opioid withdrawal from my days as a deputy in the ADC.

I discussed and researched the idea further. I learned that beyond the inhumane effects of withdrawal, those leaving incarceration with opioid use disorder are much more likely to overdose within the first two weeks of their release. A well-run MAT program would reduce the impact of withdrawal and drastically reduce the chances of overdosing upon release.

Armed with my research, I embarked on

starting a MAT program at the ADC. But this program was going to go the extra mile. So, we have incorporated not just medication into the ADC but also utilized our expansive reentry services and peer support specialist to connect individuals with harm reduction tools and continued treatment once they leave the ADC. We now have one of the most robust and holistic MAT programs in the country.

kincaidforsheriff@gmail.com
staceykincaid.com

Jerry L. McMillian (I)

Jerry L. McMillian (I), 72, candidate for Sheriff, has over 17 years of experience and says he is the first Black candidate for Sheriff in Fairfax County.



Jerry L. McMillian (I)

As a former Reserve Deputy Sheriff, I can bring a unique and valuable perspective to the Sheriff's Office and the communities the Sheriff's Office represents. Furthermore, I utilize a calculated and methodical approach to problem-solving.

I have a vast range of experience with the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office as a former Reserve Deputy Sheriff and maintaining community relationships through volunteerism.

Education and training

Bachelor of Science in Business Management and graduated from Fairfax County, Virginia Criminal Justice Academy Northern Virginia Community College

SEE CANDIDATES FOR SHERIFF, PAGE 6

Race To Be Member School Board At-Large

Three open seats, zero incumbents, nine challengers.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The three Member At large seats on the Fairfax County School Board are up for election on Nov. 7. Voters in each of the nine districts in Fairfax County can vote for three At-large candidates and one district member.

This year, there are no incumbents running for any of the At-large seats on the Fairfax County School Board, although two candidates have previously served on the school board.

We asked for a brief bio and to tell us about

their interaction with one voter who tried to find common ground with you regardless of their political party and whose questions or story inspired them to take action.

Candidates are listed in the order they appear on the ballot. Party endorsements are noted.

For information on how and where to vote, see <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/>

More than 8,000 Fairfax County voters have already voted as of Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023.

Saundra T. Davis

PHOTO SCREENSHOT VIA
DAVISFOREEDUCATION.COM

Saundra T. Davis Candidate for Member of School Board At-Large; Davis did not reply. Davis is endorsed by Fairfax GOP



saundrad70@gmail.com
davisforeducation.com

Cassandra R. Aucoin

Cassandra R. Aucoin, candidate for member School Board At-Large, a military child, came to Northern Virginia as a high school senior. She earned a business management



Cassandra R. Aucoin

degree from Virginia Tech. She worked for the Army, Navy, Office of the Secretary of Defense, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, and National Reconnaissance Office for 35 years. She has experience in strategic planning, budgeting, HR, program analysis, and organizational change.

SEE SCHOOL BOARD AT-LARGE, PAGE 6

Clerk Of Court

Two candidates are on the ballot for Clerk of Court; vote for one. Candidates were asked to provide a short bio and share a story of their interaction with a voter that led them to a commitment to take action, with a tight word limit. Candidates are here in the order they appear on the ballot. Envisioned and compiled by Mercia Hobson.

For information on how and where to vote, see <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/>

More than 8,000 Fairfax County voters have already voted.

Gerada Marie Culipher (R)

As the current Deputy Clerk for the Fairfax Circuit Court, I ask your vote to continue serving Virginia's



Gerada Marie Culipher (R)

busiest trial court, ensuring it remains a model of good government and excellent customer service. With over ten years of experience helping this 180-person judicial administration agency, I have the breadth and depth of knowledge to keep it running efficiently and fairly for all.

After graduating from Johns Hopkins University and Tulane Law School, I started as a judicial extern and law clerk in the federal courts before joining Virginia's largest trial court in its Clerk's Office. As a military wife, mother of four, and Virginia lawyer, I know how busy life is in Fairfax.

My philosophy of smart, customer-focused public service at our courthouse means you can have confidence in our justice system.

I call us "The Court of Hearth and Home" because marriages, divorces, custody, adoptions, CWP's, protective orders, mortgages, deeds, and wills are filed in our office. As custodian of those records, I emphasize IT security standards that protect your information from data miners and other bad actors. Meaningful access to justice in the digital age is a balance between presumptively open records and protecting your data from abuse.

Response: Recently, our Land Records Team on the 3rd floor of the Courthouse (who handle deeds, mortgages, easements, etc.) flagged some unusual transactions as Deed Fraud. Identity thieves target vacant properties in western Fairfax. Exploiting innovations like e-notarization, these scams bypassed industry due diligence. But when fraudulent deals arrive at our counter, staff applies our Fraud-Prevention Checklist. Our technique stops the deals from

SEE CLERK OF COURT, PAGE 6

Scouting for Food on Nov. 4, 2023

On Saturday, Nov. 4, Scouts and their adult leaders from Troops and Packs all over Northern Virginia will be gathering food donated by their neighbors and bringing it to local charities in the annual Scouting for Food collection. The Powhatan District serves Chantilly, Great Falls, Herndon, Oakton and Reston.

All food is donated to local charities that distribute the food to those in need in our community. Last year, over 630 scouts and 500 adult leaders collected 42,500 pounds of food in the Powhatan District covering Great Falls, Herndon, Reston, Oakton, and Chantilly.

Four charities will receive food from the scouts between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Nov. 4 and the public is also welcome to drop off nonperishable food.

The charities are: LINK receiving food at Trinity Presbyterian Church at 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon; Community of Faith UMC Food Pantry at 13224 Franklin Farm Road, Herndon; Cornerstones, at 11484 Washington Plaza West, #120, Reston, and the South Lakes High School PTSA Food Pantry receiving food at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 1133 Reston Ave, Herndon.

In addition to our traditional door-to-door food drive, we also have an option for online donations. Online donations of food can be arranged through YouGiveGoods.com at this link:

<https://yougivegoods.com/powhatandistrict-scoutingforfood2023>

We did some spring food drives this year because the demand at food pantries has

been at high levels since 2022. The continuing high demand for food at the food pantries, after price increases from 2021 to 2023 and the expiration of pandemic benefits increases the importance of a good food collection in November.

Here are comments made earlier this year about the need for food drives.

From Betty at LINK: "Food demand is high and higher food prices mean donors are not able to be as generous."

From Minerva at Cornerstones: "I was just letting my supervisor know that in 6 days in the month of March we have assisted 95 clients, that number includes 30 seniors in our delivery routes but after the SNAP cut we are expecting those numbers to increase."

From Roberta at the South Lakes High School PTA Food Pantry earlier this year: "Our food pantry is depleted pretty much weekly with the families and students we serve. Last week we served:

190 students in the student pantry
148 families and students at our curbside distribution

15 students at Langston Hughes Middle School (this is a static # right now)

125+ \$25 grocery gift cards every 3 weeks
"These numbers have consistently continued to increase over the last several weeks. With the discontinuation of the Pandemic SNAP benefits we expect the need to continue to rise."

Get ready for Scouting for Food to meet the need for food donations for our local food pantries. Drop off food at one of the collection sites on Nov. 4, or donate online.



Troop 673, in Great Falls Virginia, delivered collected pantry goods from Great Falls United Methodist Church and Troop 673 to Cornerstones for a total of 300 pounds in April 2023.

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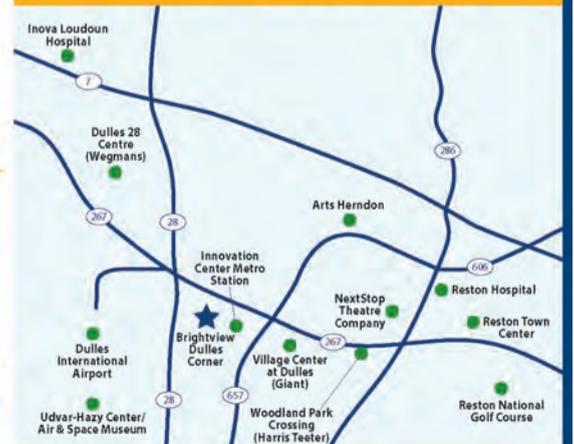
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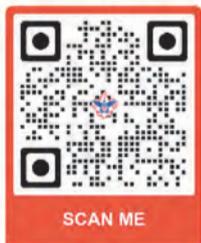
13700 Magna Way | Herndon, VA 20171

Herndon's Brightest New Retirement Lifestyle Is Here!



National Capital Area Council
SCOUTING FOR FOOD
Virtual Food Drive
October 1 - December 16

Join the Powhatan District Scouts to help our neighbors who are food insecure – Donate healthy food items today!



It's easy to help!

- ✓ Scan the QR code to visit our online giving event
- ✓ Click on SHOP to purchase the most needed items - please enter the Pack/Troop number you are supporting at checkout
- ✓ You will be emailed a tax receipt at check out
- ✓ All items will be shipped directly to the selected charities

Thank you for making an immediate impact today!



CANDIDATE CONNECTION

Race To Be Member School Board At-Large

FROM PAGE 4

Aucoin's achievements include managing a multi-billion-dollar budget, establishing a Financial Management (FM) matrixed organization, and leading major studies and complex projects. In her last position as Chief of Staff, she ran a 1,000-plus-person global company. Aucoin and her military husband educated their two children in Fairfax County public schools. In addition to volunteering with military family support organizations, she was a senior advisor to military spouse organizations and led the establishment of two spouse organizations.

Response: A mother approached my Burke Centre Festival booth and told me FCPS helped her child socially transition to another gender without her knowing. The conversation was solemn and sad. If the school had notified her of her child's gender dysphoria, she could have intervened to ensure that her

child received medical and counseling care before making the next life-changing decision, a physical change. FCPS's protocols do not support this notification.

This conversation followed one in which a teacher expressed concern about the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program. Under SEL, children are asked inquiries that have nothing to do with academics and pertain to matters that belong to parents.

Parents are the decision-makers for their children. This school board and my opponents, who led progressive proposals for alternative bathrooms, are more concerned with special interest groups. That's why they rejected the 2023 Model Policies that I support. Those policies require parental involvement and ensure the safety of children in school bathrooms.

I have extensive leadership experience and am adept at collaborating with others to effect positive

organizational change. To alter the FCPS School Board's echo chamber, a commonsense strategy is required.

Aucoin is endorsed by Fairfax GOP
<https://www.cassandraaucoin.com/cassaucoinforSchoolBoard@gmail.com>

Linda A. Pellegrino

VIA THE POLLING PLACE

Linda A. Pellegrino, candidate to serve as Member Board At-Large, did not reply.



