



scene

View Local Artwork at New Kathryn Higgins Gallery



KATHRYN HIGGINS



Fairfax City is home to scores of talented local artists, and some are members of the Fairfax Art League, commonly known as FAL. As part of their membership, FAL members are encouraged to display their artwork on the walls of the Kathryn Higgins Art Gallery, located on the lower level of Mosby Tower, just west of Old Town Fairfax at 10560 Main St., in the same building as Patriot's Pub & Grill. Visitors to the gallery will enjoy a wide variety of

painting styles in various media and high-quality photographs created by established and emerging artists.

The gallery, which officially opened May 10, is named in honor of Kathryn Higgins, one of the artists who founded FAL in 1986 and served as executive director until 2000. Higgins was a well-traveled artist who studied painting under several influential teachers. Higgins pursue art throughout her lifetime – and, following her death in 2001, the Kathryn & Wilbert Higgins Endowment Fund continues to support the group she helped found.

“We really feel her spirit today,” said Padma Prasad, president of FAL. (Prasad is the daughter of an Indian master painter, and her large mural, *Joy*, is on display at Bollywood Bistro.)

This is the FAL gallery’s third home. FAL spent eight years in Old Town (facing University Drive)

before moving into Old Town Hall, where it stayed until the pandemic lockdown closed the building to the public. FAL opted to find a new space to display members’ work and conduct public programs.

The new space in Mosby Tower is a little off the beaten path, but Prasad is excited for FAL to have a home again. “We didn’t have a space, and
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CITY NEWS

Personal Property Tax Payments Due Oct. 5

Personal property and vehicle registration fee payments are due by Oct. 5. Late payments will incur a 10% penalty, plus interest.

Payment options:

- **Secure drop box** outside City Hall (off *Armstrong Street*)
- **Mail** checks only (*must be post-marked by Oct. 5; consider mailing at the post office counter and receive proof of mailing*); blue mailing envelope with New York address included with bill
- **Online** via the *Payments* button on the city homepage
- **In person** at Fairfax City Hall

Confirm tax payments online via fairfaxva.gov/mytaxes. To request a copy of your bill, call 703-385-7900 (then press 1). To make changes to your bill, call 703-385-7885.

Reminder: decals are issued only for vehicles registered at addresses in Residential Parking Permit Districts. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Personal Property Tax")

A Taste of the Vine

After a two-year hiatus, the Historic Fairfax, Inc. Taste of the Vine fundraiser returns to the Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Oct. 7. Taste wine from Slater Run Winery, enjoy food from Artistry Catering, and participate in a silent auction. RSVP to 703-385-9455 or lindamb3510@yahoo.com. Info: historicfairfax.org

Mason Observatory Evening Under the Stars, Oct. 4, 18

Spend an evening under the stars at Mason's astronomical observatory. Located atop Research Hall on Mason's Fairfax campus, it houses one of the largest diameter telescopes among college campuses in

the region. Free hybrid viewing sessions are open to the public. After a speaker talk, in-person guests take an observatory tour and view the live night sky (weather permitting), and virtual attendees view a slideshow. Info: gmu.edu (search "Observatory")

Drug Take Back Day, October 29

Bring unwanted or expired prescription and over-the-counter drugs to the City of Fairfax Police Department from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 29. Pills, ointments, and liquids in sealed containers are accepted. (No needles, syringes, or Epi-Pens.) Drop off is anonymous; no identification or prescription information is required. Info: fairfaxva.gov, 703-385-7829

Don't Bag It! Curbside Leaf Collection Begins Oct. 31

From Oct. 31 through Dec. 30, the city will provide curbside leaf collection in neighborhoods that receive city refuse collection service. Please rake leaves loose to the curb. *Bagged leaves are not collected during this time.* Leaf piles may include light yard debris in leaf piles (grass clippings and weeds) — but not stones, branches, and other large items, which may injure workers and damage equipment. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Leaf"), 703-385-LEAF

Prepare for Inclement Weather: Consider Service Providers, Information Services

As winter looms, continue your safety routines: maintain your emergency kits and prepare for the season. Make provisions now for possible winter emergency services, such as snow removal, home repairs, and tree limb management. Family, friends, homeowner associations, and neighbors may offer recommendations.

Find out first! Find out fast! Sign up for Fairfax City Alert for weather-related messages, such as closures and city services updates. To enroll or manage your subscription, click on "City Alert" at the top of every city webpage. Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Winter Weather")

Community Farmers' Markets, Saturdays and Sundays

Fresh fruits and vegetables are among the many attractions for this weekend market held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays (through Oct. 29) and Sundays (through Oct. 23). The markets are sponsored by the Downtown Fairfax Coalition at 10500 Page Ave. (adjacent to the historic Fairfax Court House). Info: fairfaxSaturdayMarket.com, fairfaxSundayMarket.com



**OLD TOWN
FAIRFAX CITY
FALL CRAWL**

**Eat & Drink Your Way Around
Old Town Fairfax City!
Best Costume Wins!**

**Saturday, October 22
2:00 to 7:00PM**

FAIRFAXCITYCONNECTED.COM/FALLCRAWL22

Kathryn Higgins Gallery

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now we can meet and hold our programs," she said.