Ilryong Moon

356 / 742

Ilryong Moon, 66, candidate for Member School Board



Ilryong Moon

At-Large: I am an experienced Fairfax County School Board veteran. I was first elected in 1995 and served for 20 years until retiring in 2019, with one intervening term of 4 years to serve on the Fairfax County Planning Commission. I am a proven leader, having served as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board for three terms. I have been a practicing attorney in Fairfax County for 39 years. I am the proud father of two sons, both graduates of Fairfax County Public Schools, who pursued their education to the highest levels, both receiving post-graduate degrees.

As an immigrant from Korea, I arrived in the U.S. in 1974 at the age of 17. I am a former ESL student. I grew up in poverty and became the first in my family to go to college. My parents did not have much formal education themselves, but they believed in education. They worked hard. I studied hard and attended Harvard for college and William

and Mary for law school.

Response: I recently met a family going through a stressful student disciplinary proceeding. They shared their experiences and feelings with me, which shaped my views on how the school system and those involved should approach the process. The family described being confused, intimidated, and frightened at every turn.

The system moved like a giant machine without compassion or empathy for them. Board members and school administrators can sometimes overlook the personal toll the process takes on students and their families. We must work harder to provide more human touch and care as they undergo what may be the worst experience of their lifetime.

My highest priority is always to ensure that our students can achieve their highest level of performance and prepare them for

SEE SCHOOL BOARD, PAGE 7

Clerk of Court

FROM PAGE 4

being completed. Last month, we caught a \$284,000 fraud, saving the closing company from a financial loss and the real owner a major headache.

One customer said, "I wish I could file a lien on my own property!" That stuck with me. Thinking about "Attorney Liens," "Mechanics Liens," and "Crop Liens" in Fairfax's more agrarian past, I'm proposing "A Protective Lien." This would be a creature of statute, so the bill would allow homeowners to record a lien on their home to protect it. I've shared sample statutory language with our real estate bar, the Virginia Clerk's Association, and spoken with General Assembly members from our Northern Virginia delega-

tion when I've seen them on the campaign trail. Solving actual problems has no party affiliation, and we are all united against consumer fraud. The Clerk is elected, but it works best when not politicized.

Christopher J. Falcon (D)

Christopher J. Falcon (D) serves as Legal Counsel and Civil Division Supervisor for the Arlington Circuit Court Clerk's office. He has been a practicing attorney for the past 15 years and is the founder and owner of The Falcon Firm PLLC. He earned his undergraduate degree in management from JMU and his JD from the Widener Commonwealth



Christopher J. Falcon (D)

Law School.

In 2016, Chris received the Arlington County Manager's Excellence Award for his contributions to the Arlington County jury orientation video. He currently serves as Vice Rector on the James Madison University Board of Visitors, the Fairfax County Human Services Council, the Arlington County ASAP Policy Board, and the Board of Directors of Edu-Futuro. He also served on the Virginia Latino Advisory Board from 2014 to 2018.

Response: Traveling all over Fairfax County and City this past year and a half, I have met a lot of people, but one moment sticks out. I met a person who could not afford counsel and asked me a basic procedural question about a case she had pending in the Fairfax Circuit Court. She asked me to look up her case to see if there were upcoming

hearing dates; unfortunately, it was a Saturday, and the court was closed. I explained that we can't see Fairfax Circuit Court case information since the clerk's office blocks it behind a paywall and charges \$150 for three months of access.

This public information includes case numbers, hearing dates, and times. She was upset. It was frustrating since this information is publicly available online in neighboring counties. It reminded me that access to justice begins and ends with access to public information.

I am the only candidate running for Fairfax Clerk of Court who is on record that we will move Fairfax public case information out from behind the paywall and onto the free online system every other county in Virginia uses. It's an enormous equity issue that disproportionately impacts marginalized communities.

Candidates for Sheriff, Fairfax County, City of Fairfax

FROM PAGE 4

Law courses

Gibbs College Criminal Justice courses
Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy,
Interaction Sensitivity Training
Certified in Mental Health, National
Council for Behavioral Health
Retired

Retired from Fairfax County Government,
Code Enforcement Branch

Volunteer law enforcement
Former Reserve Deputy Sheriff, Fairfax
County, over 17 years of volunteerism

Former President Plain-clothed Security
Volunteer

Founder and Chief Executive Officer of
Fairfax Income Tax Service LLC

Fairfaxcountyfirstblackcandidateforsheriff.com
fairfaxsheriff2023@gmail.com

Christopher F. DeCarlo, Sheriff

Christopher F. DeCarlo (I) 64, candidate for

Sheriff, studied electrical engineering at Georgia Tech and political science and criminology at George Mason University. He is an inventor, president of DeCarlo Enterprises, Inc., the author of the teen handbook "What Now? An Uncensored Guide to School and Life," and father of five children ages 17 to 25.

Response: I have common ground with all voters whose concern is the corrupted governance that occurs from campaign contributions because the funding competes with our constitutionally vested power that originates with citizenship.

My theory is that all campaign contributions are unconstitutional, as provided in the Virginia Constitution, Article I. Bill of



Christopher F. DeCarlo (I)

Rights Section 2. People the source of power (as authored by George Mason, 1776): That all power is vested in, and consequently derived from, the people,... This clause is known very simply as the Popular Sovereignty Clause; I believe there's a lot more to it.

To me, it means that the vested special power from citizenship that flows through the derivation in the three steps of voting, electing, and swearing-in is the only power that elected officers can constitutionally and, therefore, legally accept.

Acceptance of money, or anything other than that which is derived from the people, the source of power clause, is a violation of the Oath of Office because, via their oath, they are restricted to only the "all" power vested with citizenship.

The Office of Sheriff has the statutory authority to protect the Constitution and the rights it guarantees, even against the

sophisticated and powerful Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organizations (RICO) that deal in entrusted power and controversy. But sheriffs and commonwealth's attorneys are reluctant to exercise their authority against it because they are in debt to whichever party and moneyed interests sponsored their candidacies. As sheriff, I will strive to see that all of your constitutionally guaranteed vested and derived power is preserved and not diluted under the color of law.

George was very concerned about the inevitability of political corruption, and, for the society of 1776, this interpretation was probably his intended mechanism to prevent it. Serendipitously, the clause originated from the 24 Fairfax County Resolves, endorsed at the Fairfax Courthouse, Alexandria, July 1774, also written by George.

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cdecarlo@fairfaxpropene.com www.honestyandethics.com

CANDIDATE CONNECTION

School Board At-Large

FROM PAGE 6
 their future stewardship in our global economy as productive citizens. We must ensure that all Fairfax County Public Schools students, including our most vulnerable ones, have full and equal access to all programs and services to succeed. If elected this fall, I will reflect on this recent experience and have genuine conversations with school system leaders and parents to improve the experience.

Moon is endorsed by Fairfax Democrats
moonschoolboard@gmail.com
<https://www.moon4schoolboard.com/>

Ahmed Mahdi Hussein

SCREENSHOT
 VIA HUSSEIN-
 FORSCHOOL-
 BOARD.COM
 N/A



A h m e d
 Mahdi Hus-
 sein, candidate for Member School Board At Large, did not reply.

info@huseinforschoolboard.com
[huseinforschoolboard.com](https://www.huseinforschoolboard.com)

summarized decades of successful work that led to state and local awards, national conference tours, books, and media recognition. Her depth of knowledge and the resources she provided as follow-up are part of a series of surprise interactions I've had with super-specialists as I've met with non-political groups across the county.

I have an upcoming meeting with a school transportation specialist and a screen addiction expert, and I recently met with a finance tech to learn about the logistics of school fund inflow and distribution. I also got expert insights on the administrative burden on educators from a teacher who just completed a master's course for certification, and I have heard from parents about their IEP and AAP struggles. These valuable inputs have been a treasure trove of information that paved the way for immediate solutions that will provide long-term improvements, and I am very grateful for the generosity of these experts in sharing their knowledge.

Brody is endorsed by Fairfax GOP
mobrody@mac.com <https://brodyforschoolboard.com/>

Maureen T. Brody

314/ 438
 Maureen T. Brody, 60, candidate to serve as Member, School Board At Large, was



PTA president at Lee High School, served on a curriculum advisory board under Anthony Lane, and has been involved in educating youth her whole adult life — from preschool to undergraduate courses at the University of Maryland. She has been a scout leader, a team mom, a room mother, a mom-mentor for mothers in special circumstances, and the HOA president of Saratoga Community Association in Springfield.

Maureen is a lifelong county resident currently living in Springfield. She graduated from Madison High School in Vienna and owns an editing business. She is widely known as a detail-oriented, get-the-job-done-well, solutions-focused person who will work with anyone in the pursuit of excellence.

Response: I randomly met a lady at a community picnic who is a retired FCPS principal and spear-headed turnarounds at multiple underperforming schools. She offered to meet with me on how she achieved stellar results, and I was able to listen for two hours as she

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Robert Kyle McDaniel

Robert Kyle McDaniel is running for school board member at large to ensure all students



Robert Kyle McDaniel

have access to a high-quality education that promotes excellence and embraces equality in a safe and welcoming environment. He is a long-time Fairfax County resident with a history of community service. He is a George Mason University and American University graduate with public policy, budgeting, and finance degrees.

Kyle has extensive experience in Virginia state and Fairfax County local government. In 2015, McDaniel transitioned to the private sector through corporate startups. Since then, he has worked for three startups and currently owns an aviation services company. McDaniel is an airline transport pilot and flight instructor who owns a flight school with locations across the region. Kyle and his wife, Katie, live in Herndon with their two daughters. Although he has many jobs, such as business owner, pilot, and community advocate, his favorite is being a dad.

Response: I spoke with a parent who told me about their son always

SEE SCHOOL BOARD, PAGE 19

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Coping with Climate Change Takes Everyone

BY GLENDA BOOTH
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

This article is the first of two covering the Sept. 30 Climate Action Conference, organized by Supervisor James Walkinshaw, Braddock District

“This is not a doom and gloom conference,” Supervisor James Walkinshaw announced in opening his first annual Climate Action Conference at Lake Braddock Secondary School on Sept. 30 to an audience of around 250.

Asserting that “the science is settled,” his goal was to give people the tools to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and save money, not to bemoan climate change’s harms.

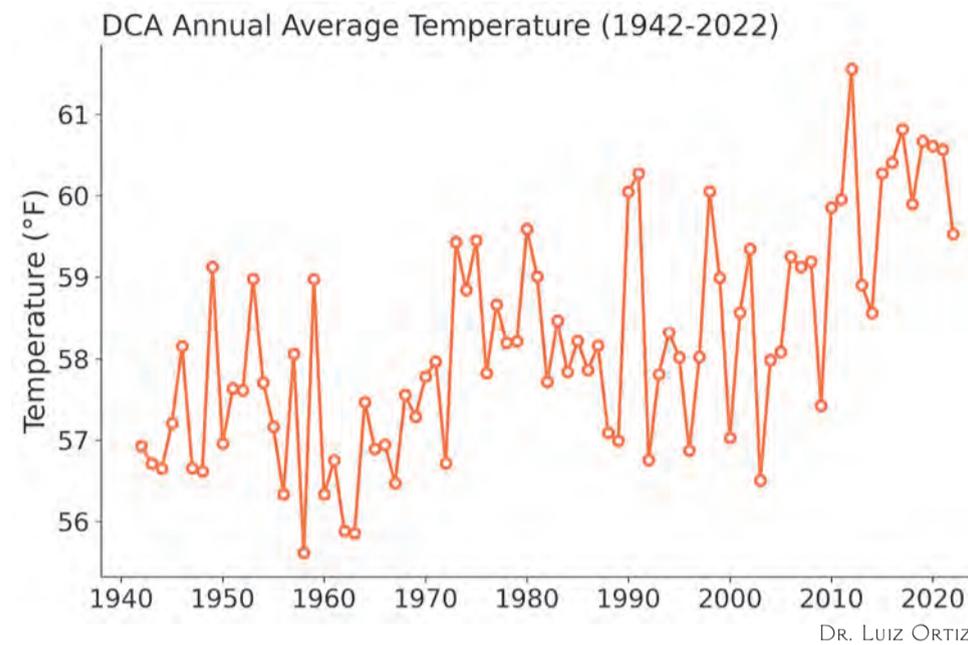
As the country set new records for high temperatures this past summer, Northern Virginians sweltered through a very hot July. The region’s average temperature has increased more than two degrees since the last century, reports the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Possible effects of climate change have been evident locally, nationally and around the world.

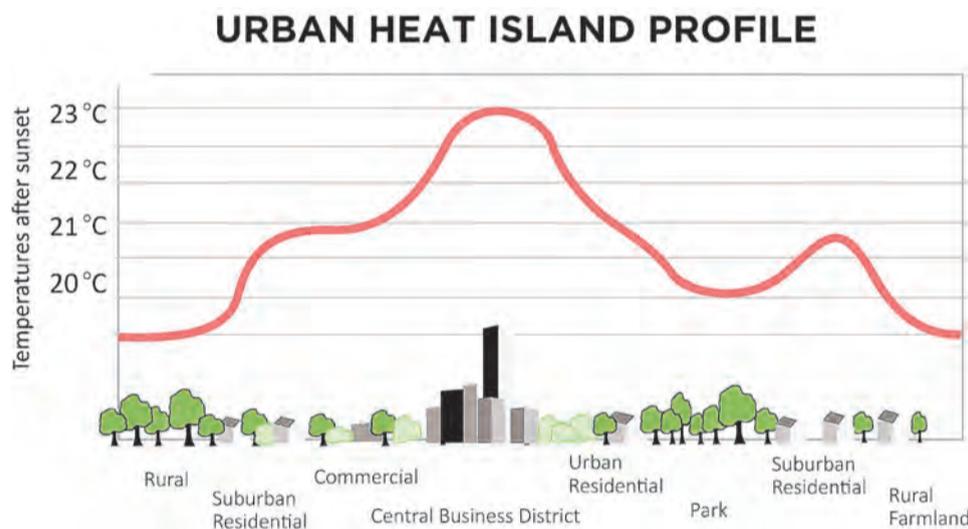
In June, a smoky haze from Canada’s wildfires shrouded this region, causing many cancellations of outdoor events. Scientists say that climate change is spurring more intense wildfires as some areas become hotter and drier.

The May 2023 Potomac Conservancy’s report on the river’s condition concluded, “. . . we are already experiencing the impacts of a warming climate” in the region, and these impacts will worsen. Warmer atmospheric temperatures mean warmer water temperatures, which can adversely affect aquatic life and encourage algal blooms and bacteria growth.

Dr. Luis Ortiz from George Mason University said that “global climate changes are local problems. It’s already here.” Tem-



DCA National Airport Average Annual Temperatures 1940 to 2020



Urban Heat Island Profile showing that urban areas with buildings and impervious surfaces are hotter than parks and other greener areas.

peratures are warmer than they were 30 to 40 years ago. Severe storms and extended droughts are more frequent.

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly told attendees, “We can’t play games with climate change anymore. It’s real. It’s here.”

Resources

Energy efficiency, www.energy.gov/save
Carbon footprint calculator, www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator/
Fairfax County resources, <https://www.fairfax-county.gov/environment-energy-coordination/>

What Are Greenhouse Gases?

Greenhouse gases trap heat in the atmosphere. The main greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gases. Carbon dioxide accounted for 79 percent of all U.S. greenhouse gas emissions from human activities in 2021.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Help Available

“Deploy, deploy, deploy” is the mantra of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), stressed the keynote, Michael Forrester, a DOE official. Three federal laws provide tax credits, rebates or other assistance to encourage clean energy and energy conservation, policies that will reshape the private market and award Virginia up to \$189 million.

For homes, “the best investment is insulation,” he argued, saying that most single-family homes need at least sixteen inches in the attic. “Your money is flying out of your doors and windows and through the roof.”

He also touted heat pumps as an “efficient investment. They don’t burn anything.” He recommended home energy audits and buying only Energy Star appliances. If appliances, like water heaters, are over ten to 15 years old, they will likely need to be replaced with more efficient models, he said, adding, “If you wait for a crisis, you’ll get whatever’s on the truck.”

“Know your numbers,” recommended John Morrill from the county’s Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination.

SEE COPING WITH CLIMATE, PAGE 9



The conference poster showing organizational sponsors.



Supervisor Walkinshaw answered attendees’ questions.



The “Race to Zero Emissions” Panel, Andrea McGimsey, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions; John Morrill, Fairfax County Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination; and Dr. Luis Ortiz, George Mason University

PHOTOS BY GLENDA BOOTH

Victims Targeted After Withdrawing Funds

Detectives are investigating several incidents of victims being targeted after visiting a bank or financial institution. Here is some information on how to avoid and stay safe.

In several incidents in Fairfax County, suspects have observed victims withdraw a significant amount of cash from a bank. The suspects then follow the victim as they drive away. The victims in these cases park their cars at another location, leaving the money in the vehicle. The suspects then break the window of the car and steal the money.

At 3:13 p.m. on Sept. 15, a victim withdrew \$9500 from a local bank. When the victim entered his vehicle and began to drive off, his tire pressure sensor illuminated. The victim exited his vehicle and noticed one of his tires was punctured. The victim was approached by a Hispanic man in his mid to late 30s, wearing a black t-shirt and carrying a backpack. The suspect advised that he had a fix-a-flat kit in his backpack. As the victim was tending to the tire, the suspect stated that he needed another kit and left. The victim checked his vehicle and realized the money, which was in the center con-

Date	Police District	Organization of Withdrawals
April 27	Mason	Hanmi Bank/Annandale
June 14	Mason	Hanmi Bank/Annandale
June 15	Mason	Hanmi Bank/Annandale
June 29	Mason	Hanmi Bank/Annandale
July 15	Franconia	Chase Bank/Groveton
August 18	Franconia	Wells Fargo/Annandale
August 22	Franconia	BOA/Springfield
September 1	West Spnngfield	Capital One Bank/Springfield
Seotember 6	Franconia	American Bank/PWC

A year-to-date chart of suspected jugging scams being handled by our Criminal Investigation Division.

sole, was gone.

Through investigations, officers determined the suspect was watching the victim as he arrived and left the bank. The suspect punctured the tire of the victim's vehicle and followed the victim as he drove away.

Detectives are asking anyone who may have information about this incident to call the

Franconia Police Station at 703-922-0889 and ask to speak with a detective. Tips can also be submitted anonymously through Crime Solvers by phone – 1-866-411-TIPS (866-411-8477).

To protect oneself from becoming a victim, the FCPD encourages community members to take precautions such as:

1. Be aware of your surroundings: Pay attention to anyone who may be observing your activities outside a bank or financial institution.
 2. Conceal cash and bank-related items: Store cash in a discreet manner, such as in a purse or wallet, and avoid displaying bank bags or envelopes that may draw attention. Do not leave cash unattended in your vehicle. If you do, consider locking it in the glove box.
 3. Vary your routine: Criminals often look for patterns, so it is advisable to change your habits regarding banking and cash withdrawals.
 4. Secure your vehicle: Ensure that your vehicle is locked, windows are closed, and valuables are not visible, reducing the likelihood of becoming a target.
 5. Report suspicious activity: If you notice someone acting suspiciously or believe you are being followed, report it to the police as soon as possible.
- It is important to remember that jugging robberies can occur in different locations and circumstances, so remaining vigilant and taking appropriate safety measures is essential to minimize the risk of becoming a victim.

Coping with Climate Change Takes Everyone

FROM PAGE 8

ergy and Environmental Coordination. County libraries lend thermal cameras to help detect home energy losses, he reported, and Dominion Energy and Washington Gas offer energy conservation programs.

Connolly touted his initiatives starting in 2003 when he was elected to the Board of Supervisors. He said that the county set a tree canopy goal of 45 percent and it is now at 57 percent. In 2022, Congress passed and he voted for the “largest ever environmental bill ever,” the Inflation Reduction Act and an infrastructure bill.

Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan Storck ticked off county efforts – the Fairfax Green Initiative, the Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP), Resilient Fairfax and the Joint Environmental Task Force.

The CECAP plan seeks energy carbon neutrality in local government operations by 2040. A second goal is carbon neutrality in the community from all sources by 2050, with at least an 87 percent reduction in total greenhouse gas emissions compared with 2005 levels. “It will be very difficult,” Storck said, adding, “We are making excellent progress.”

County operations are responsible for only three to five percent of overall emissions, commented Andrea McGimsey, Executive Director of the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, which puts a major responsibility to reduce greenhouse gas pollution on everyone. “Collective action matters,” Connolly told the crowd.

Fairfax County for the last 20



Michael Forrester from the U.S. Department of Energy described federal assistance.



Andrea McGimsey, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, said that addressing a warming planet is a “moral challenge.”



years has been “on the leading edge” in reducing energy and emissions, said Board Chair Jeff McKay. He spotlighted new solar panels on the Woodlawn and Reston fire stations, saying they will bring “thousands of dollars in energy savings. More are in the pipeline. They will pay for themselves.”

Mount Vernon resident Kem Clawson, dubbing himself and his wife Hillary as “climate action advocates,” applauded the action focus of the presentations. “You will be our messengers,” McKay challenged.

Around 250 people attended the conference.

PHOTO BY
GLENDA BOOTH

Police Chief Resists Some Recommendations

Foot pursuit delayed even after death of Timothy Johnson in police shooting incident.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Police policies, training, and procedures in 2023 are changing at a national level in terms of de-escalation tactics, appropriate use of force, foot pursuit policies, shooting at vehicles, and approaching people in mental health crises, to mention a few. In Police Chief Keven Davis's presentation to the full Fairfax County Board of Supervisors at the Safety and Security Committee Meeting on Oct. 3, he chose a subset from the total of 315 police reform practices and policy recommendations offered to the county police department by two groups since May of this year to assess and respond to the status of implementation.

Davis explained to the supervisors that the FCPD took a lot of time and carefully considered each recommendation that the PERF (Police Executive Research Forum) and the Matrix Working Group made to it this year. "We're very pleased to note that FCPD has either adopted, partially or in total, or is currently in the process of adopting the vast majority of recommendations" [306 out of 315]. PERF is a nationally accredited law enforcement agency focused on police research and policy organization. Among other things, it conducts requested reviews of police departments with a full listing of recommendations and actions.

A discussion and question-and-answer session with the supervisors would follow the chief's presentation. Supervisor Rodney Lusk (D), committee chair, said, "We're not going to be able to address all the recommendations, but he will give us an update on those included in the report today." A follow-up session will occur regarding recommendations by the matrix group. According to staff, the pending draft document on those recommendations should be available in the next two to three weeks, before the end of October.

According to Davis, the status of "13 of the 15" recommendations made to the FCPD by PERF had been either adopted, partially or in total, or currently in the process of being adopted. The two recommendations that do not meet those metrics include #15, "requiring officers to capture all calls that include some type of mental health or behavioral health component in its Records Management System. Further, FCPD should use a designation other than 'mental case' — such as 'mental health' or 'mental/behavioral health' — to categorize these calls."

Davis said that the department is currently evaluating how to better record this data in its new Records Management System.

The other PERF recommendation the department is not implementing include #7, "FCPD should update its use-of-force policy to indicate that force may not be used against a person unless, under the totality of the circumstances, that force is necessary and proportional."



Chief Kevin Davis, Fairfax County Police Department



Supervisor Walter L. Alcorn (D-Hunter Mill)

on the foot pursuit policy: "Is it correct to say that, as of today, we don't have an explicit policy on this — that our policy will be guided by what other departments are doing, but we know they don't have particularly good policies on this? So, in fact, we might be creating a sound policy here in Fairfax. Can you give me a timeline?" Chief Davis: "When we put a policy forward, we want it to actually be a policy and not a regurgitation, referring to your training manual ... We average about six foot pursuits per week, and we've learned a lot about time and day. We're happy with the data collection policy, but we realize that is not the policy that folks are talking about. [The timeline], early 2024."

Davis said the change would contradict the "Graham v. Connor" case standard as decided by the Supreme Court in 1989. According to Davis, the case recognizes officers do not need to use the minimum amount of force in a given situation but rather must use a force option that is reasonable based upon the totality of the circumstances known to the officer at the time force was used.

Responses to Recommendations by PERF

Davis ticked off the department's responses to PERF recommendations, adding how the department adjusted policies, practices, and procedures as necessary. Davis began with Recommendation #1, which he considered "by far the gold standard on the use of force training deescalation diffusion



Supervisor Rodney L. Lusk (D), chair of Safety and Security Committee, said to Chief Davis that on the use of force study by the University of San Antonio (2019), "you've been pretty specific in saying we've been able to reach 80 percent of those recommendations. I think what we need to do is show and document where that 80 percent is ... for us to be able to know which things have already been checked off."



Supervisor Daniel G. Storck (D-Mount Vernon)

"I want a high-level view of what direction you're going with CACs (Community Action Committees)." Davis: "The CAC, like the government and the police department, should reflect the community ... For the first time ever, we have a CAC chair and vice chair who are African American females. We want to be a little more inviting to members of the community who might be apprehensive about walking into a police station."

throughout the country."

#1: In process: FCPD is completing mandatory ICAT training, [Integrate, Communications, Assessment, and Tactics]. It is a guide that PERF developed for defusing critical incidents.

#2: FCPD is "seeking," Davis said, to reinforce ICAT with the Critical-Decision Making Model [CDMM]. According to PERF, it is the backbone of ICAT. To collect information; assess situations, threats, and risks; consider police powers and agency policy; identify options; determine the best course of action; and act, review, and re-assess.

#3: PERF recommended that the department "require or recommend" first-line



Chairman Jeff McKay (D), made a request. "We've been told there are shortcomings in our existing, antiquated records management system ... if you could provide a memo that will outline the features of the [new] management system."



Supervisor Dalia A. Palchik (D-Providence)

"I'm finding it a little bit tricky and difficult to, first of all, easily find where all the data is stored. We have a few different websites up there; the open.org website is called the state website and is not always the prettiest. I think we have some excellent staff who can maybe help with that — make sure that they are more user-friendly, can share them with the community, and can be targeted in that data approach."

supervisors to respond to mental-health-related crisis calls. Davis said "FCPD General Order 609 (Mental Health Calls for Service) requires that "whenever possible."

#4 The department is committed to the co-responder program and Critical Intervention Training. Will the department "allocate the requisite officers needed to support this initiative as the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board makes officers and field clinicians available?"

#5 PERF recommends that FCPD conduct sentinel event reviews of police shooting incidents and in-custody deaths. The April 2023 FCPD report states, "FCPD is currently in the process of reviewing this recommendation ... to determine practicality and feasibility."

#6: See #7. Add "proportionality" to the definitions in its use-of-force policy.

#7: Not implemented.

#8: Update the policy on shooting into vehicles. According to Davis, the current policy language of General Order 540 prohibiting officers from using deadly force at, into, or from moving vehicles is significantly clearer

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Supervisor James R. Walkinshaw (D-Braddock)

"I think this would have been more productive if we had the report in advance and then responded to it today." On Use of force, asking Richard Schott, Independent Police Auditor. Walkinshaw: "So your recommendation is still no change on general orders related to use of force?" Schott: "Yes. And what I indicate in my explanation is that I think officers should be trained to attempt a minimal amount of force, but I don't think it should be a written policy that you have to use a minimum amount of force because I'm not yet convinced that there is one minimum amount of force that can be attempted."



Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield)

"If I have any concerns, it is that we don't handcuff ourselves as we did with the Trust Policy ... My other concern that we need to dig into is our ability to continue to hire the best and brightest officers. It's recruiting and training that I'd like to see the department focus on." Davis: "During the month of September, we welcomed over 70 new FCPD recruits. In terms of quality, education is one of them; 70 percent have a bachelor's degree or higher."

and more restrictive on what officers are permitted or not permitted to do than PERF's recommendation. FCPD prohibits officers from shooting at, into, or from moving vehicles unless there is a threat of serious injury or death to the officer or another person. Additionally, the policy requires officers to move out of the path of an oncoming vehicle whenever possible and strictly prohibits them from intentionally placing themselves within the path of an oncoming vehicle.

#9: All operational FCPD members and specialized units are now equipped with body-worn cameras and required to utilize them by department policy.

#10: Answering PERF's recommendation that when conducting an administrative in-



Supervisor John W. Foust (D-Dranesville)

"Have you met with the [matrix] working group?" Davis: "Our work inside the police department has been able to evaluate and respond to the many recommendations that were made." Foust: "I don't understand why the two groups, Matrix and the police, didn't get together and agree ... So we have one place to look for all this. You're in the draft form... I would ask you to meet with the matrix group and see what you can resolve between the two of you so that we're not dealing with 'he said, she said.'" Davis: "With all due respect, I'm unfamiliar with the work done by the people who gave up their time, their passion, and their talents to put together the report to submit to this body ... We wanted to get that report back to the Board of Supervisors, and that's what we've done." Foust: "So you will or will not meet with them [the matrix working group]?" Davis: "I will meet with anybody, anytime."

vestigation of a police shooting incident, Internal Affairs detectives should examine all related actions to determine whether personnel acted according to departmental policy, Davis responded that the FCPD Internal Affairs Bureau conducts thorough, complete, and objective investigations into all allegations against department members.

#11: According to Davis FCPD, it now meets the 45-day time limit for convening the department's Performance Review Board in the aftermath of any reviewable critical incident. As noted in the department's May report, the bureau had inadvertently not deliberated on some of the reviewable officer involved shooting incidents.

#12: Given the recommendation that a tactical debrief take place no later than 72 hours after a police critical incident or in-custody death, according to Davis in his May report, the Standard Operating Procedure 12-045 (Police Affiliated Critical Incidents) will be further revised in the near future to formalize this ongoing practice.

#13: Executive and administrative staff meet along with agency SMEs, the morning of the next workday following a critical incident.

#14: Responding to the recommendation that the department should adopt a foot pursuit policy, one that guides officers when deciding whether the risks inherent in pursuing a subject on foot weigh against the alternatives or ultimately justify a pursuit, FCPD adopted a foot pursuit data collection policy applicable to all sworn Department members, but not a foot pursuit policy.

#15: Not implemented

Fairfax County NAACP Condemns Chief Davis's Action

Chief rejects recommendations and measures to save lives.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County police chased and killed Timothy Johnson during a foot pursuit seven months ago; he was suspected of stealing sunglasses. Community leaders, Fairfax NAACP, ACLU People Power, and faith leaders say Fairfax County must prioritize police reform before another death.

On Oct. 2, the Fairfax County NAACP issued an "urgent statement" on behalf of community leaders, condemning Police Chief Davis' rejection of "life-saving measures." According to the release, Timothy Johnson would be alive if the best practice policy had been established earlier this year.

The two-page document states that Davis would share his vision of a "progressive Fairfax police force" in a presentation to the Board of Supervisors the following day, Oct. 3. The Fairfax NAACP, ACLU People Power Fairfax, and faith leaders questioned Davis's position: Do Black lives matter? According to the release, Davis asserted that there are "few areas where consensus has not been reached" on the Police Reform Matrix Working Group (matrix) and the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).

"Consensus with whom?" the release questions. According to the release, the chief refused to meet with the working group's faith leaders, Fairfax NAACP and ACLU People Power Fairfax, to discuss their concerns. At Tuesday's Safety & Security meeting, Supervisor John Foust asked Chief Davis about the topic in a question-and-answer exchange after the chief's presentation. Foust pressed for the chief's response.

"Have you met with the matrix working group?" Foust questions. "Our work inside the police department has been able to evaluate and respond to the many recommendations," Davis says.

"I don't understand why matrix [group] and the police didn't get together," says Foust. He adds, "I would ask you to meet with the matrix, work, and see what you can resolve between the two of you."

Davis says, "We wanted to get [the police response] report back to the Board of Supervisors, and that's what we've done."

Foust pushes back, "So you will or will not meet with them [the matrix working group]?"

Davis answers, "I will meet with anybody anytime."

According to the release, Chief Davis is not solely responsible. Police shootings and disparities have increased under this Board of Supervisors, which "failed to address these problems."

"It has the authority and duty to set public safety policy and must act now. Awaiting newly elected members to take charge is unacceptable."

The release listed five issues the chief ignored that the board must address according NAACP, ACLU People Power, Voices of Black Fairfax and others:



Use of force: Guns, tasers, and other uses of force were twice as common on Black people in a June 2021 FCPD independent study. Overusing force, especially against people of color, has increased since then. Fairfax has been part of nine police shooting incidents since 2022, six in 2022, and three this year. Four shooting victims died. This is a 300 percent increase from the 10-year 1.5 shooting average.

Arrest rates: FCPD ignored disparities in arrest rates. Chief Davis says, "FCPD actively monitors arrest trends to promptly identify and correct any evident disparities." However, Fairfax's data found that Black and Latino residents were 4.2 and 2.9 times more likely, respectively, to be arrested than white residents.

Non-coproduction: There is no real engagement with communities of color and their advocates on other issues, as well as the matrix group. The chief also prevented advocates and community leaders from meeting with his staff on foot pursuit and data policies.

Expanding civilian oversight: FCPD and the Fairfax Civilian Review Panel "have had only one disagreement" over six years, so Chief Davis opposes expanding its authority. NAACP et al call for expanding the Civilian Review Panel's power now that the Virginia General Assembly has made that possible. The Fairfax County review panel cannot investigate or make discipline recommendations like the Alexandria and Arlington review panels. PERF also found flaws in FCPD's internal investigation of police shooting incidents.

PERF's foot pursuit recommendations: Chief Davis announced he adopted "a foot pursuit data collection policy."

"Data collection is not enough. PERF (report pp. 13-15) provided detailed recommendations for when a pursuit is appropriate, as have community advocates," according to the release.

Publicizing the Chief's detailed responses on all recommendations and providing them to the Board is next.

Fairfax NAACP et al call for holding countywide public forums to gather oral and written community input on the matrix working group's recommendations and other police concerns; co-producing police policies with affected communities and promptly meeting with the matrix members on their recommendations.

Founders Alice and Jerry Foltz Receive Visionary Award

FROM PAGE 3
community we need to be a strong county and a strong nation.”

With the theme, “Celebrating a Community United for Justice,” the event began with Jerry Foltz, CIF’s Board of Directors chairman, recognizing three honored guests who also make positive differences by advocating for justice for immigrants in the U.S.:

* Annabel Park is a Korean American documentary filmmaker, political activist and community organizer. She shined light on the struggles of immigrants in America via her documentary, “9500 Liberty,” in which viewers participated. It highlighted the struggles in Manassas and Prince William County in 2008-2009, when leaders passed laws to make life difficult for immigrants there. And it included clips of Herndon’s opposition to a day-labor center in its town.

Park’s story of building community in the face of bigotry inspired Centreville to organize in the years following. She later co-produced the “Story of America” documentary series about political division and voting rights in the U.S.

❖ Hassan Ahmad founded the HMA Law Firm. He’s fluent or proficient in eight languages besides English, giving his clients comfort when telling their stories. His perspective on immigration as a means to prosperity is borne from his belief in unity in diversity, advising nationals of 117 countries around the world for nearly 20 years.

He’s a strong voice for justice, writes about immigrants’ rights and the importance of advocating for them outside the courtroom. Ahmad speaks fearlessly against laws and policies limiting immigrants’ lives, and about one-third of his practice is devoted to asylum cases. And he refuses to allow negative stereotypes, bigotry and racism to thwart his work.

❖ Monica Sarmiento is the founder/executive director of the Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights (VACIR), dedicated to the defense of dignity, power and quality of life for all immigrant and refugee communities. A Salvadoran American, she built VACIR into a coalition of immigrant-rights groups with a respected voice in the Virginia General Assembly.

During the past nine years, her work helped lead to driver-privilege cards for immigrants, increased language access to public information, plus in-state tuition for all high-school graduates. Through VACIR’s efforts, she said, “Laws have taken effect that have changed the lives of over half



Several CIF members were honored during the event.



Heidi Hernandez.



Erick Martinez.



Claudia Álvarez.

a million Virginians. For example, CIF members’ testimony helped us fight against the citizenship question in the 2020 census [and obtain] the inclusion of undocumented immigrants in the reapportionment process for Congress.”

The CIF operates the Centreville Labor Resource Center (CLRC), and its program manager, Vania Torres, noted that “Once primarily serving day laborers who were mostly men, we now serve more women and families. Our programs are focused on promoting financial stability, skills development and advocacy. We connect our members to employment, train them in various skills and offer ESL classes. And we partner with experts to make sure workers’ rights are upheld and their wages are paid.”

Next, CIF Outreach Coordinator Claudia Álvarez said joining CIF made her feel at home – part of a family and a team wanting to help immigrants. She also stressed that

it contains people from Bolivia, Honduras, El Salvador, Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela, Spain, Belize, Mexico, Peru, the U.S., and Guatemala – comprising more than 60 percent of the members.

“They’re all special to us and are here to help their families or to have better living conditions,” said Álvarez. She then honored 12 members with plaques for their exceptional work, dedication, leadership and support of those in need. Recognized were: Cristina Urbina, Elvira Gomez, Heidi Hernandez, Jany Escobar, Rosa Cedillo, Blanca Janampa, Pedro Brito, Ilson Gomez, Douglas Mogollon, Pedro Serrano, Javier Vazquez and Eli Ortega.

Afterward, two people shared their personal stories with the attendees. Introducing herself as a wife, mother and CLRC member, Heidi Hernandez said she came here from El Salvador to work and to help her family she had to leave

behind. And she spoke about barriers, labor exploitation, opportunities and education.

Calling language a cultural shock, she said, “It’s a great challenge for an indigenous person to learn to speak a second language, Spanish, and a third, English. It was difficult for me to find work; I could barely make enough money to help my family back home – and I’m not the only one. Many of us are exploited in our pay. Employers take advantage of us, violate labor norms and security, and many don’t even allow lunch breaks.”

“I went through this before I came to Centreville,” continued Hernandez. “I didn’t have anyone to guide me, and I went through a tunnel of obstacles. We’re all vulnerable, but God uses these obstacles to make us strong and brave and give us the persistence to keep going. And I learned we have the right to say no when we go through labor abuse.”

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION
“At the CLRC, I found good programs, services and an opportunity to serve. I love volunteering and helping others. I also found a multicultural community with people who support us and feel like family. They empower us and give us training and opportunities for work. The center also educates us; my favorite classes are ESL and computer programming.”

CIF Board of Directors member Erick Martinez asked attendees to imagine what’s going on inside the head of a 6-year-old child who’s “lost and doesn’t know where he is or where to go. That’s what I felt when I came to this country. I felt vulnerable, small and intimidated. It was a completely different culture; I couldn’t communicate. I felt alone, even though I came with my family. It was very difficult.”

But as an adult, he learned he could go to the CLRC to get work. “I went and volunteered,” said Martinez. “I was looking for a job and I found a hug. Today, I work legally. I have a stable job, a work permit, Social Security number and a car – simple things people are born with. But for immigrants, it’s the world. My family and I are happy about this, and I’ve changed the way I see the world and want to replicate that for other people. That’s why I’m on the CIF Board.”

❖ To contact the CLRC to hire a worker for jobs such as painting, landscaping, moving, drywall work, housecleaning, general labor, etc., call 703-543-6272/73 or 703-459-0331 or email contact@thecifva.org.

Early Education Pays Off

BY DEL. KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

Of the many educational programs that have been funded by all levels of government and the private sector, none have had as many positive, continuing impacts on participants as expenditures on early childhood education. There is a huge body of research proving the point.

Between 1962 and 1967, a group of 3- and 4-year-old children began preschool at Perry Elementary School in Ypsilanti, Michigan in a program still referred to as the Perry Preschool Project. (highscope.org/perry-preschool-project) The children studied were from low-income families and had other risk factors associated with potentially poor academic performance. The purpose of the study was to gauge the effect of early childhood education on the children and their communities. Research psychologist David Weikart compared the students' experiences and outcomes over time to those of children from the same neighborhoods who had not attended preschool. Comparisons between these two groups of children who are now adults continue to the present day more than a half-century later.

The results continue to be striking. Over time, the original participants:

- ❖ Had fewer teenage pregnancies.
- ❖ Were more likely to have graduated from high school.
- ❖ Were more likely to hold a job and have higher earnings.
- ❖ Committed fewer crimes.
- ❖ Owned their own home and car.

Research over more than a half century shows that participants in effective early childhood education:

- ❖ Have more stable marriages.
- ❖ Have a greater likelihood of providing their children with a more stable two-parent home in

which to grow up.

- ❖ Have children slightly later in life.
- ❖ Remain stably married by the time their children turned 18.

Research conducted in the last two decades found that children of the Perry Project participants:

- ❖ Spend at least three times the amount of time with stably married parents before age 18. Boys of the male Perry participants spend 15 times the amount of time with stably married parents.

- ❖ Are more educated, healthy, gainfully employed citizens who are productive members of society.

- ❖ Excel in various life domains today despite growing up in neighborhoods that are similar or worse off than neighborhoods of the control group.

There are dozens of pieces of research findings that reach the same conclusion. Last week the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation and the Virginia Chamber of Commerce presented at their statewide conference the results of a study done by professional researchers from the Prenatal-to 3 Policy Impact Center at Vanderbilt University's Peabody College: "Articulating the Value of Early Childhood Investment in Virginia." The report summary is that "the science is clear—safe, stable, stimulating, and nurturing environments with limited exposure to adversity promote healthy brain and body developments in the earliest years, supporting a lifetime of wellbeing and educational success." Virginia spent a record \$309 million on early education programs in FY23. Most of that money was from federal temporary pandemic funding that will expire in the coming year. With the overwhelming evidence of the success of early childhood education programs, it is critically important that Virginia legislators find a way to continue a high level of funding for early childhood education. We know it will have a positive payoff in the short and long range.

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Kennedy Duda puts the game's first points on the board in Westfield's 28-24 loss to Madison.

Undefeated, Madison Beats Westfield

BY WILL PALENSCAR
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

For the Madison Warhawks it was another game where they just don't quit. On Friday night in Chantilly, the undefeated Warhawks had about all they could handle. The Westfield Bulldogs would jump out to an early 7-0 lead when Kennedy Duda powered his way in from four yards out with 6:25 remaining in the opening quarter. Madison would score on an equalizer when Dominic Knicely scored on a 25 yard reception.

Later in the 2nd quarter Westfield kicker Will Wiemann kicked a 25 yard field goal to give the Bulldogs a 10-7 advantage. Madison would take the lead when Dominic Knicely rushed in from 5 yards out giving the Warhawks their first lead 14-10, but Westfield would have an answer when quarterback Matthew Jenks scored on a quarterback

keeper with 3:04 to play before the half.

Matthew Jenks would find Huda Johnson on a 20 yard touchdown reception with 10:42 to play in the game, the Bulldogs now up 24-14.

But Madison, runners-up in the previous two Class 6 Virginia State Championships, scored the first of two 4th quarter touchdowns when Warhawk quarterback Cord Yates ran in for a short touchdown with 4:20 to play in the game. The Warhawks were now down 24-21.

Cael Yates would score Madison's second touchdown with just :39n seconds to play leaving the Bulldog crowd in shock.

Westfield had one final opportunity when Westfield QB Jenks would throw a Hail Mary on the final play of the game into the end-zone which was nearly intercepted as time expired. With the 28-24 win Madison (7-0) (2-0) will host South Lakes. Westfield will host crosstown rival Centreville.



Dominic Knicely runs with the ball while trying to avoid Connor Morin #5



Matthew Jenks is hit as he releases a pass down the field.



Matthew Jenks prepares to hand off to Kennedy Duda.



Dominic Knicely powers his way into the endzone for Madison.



Huda Johnson #17 is in the endzone after a 20 yard touchdown reception



Behind the scenes, teeterboard training, practice, & warm-up, hone athletic skills....



PHOTOS BY SUSAN LAUME/THE CONNECTION
Warden of the wardrobe, Laura McClure, of Kentucky, cares for character costumes, including these of the COLOR PAPER PEOPLE suits, with teeter board warm-up going behind.



PHOTO BY JEAN-FRANCOIS SAVARIA
On stage, the COLOR PAPER PEOPLE don the rainbow of colors to reflect humanity in the Human Cradle, worn by a team from Ethiopia

Cirque du Soleil's ECHO Comes to Town

It's not your grandfather's circus.

BY SUSAN LAUME
THE CONNECTION

There are no elephants or lion tamers. This is not your grandfather's old-style American circus. While there are acrobats, a contortionist, high-wire acts, and clowns, the performances are woven together, choreographed as a story; creating an entertainment more like a high-flying drama than circuses of the past.

"What really excites me most about this beautiful project is the ability to push the boundaries of what can be achieved in a Big Top setting and deliver a joyful experience, full of surprises, to millions of people around the world," says the show's director, Mukhtar Omar Sharif Mukhtar.

Cirque du Soleil makes its return to Northern Virginia under the Big Top at Tysons II with a new show through Oct. 22. This time, for the first time, starting its U.S. tour here with ECHO. This is Cirque's 20th big top touring show. ECHO tells the story of FUTURE, an inquisitive young woman, who wanders into a fantasy world with the company of her best friend, EWAI, a dog. Encountering a mysterious CUBE, they quickly learn how their actions have the power to shape the world. ECHO says they tell the story "of connections, intention, and the symbiotic unions between humans and the natural world. Fueled by the power of change, the hope of youth and the value of empathy, if we come together, we can rebuild our planet to create the



The well known Big Tops of Cirque du Soleil again command the sky in Tysons.

world we all want to live in. "

The show's artistic director, Fabrice explains ECHO was developed in two phases, before and after COVID halted work; changing creative designers in the interim. Once restarted, it took months to complete the design concept, original music, and physical stage elements. The last step put all the elements together for four weeks of fine tuning during preview performances near Soleil's Montreal headquarters. Sixty tractor trailers move the multiple tents, lights, projectors, wires, and other stage elements and performance equipment, and furniture, washers and dryers, kitchen equipment, costumes, physical therapy benches, sewing machines; right down to



PHOTO BY JEAN-FRANCOIS SAVARIA
On stage, teeterboard athletes turn into birds in flight with team members from Australia, Brazil, Kazakhstan, Mexico, U.K., and Russia

make-up and mirrors. The main tent holds the stage and room for an audience of up to 2,500 under its nearly 80-foot high top. The show's major stage element, the CUBE, itself is two stories high, weighing about two tons.

A second artistic tent houses a wardrobe area with all the costume pieces, including accessories, shoes, and wigs; dressing rooms, a fully equipped training area, and a physiotherapy room. A third houses the kitchen and staff dining room; between meals becoming a place that doubles as a common gathering room for the cast of 52 and technicians. It takes four and a half days to put it all up, and two days to break down when the show moves to the next city to be-

gin it all again. The Tyson's stop will be a short seven weeks, before the show goes on to Atlanta for a three month long engagement.

The troupe, from 19 different countries, shares English as their "circus language".

Watching pre-show warm-ups of the triple teeterboard team, even practice in the artistic tent is a high-flying activity. One can sense the shared joy of synchronized movement that creates the freedom to float in the air. Banter and laughter erupt linking the team. On stage, in costume, the team is transformed into playful birds, taking flight from the teeter boards into the air with energy.

You won't see frizzy haired clowns with red bulb noses and

large shoes. DOUBLE TROUBLE, the clowns here, "identify more closely as characters", says artistic director, Fabrice Lemire. DOUBLE TROUBLE meet the audience in pre-show shenanigans and bridge a bond between the audience and the other characters.

Costume lead, Laura McClure, who joined Cirque in 2014 from Kentucky, says laundry is a constant as crew members also bring their personal laundry from their hotel living quarters.

Those interested in the music of ECHO will find a first for Cirque productions: the live band includes six vocalists who also play instruments during the performance. As in other shows, the musicians are on stage creating the mood with the tempo and peaks and valleys of their emotional live music.

Hachaliah Bailey was a New York cattle breeder in 1808 when he bought a young Indian elephant, one of the first in America, and began exhibiting it with a trained dog and a few pigs. His animal acts, beyond just horse tricks, would evolve into the Bailey part of the Ringling Brothers & Barnum and Bailey Circus. He moved to Northern Virginia in 1837 buying land in Fairfax County that gives Bailey's Crossroads his name; wintering his circus there. By 2019, England had banned wild animals in traveling circuses, and in the U.S., 37 States and 150 cities had bans or restrictions on wild animal use.

Modern circuses, like Cirque du Soleil, have evolved from traveling menagerie run by businessmen in the U.S. and those in Europe controlled by performing families, into a refined performing art. For more on ECHO including ticket information, see

<https://www.cirquedusoleil.com/>

ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THRU NOV 10

Into the Hothouse Exhibit.

At Gillespie Gallery of Art, GMU's Art and Design Building, 4515 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Mason Exhibitions presents Into the Hothouse, an immersive site-specific installation by Chicago-based artist Aimée Beaubien. The exhibit is a category-defying constellation of dozens of gathered, printed, and hand-made works that explore botanical and environmental subject matter. Natural forms, technological interventions, and laborious craft techniques abound. The gallery is free and open to the public from Monday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS

Tours Aboard Tall Ship Providence and Sen. John Warner Maritime Heritage Center.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Alexandria's Waterfront Park, 1A Prince Street, Alexandria. Guests of all ages are recruited into the Continental Navy aboard Tall Ship Providence with legendary Captain John Paul Jones. Recruits are assigned jobs on the ship, learn where they will work and live, how to load a cannon, etc... Tours conclude in the Naval History Theatre with a film about the ship. The Heritage center is a floating museum on the Alexandria waterfront. Visit <https://tallshipprovidence.org/>

FUNDAY MONDAY

"Funday Monday is open to children of all ages, however is best suited for the preschool set! Funday Monday runs from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and — unless otherwise noted — is held at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. There are plenty of free parking lots/garages in Old Town Fairfax. Stroller access is available at the side entrance Old Town Hall facing Route 236/Main Street. For more information visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts."

SCHEDULE

Oct. 16 -- Music together Sing and Groove
Oct. 23 -- My Gym
Oct. 30 -- Kids Nature Puppet Show "Creepy Creatures"
Nov 6 -- Miss Mollie's Musical Fun
Nov. 13 -- No Program
Nov. 20 -- My Gym
Nov. 27 -- Drew Blue Shoes Magic
Dec. 4 -- Music Together Sing and Groove
Dec. 11 -- My Gym
Dec. 18 -- TBD

SATURDAYS THRU NOVEMBER

Reston Museum. See how Reston's founding principles were implemented by joining the upcoming walking tour. Tour will be held 10 a.m. every Saturday through November. Sign up at: <https://www.restonmuseum.org/event-details/guided-walking-tour-restons-founding-2023-09-09-10-00>

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Spooky Fall Festivities. At Go Ape Zipline & Adventure Park, South Run RECenter, Springfield. This ground-based experience will take guests on a hike through the park, navigating various creatures from your deepest, darkest nightmares. Participants will be immersed in the natural environment, never knowing what might be waiting around the next curve in the path.



"The Pirates of Penzance" can be seen Friday, Oct. 13, 2023 at McLean Community Center in McLean.

Is that just the wind through the branches? Definitely not! This guided, anxiety-filled adventure will take 20-30 minutes with a cost of \$14.95 per person. Go Ape is also expanding the Frights at Height experience! Launched in 2022, this autumnal aerial activity is now available on select evenings in both September and October. Guests will find zombies, ghosts, and ghouls hiding in creepy corners under the Treetop Journey zipline and ropes course. Only \$39.95 per person for this 1-hour gravity defying, scream-filled adventure after dark...if you dare. Visit www.goape.com.

NOW THRU NOV. 7

Cox Farms Fall Festival 2023. At Cox Farms, corner of Braddock Road and Pleasant Valley Road, Centreville. The Fall Festival is filled with family-friendly entertainment and attractions including slides, swings, animals, hayrides and more. From the world-famous hayride to our corny Cornundrum and giant slides, our Fall Festival has something for the whole family. The Fall Festival is open Sept. 16-17, and then Thursday through Monday Sept. 23-Nov. 6, plus Tuesday, Nov. 7. Hours Sept. 16 – 17; Thursdays through Mondays Sept. 23 – Oct. 30: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Nov. 2 – 7: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (last entry one hour before closing). Market is open daily through Nov. 7.

The Fields of Fear Hours: Friday and Saturday nights Sept. 22 – Nov. 4 (plus Sunday, Oct. 8) 7:30-11 p.m. (last entry 10 p.m.) Featuring more than 20 acres of fear and spooky attractions.

NOW THRU OCT. 29

Fall Fest 2023. At Reston Farm Garden Market, 10800 Baron Cameron Avenue, Reston. Saturdays and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Fall Fest schedule spans weekends from September 23rd to October 29th, with the Columbus Day special on October 9th, operating from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per child and \$5 per parent, while children aged two and under enter for free. The festival offers a variety of activities, including inflatables such as a corn maze, two 20' slides, two pumpkin bounce houses, and a basketball game. There's also a charming petting zoo, the Reston Farm Garden Market Express Train,

and live music for entertainment. The market features seasonal items like chrysanthemums, pansies, fresh produce, natural jams, local organic honey, farm-fresh products, pumpkins, seasonal decor, and our famous Apple Cider Donuts. You can also savor offerings from local food trucks throughout the weekend. Book your tickets on our website: <https://www.restonfarm.com/fall-fest>.

SEPT. 28 TO OCT. 22

(EXTENDED)

"The Chosen." At 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. The Chosen by Aaron Posner and Chaim Potok, directed by Alex Levy. Tickets: \$25-\$50 general admission, \$15 students, educators, and military. Purchase online at www.1ststage.org or 703-854-1856.

OCT. 6 TO OCT. 31

The Haunted Trail. Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night starting at 6:30 p.m. At The Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. The Workhouse Arts Center celebrates its 10th annual Haunted Trail by bringing scares and laughs to the Halloween season. Haunt: Game Over immerses guests through a highly themed walk-through experience, as creepy characters deliver contactless scares in multiple scenes. Guests will travel in small groups via a timed entry for a frightening experience that brings them next to abandoned, historic buildings where they will encounter terrifying characters and sights that are not for the faint of heart. The spirits will get loud with live music on Fridays, Saturdays, and Halloween night, with a rotating schedule of band performances in the Rizer Pavilion, which also serves as the check-in area and 'virtual line' for Haunt entry. Food trucks, soft drinks, snacks, wine, beer, and themed-specialty drinks will be available for purchase on campus. Gates open at 6:30 p.m.; Final groups will be dispatched by 10:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays; and 9:30 p.m. on Sundays.

FARMERS MARKET FALL HARVEST FESTIVALS
Join the Fairfax County Park Au-

thority at this year's Fall Harvest Festival to be hosted at four participating Farmers Market locations this October!

Enjoy delicious foods from local farmers and celebrate the fall harvest with fresh produce, including apples, greens, broccoli and, of course, pumpkins. Shopping at the farmers market is a great way to celebrate all that the season has to offer, while supporting local farmers, businesses and communities.

Enjoy live music, free samples of warm apple cider, pumpkin decorating, trivia games, prizes and more. This activity is free and open to the public, but activity supplies are limited. To participate in this year's Fall Harvest Festival, visit any or all of the following market locations on the designated dates:
Oak Marr (3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton) Wednesday, Oct. 11, 8 a.m. to noon
Annandale (6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale), Thursday, Oct. 12, 8 a.m. to noon
McLean (1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean), Friday, Oct. 13, 8 a.m. to noon
Lorton (8994 Potomac Bend, Lorton), Sunday, Oct. 15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
For additional information, contact the Community Horticulture Office at 703-642-0128 or visit the Farmers Market website.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 11

Foreign Language Film. 6:30 p.m. At The Alden, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The Alden's foreign language movie series is curated by Performing Arts Director Sarah Schallern Treff, with more than a little help from you, our audience members! The series has a few surprises thrown in. Visit mcleancenter.org.

FRIDAY/OCT. 13

"The Pirates of Penzance." 7 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Presented by The Alden; \$20/\$17 students and seniors/\$15 MCC district residents. Everyone has pretended to be a pirate at some point! Set sail with this classic, abbreviated, musical comedy and a cabaret of favorites from the G&S canon. Visit mcleancenter.org.

OCT. 13-15

Farm Harvest Days and Carnival. At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Enjoy Big

Truck Night on Oct. 13; watch the cider press in action, milk a cow, shell corn, peel apples and play old-fashion games on Oct. 14-15; and enjoy food, games and rides at the carnival all weekend long! Admission is free; carnival ride tickets are available for purchase. Visit the Frying Pan Farm Park website or call 703-437-9101.

OCT. 13-15

Capital Art & Craft Festival. At Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly. Friday, Oct 13 and Saturday Oct 14: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday Oct 15: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. The Capital Art & Craft Festival will feature handcrafted, one of a kind art in more than a dozen mediums including glass, jewelry, leather, paintings, prints, photography, pottery, wearable art and wood. It is the largest indoor arts festival in Northern Virginia. Tickets: \$10 in advance; \$12 at the door Senior discount available; children under 12 free. Ticket information: www.CapitalArtAnd-CraftFestivals.com

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Centreville Day. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A Historic Centreville Park, 5714 Mt. Gilead Road, Centreville. The 31th Annual Centreville Day celebration features live music, a colorful parade, children's activities and fun galore. The opening ceremony is at 10 a.m. on the Abogados En Virginia Main Stage, where Supervisor Kathy Smith (D-Sully) will present Centreville Day's Citizens of the Year awards. Remote parking is available on Rt. 29 near Carrabba's. Free shuttles will take you from parking on Rt. 29 to Braddock Road. Admission is free. Entertainment is free. Children's rides are free. The theme this year remains: "Communities Working Together" See how you can work together to help overcome some of today's challenges by learning about recycling and composting at the new Eco Expo!

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Jazz4Justice Concert. 8 p.m. At GMU Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Celebrating the legacy of Anthony Maiello, the event raises funds to directly support vital legal services for low-income Northern Virginians as well as financial support for the Mason Jazz Studies department, including scholarships, trips, recordings, and student projects. The performance will include classic jazz standards performed by the Mason Jazz Vocal Ensemble and Mason Jazz Vocal Ensemble. In addition, there will be an open jam session hosted by Mason students following the concert. Visit cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Mini-Golf Fundraiser. 12-5 p.m. At Jefferson District Park in Falls Church. Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia will be hosting their inaugural Mini Golf Celebration as a fundraiser in honor of International Day of the Girl. This event will help raise critical funds to support future programming as the number of participants receiving program scholarships continues to increase. In addition to serving as a fundraiser for GOTR NOVA, this event will serve as a community celebration, bringing individuals together, as well as bring awareness to the Girls on the Run mission. Girls on the Run reaches

ENTERTAINMENT



The Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia is hosting a Mini-Golf Fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2023 in Falls Church.

girls at a critical point in their lives when society begins to tell them they can't and. GOTR provides the skills and resources that helps kids navigate life's challenges. All proceeds from the event will directly benefit GOTR NOVA programming. Tickets are available for purchase through Friday, October 13th, and can be purchased here: GOTR NOVA Mini Golf Celebration Tickets.

FALL CARNIVAL FUN AT FRYING PAN FARM PARK

At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon.

Friday, Oct. 13 from 5-7 p.m. Big Truck Night: See an assortment of big trucks throughout the farmyard from huge tractors to giant fire engines.

Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 14-15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Farm Harvest Days: Free. Watch the cider press in action, milk a cow, shell corn, peel apples, meet farm animals, play old-fashioned games and watch farm demos.

Fall Carnival: Games and rides and tasty fair food. Carnival tickets are \$1.25 each; 24 for \$25/ and 48 for \$50. Carnival rides take 3-5 tickets each

DATES: Friday, Oct. 13 from 5-9 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 14 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 15 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Halloween on the Farm. Trick or treat on the farm. Visit with farm animals, create crafts, games, tour the decorated farmhouse and enjoy the fall on the farm. The program runs in one-hour time slots.

DATES: Friday, Oct. 27 at 4:30 p.m.; 5:30 p.m.; 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 28 at 4:30 p.m.; 5:30 p.m.; 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Open House. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sponsored by Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St., S, Vienna. Join them for food, games, interactive learning, live demos, safety workshops, prizes and more. Learn more at VVFD.org

OCT. 14-15 AND 21-22

Goblin Golf. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Halloween arrives early at the Burke Lake Park mini golf course. Enjoy a festive-themed experience with Halloween treats included. Our ghosts and goblins will be appearing throughout the day from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bring a date, a friend or the whole family. This mini golf experience is fun for

everyone! Buy your tickets before they sell out! Cost is \$10. Call 703-323-6600.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Solar Eclipse Extravaganza. Join our experts to view the partial annular solar eclipse. At noon, watch as the moon partially eclipses the sun as they both travel across the sky. A limited number of eclipse viewing glasses and sun spotting scopes will be available to view the eclipse. As we await the eclipse and after it has passed, enjoy various themed games, activities and demonstrations.

- ❖ Partial Solar Eclipse Celebration, noon to 2 p.m., at Burke Lake Park
 - ❖ Partial Solar Eclipse Celebration, noon to 2 p.m., at Sully Historic Site
 - ❖ Safely See the Partial Eclipse, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at Historic Huntley
- Visit the Astronomy website for more information.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Howl-a-ween. 2-5 p.m. At Brown's Chapel Park, 1575 Brown's Chapel Road, Reston. A free dog festival, featuring a costume contest, pet vendors, and goodie bags.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Better Said Than Done. 6:30 p.m. At Clare and Don's Beach Shack, 130 N. Washington St., Falls Church. Join in-person storytellers Better Said Than Done with Nick Baskerville, Bonnie Gardner, John Kreul, Giselle Ruzany, Jack Scheer, Allison Stevens, and Andrea Young, and emcee Jessica Robinson. Tickets are \$15, plus a \$1 handling fee. Full dinner and bar menu available. Reserve your seat or table here: <https://www.betersaidthandone.com/2023/09/17/surfs-up/>

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Skate the Wake. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Wakefield Skate Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale. Enjoy a day filled with skating, music and all-around fun at Skate the Wake. Come dressed in your best Halloween costume and enjoy food, music, vendors, and fun activities. Skateboarders are invited to bring their gear to learn new tricks from the professionals in the Learning Zone and compete in the Best Trick Contest.

Visit Skate the Wake webpage for more information.

SUNDAY/OCT. 15

Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood LIVE King for a Day! 2:30 and 5:30

p.m. At GMU's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Tickets: \$50, \$40, \$25. The popular Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood LIVE! has delighted live audiences on stages across the country. Now, in its fourth year of touring, your favorite characters are hopping back on board Trolley and coming to Fairfax. Visit cfa.gmu.edu.

SUNDAY/OCT. 15

Hot Lanes Jazz Orchestra Concert. 3 p.m. At Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church Festival, Annandale. Free. A two-set program featuring The Hot Lanes Big Band, led by Bobby Jasinski, celebrating the music of jazz's greats, as well as featuring original music. The event is sponsored by Diocese of Arlington.

SUNDAY/OCT. 15

NTRAK Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Northern Virginia NTRAK members will hold a N gauge Train Display at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Admission: museum members, free; adults 13 and over, \$5; children 5-12, \$3; under 4, free. Seniors 65+ and military (active & retired), \$4. Call 703-425-9225 or visit www.fairfax-station.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 15

McLean Pet Fest. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. At McLean Central Park, McLean. Have fun at the park and bring your furry friends (leashed, please)! Enjoy free music, Fido's Bone Bar, a photo booth, pet tricks, gourmet food trucks, giveaways and demonstration shows. Find valuable pet-related resources including pet rescue, adoption, pet sitters, groomers and trainers. Costumes are welcome for the Pet Parade at 3 p.m. Visit www.mclean-center.org.

MONDAY/OCT. 16

A Screening of "We Feed People." 7:30 p.m. At CenterStage at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Oscar-winning director Ron Howard spotlights renowned chef José Andres and his nonprofit World Central Kitchen. Screening followed by a discussion with Restonian Nathan Mook, executive producer. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

TUESDAY/OCT. 17

Practicing the Fundamentals of Ikebana Design. 11 a.m. Noreen Linnemann, club member, will speak at Five Hills Garden Club meeting October 17, at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park Street, N.E. Noreen will demonstrate the art of Ikebana design, drawing on her years-long practice of this ancient Japanese art form. The community is invited to join the club as Noreen distills her wisdom and the Ikebana tradition into a few key concepts applied to creating simple, exquisite arrangements.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 18

Nefesh Mountain - Jewish/Bluegrass Band. 8:00 p.m. At Center-Stage at Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Nefesh combines elements of Appalachian bluegrass, Celtic folk and Eastern European melodies with messages of inclusivity, diversity and hope. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

Here's What's Happening at MCC!

OCT 11

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Foreign Language Film:
Oct. 11, 6:30 p.m.

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OCT 15

A Purrfect Event

McLean Pet Fest
Sunday, Oct. 15, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

McLean Pet Fest

OCT 19

Presented by The Alden

Performing Arts Documentaries
Thursday, Oct. 19, 1 p.m.

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OCT 21

Presented by The Alden

"Songwriter City"
with Lee Thomas Miller
and Wendell Mobley
Saturday, Oct. 21, 7 p.m.

\$30/\$25 students and seniors
\$20 MCC district residents

OCT 25

MCC Governing Board

Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, Oct. 25, 6:30 p.m.

All Governing Board meetings
are open to the public.

OCT 28

**The Old Firehouse
Family Event**

**Festival of Frights and
Trunk or Treat**
Saturday, Oct. 28, 5- 10 p.m.

Free for all participants.
Preregistration is required.



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ROUNDUPS

Centreville Day is Saturday, Oct. 14

The 31st annual Centreville Day is Saturday, Oct. 14. It runs from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Historic Centreville Park, 5714 Mount Gilead Road (off Braddock Road, across Route 29 from the IHOP). The free festival includes a parade, live entertainment throughout the day, and a marketplace where children may wear their Halloween costumes and trick or treat while their parents shop.

There's also a children's activities area, a Safety Expo with police and fire vehicles and equipment, and a food court. And the history train within the park will visit historic Mount Gilead, the Old Stone Church and St. John's Church.

Fall into Fun at Chantilly Event

The Field at Commonwealth shopping center presents a free, fall-themed event for the whole family. Called "Fall into Fun," it'll happen Saturday, Oct. 21, from 1-4 p.m., on the patio beside Mel-low Mushroom, 14335 Newbrook Drive in Chantilly. Planned are music, crafts, vendors, sweet treats and children's activities.

Help Stock WFCM's Food Pantry

Nonprofit Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) provides food for people in need in western Fairfax County and has food pantries in both Centreville and Chantilly. But it needs the community's help to keep them stocked.

The most-needed items this month are: Flour (1- 5-lb. bags), hot cereal, canned pineapple, canned mixed fruit (sugar free), refried beans, canned chili, snacks (family-sized crackers, pretzels, popcorn), boxed/bagged rice in sauce (such as Rice a Roni or Knorr), stuffing, pasta sauce, canned pasta, boxed pasta (ziti, macaroni, bowtie, penne), lentils (canned and dry) and cake and brownie mixes.

Toiletries needed are bar soap, body wash, toothpaste, hair conditioner and lotion, as well as diapers in sizes 5 or 6, plus baby wipes. Donated items are accepted Monday-Friday, 8-10 a.m., and on the second Saturday of the month, 9-11 a.m., at WFCM's headquarters, 4511 Daly Drive, Suite H (at the back door) in Chantilly.

CANDIDATE CONNECTION

School Board

FROM PAGE 7

running out of lunch money on their student account. After a few weeks, they asked their son what was going on. The son replied, "I am buying lunch for my classmates who have no money."

The harsh reality sank in: there is an assumption in Fairfax County that everyone has money and can afford the necessities, like a school lunch for their kids. This is far from the case. Fairfax County has pockets of deep need that the School Board must focus on; this is the premise of the One Fairfax Policy and addressing problems through an equitable lens. I started looking around the country at how other school systems address the mounting lunch debt, and many simply wipe away the debt every year.

My Day One promise is a budget item to do just this: eliminate every penny of lunch debt on FCPS's balance sheets. This is around \$1 million. I will also initiate a process to phase out lunch fees completely, so no parent has to choose between a roof over their heads or a lunch for their kids at school. Kyle McDaniel <https://kylemcdaniel.com/>

McDaniel is endorsed by Fairfax Democrats

Peter C. Gabor

363/545

Peter C. Gabor, 61, candidate for Member of School Board At Large. My parents, refugees from the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, came to the US when I was two. They placed a high emphasis on education. I received bachelorettes in math, electrical engineering, and computer science from MIT and a Ph.D. in computer science and teaching certification from Princeton.

I worked for Microsoft and JPMorgan Chase on Wall Street. After studying internet programming, I became a high school teacher with FCPS in 2010, teaching artificial intelligence and upper-level math. I sponsor high school chess and ballroom dance teams. My passions include climbing the Cascade and Alps, attending balls, canyoning, and 16 x 16 sudokus. I think I'm the only person to have driven (Atlantic and Pacific Oceans excepted) twice around the world in the same car.

The lack of active teachers can be problematic when the board's primary focus is teaching and education. A teacher on the board will represent a vital school district group. I will question new rules from many vantage points; this type of questioning has been missing in the recent past. FCPS should follow federal, state, and local laws. I don't see how we can lead by example without this.

My outlook is minimalist; the school board and educational system have a single function: to prepare children to be contributing members of America. If it is outside this purview, I would question whether the school board should be devoting resources to it and being involved.

Response: Almost a year ago, there was a brouhaha when it turned out that there were issues with National Merit notifications.

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The superintendent then held a meeting at TJ High School to answer questions about what happened. At that meeting, I observed people passionately discussing how TJ admissions should be merit-based and involve a wide range of stakeholders. They did not discuss the notifications.

I usually take note of one person's passionate discussion of an issue. The same conclusion by multiple people on the same issue warrants further investigation. I will do my own thinking on such matters, but passion alerts me to the fact that people care. Note that TJ staff have no voice in TJ admissions; a separate agency within FCPS administers admission.

Ryan L. McElveen

347/347

Ryan McElveen, 37, candidate for Member of School Board At Large, served from 2012 to 2019 as an at-large member of the Fairfax County School Board, where he fought for and implemented curriculum internationalization, LGBTQ protections, sustainability initiatives, healthier school food, student mental health programs, student discipline reform, dress code reform, later high school start times, gun violence prevention, human trafficking prevention, improved college and career access, name changes for schools named after confederate figures, and excused absences for students participating in civic engagement activities. He is associate director of The Brookings Institution's John L. Thornton China Center and managing director of Global Leaders of Fairfax County. He holds a Master's of International Affairs in human rights from Columbia University, a B.A. in Anthropology and East Asian Studies from the University of Virginia, and an IB diploma from George C. Marshall High School. Raised in the Vienna/Tysons area, he lives with his wife, Xuan, and daughters, Sierra and Isla, in McLean.

Response: In 2015, I led the successful effort to change the FCPS nondiscrimination policy to protect community members from discrimination based on gender identity. The change led our district to become the first in the state to offer this kind of protection. At the time, this undertaking garnered national headlines, partly because it occurred on the leading edge of a national movement attacking the rights of the transgender community and pushing many other jurisdictions to drop their efforts to provide similar protections. Although we faced backlash in Fairfax, we persisted because it was the right thing to do. Four years later, a single interaction revealed the gravity of that policy change. At a public art exhibition, a mother approached me to share how much the nondiscrimination policy change had meant to her family. After the policy change, her transgender son felt a newfound sense of belonging in the school community, and he graduated with his preferred name on his diploma. I have no idea how many lives that policy change has touched. However, that single interaction made me realize the importance of using my position in the public sphere to improve the lives of others.

McElveen is endorsed by Fairfax Democrats ryan@mcelveenforschoolboard.com www.mcelveenforschoolboard.com/



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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.

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Not Funny or Fun



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Rather, somber, and sad. Today, Sept. 23, I went to the cemetery to visit my parents. It is my deceased father's birthday. Born in 1919, he died in early Dec. 2006. He was a great father and my biggest booster. I miss him terribly, and for you regular readers, he's not totally unfamiliar to you as I often invoke his memory with miscellaneous memories/anecdotes. My mother lies beside him at the cemetery, having died almost exactly two years later to the day in early Dec. as well, in 2008. (As it coincidentally happened, my brother Richard died on the same day as my mother had 14 years before.)

Which brings me to the point/feeling behind this column being written. As of this past Dec. when Richard died, I am now the sole survivor of the immediate family of which I had been a part. With Richard's passing, today's visit was my first to the cemetery without any back-up. Previously, my brother or myself – or both, would make sure our parents were remembered on their birthdays with on-site visits (though we often remember them as we recall a lifetime of memories). But I'm by myself now. There will likely be no other visitors to my parent's gravesite (my brother was cremated) as their lives, as in their friends and family, were either in Massachusetts where they were born, or Florida when they moved south to retire. We moved them to Maryland – while they were still healthy, for them to be closer to us so we'd all be together.

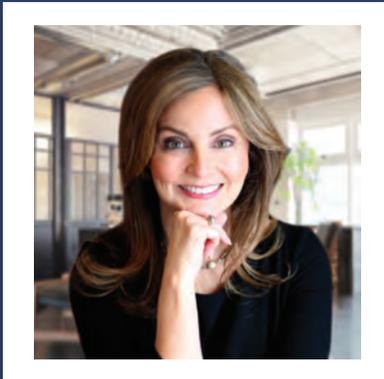
Since neither Richard nor I had children, I really am the last in – and of, a line, extending back who knows how many generations in Russia/the former Baltic States. I only know about my grandparents, and not that much. Records of Jewish births and deaths were hardly respected and protected administratively in the former USSR. With Richard's death, yours truly (our respective wives notwithstanding, as I'm genetically referring here to blood relations) become the go-to-because-everyone-else-is-gone person (immediate family members).

And not that I haven't felt lonely since my brother died, last Dec. 3rd, but in visiting my parents today for the first time since then his passing, I really felt his loss since I am now the last man standing, so to speak. Richard wouldn't be coming by and leaving flowers as he often did, so it was just me – and my thoughts. And as I stood over my parent's graves, wishing my father a Happy Birthday and talking about Richard, his loss became even deeper than I had felt it previously. The reality of it his death hit me harder than it has in months. I'm all that's left.

This feeling, which manifests regularly, especially since my brother and I share so many interests and attitudes; none more than cancer as he had been diagnosed with colon cancer a few months before he died (and yet another subject we had in common; I have thyroid cancer) enveloped me at the gravesite. There I am standing over my parent's graves, talking about my brother having died; and the finality of our family's existence and of my position in it as being the sole survivor of the Louries (or whatever my paternal grandfather's names in the former USSR, was before he immigrated), after hundreds of years and who knows how many generations spanning across however many countries, nearly took my breath away. Heavy duty, man.

To summarize: once I was diagnosed with cancer in 2009 and given a "terminal" diagnosis (stage IV lung cancer), I never thought my brother would predecease me, even though he was almost five years older than me. And I had certain feeling of security knowing I would/could always be able to count on my brother, especially since he was my second biggest booster – after my father. And now, having to live the rest of my life without the backstop of all backstops will be extremely challenging, and very unfamiliar. Losing the resource that you count on and rely upon the most, is more than just upsetting the applecart; it's destroying it. It's not exactly how I anticipated living the rest of my life. I'll just have to make the best of a bad situation. My brother wouldn't expect any less. And I certainly have no intention of disappointing him in death any more than I would in life.

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



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