Prasad hopes that some of FAL's upcoming events will draw new people to the gallery. "Paint with FAL Night" is a monthly program open to the public, in which participants are invited to bring their own beverage and learn to paint from FAL members. In addition to the paint nights, FAL members hold receptions to introduce and celebrate new shows. The last reception drew nearly 40 people, and a band from the Commission on the Arts provided entertainment.

Along with visitation, Prasad is trying to grow FAL membership, which is currently at 40 after peaking at three times that when membership was free at the height of the pandemic. "We have such a lovely bunch of volunteers," said Prasad. FAL members are required to pay \$50 and must volunteer 24 hours each year. Membership is open to anyone 18 or older, and high school students are welcome (at a reduced membership cost of \$30). "The Fairfax Art League philosophy is to not say no to anybody," said Prasad. "We welcome every artist who wants to paint and create."

Volunteers run the gallery and lead the monthly Main Street Child Development Art Program at Green Acres Center. "We don't try to overly instruct the children, but we want them to express their creativity," explained Prasad. FAL members provide materials and guidance, often using contemporary artists or an art movement to inspire the children to create a work of art. "We love it," said Prasad, beaming.

The Kathryn Higgins Gallery & Studio is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. All art on display is available for purchase. Follow FAL on Facebook and Instagram (@FairfaxArtLeague), or visit fairfaxartleague.net for details on upcoming demonstrations, workshops, artist talks, educational programs, art shows, and receptions.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE NOV. 8 GENERAL ELECTION

NOW: Early voting in the Office of Elections, open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays through Nov. 4 in the City Hall Annex.

Please bring your ID.

OCT. 10, COLUMBUS DAY: Office of Elections open regular hours

OCT. 17: Final day to register to vote before Nov. 8 General Election

OCT. 28, 5 P.M.: Final day to request by-mail ballots via elections.virginia.gov/vote. Ballots are mailed within three days of receipt of the application

OCT. 29 AND NOV. 5, SATURDAYS: In-person early voting from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the City Hall Annex

Note: By-mail ballots may be returned by mail (postmarked by Nov. 8 and received by noon Nov. 14 to be counted), in person by the voter to the Office of Elections, or placed in the secure ballot drop box at the City Hall Atrium east entrance (facing George Mason Boulevard.).

Info: fairvaxva.gov/vote, 703-385-7891

Shop Local
with Fairfax City's
NEW eGift Card Program

Why Shop Local?

- More money stays in your community.
- Create local jobs.
- Invest in entrepreneurship.
- Local businesses give back to their community!

fairfaxcityconnected.com/flexcard

FAIRFAX CITY
Economic Development

Fall Festival

The 46th Annual Fall Festival is coming to the heart of Fairfax City Saturday, Oct. 8. The festival runs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a special performance by the high-energy Celtic band, *Scythian*, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in Old Town Square. Admission is free!

Come celebrate the harvest season in our fair city with your friends and family. Explore the outdoor market featuring more than 400 crafters and vendors. See amazing aerobic routines by daredevils from *Flipping Out Productions*.

Fill up on festival food at two food courts, and toast October in one of the three beer gardens.

Three stages will provide entertainment ranging from music and dance to magic. Paint a pumpkin with the Fairfax Kiwanis Club. Turn your kids loose in the touch-a-truck corral. Pet live animals, ride ponies, and experience the thrill of the air-jump bungee ride!

Stop by *Sparky's Harvest Bash* at Fire Station 3 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., where Fairfax Volunteer Firefighters will teach kids about fire prevention and safety and lead an open house.

Historic Resources staff will lead open houses at the Fairfax Museum & Visitor Center, Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House, and Historic Blenheim.

Limited parking is available in the Judicial Center Garage B on Page Avenue and in the Old Town Village parking garage located on Chain Bridge Road between Whitehead and North streets.

Accessible parking is available in the Old Town Village garage and at City Hall (10455 Armstrong Street).

Parking Tip! Free accessible shuttle buses will run to the festival 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. from George Mason University's Rappahannock Parking Deck and Fairfax High School.



IN THE CITY

Volunteer!

Approximately **27%** of Fairfax City's population – about **6,600** people – is age **55** or older.

A new city-supported organization, Fairfax Village in the City, aims to help these individuals continue to age in place. The program seeks volunteers to help support its mission and members.

The goal of the program is to support older residents and adults with disabilities living in Fairfax City who wish to live at home and remain independent. "The Village is not a service provider, but it organizes volunteers to support neighbors in the community," said Lesley Abashian, director of Human Services for the city.

Following a nationwide model, the Village helps to facilitate access to existing services provided by the city and local nonprofits, as well as provide personal services through vetted volunteers. Personal services may include check-in calls and visits, basic yard maintenance and home repairs, technology assistance, and transportation to and from grocery stores and appointments.

"One thing the pandemic highlighted was that the worst thing you can do when you're aging is to age alone or be socially isolated, and the Village will help build these needed relationships," Abashian explained.

If you're interested in volunteering, please visit fairfaxva.gov/village.



LIVE LIFE IN THE ARTS

Upcoming programs and performances are listed in the events calendar at fairfaxva.gov.

Art Walk on Main

Oct. 1, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Old Town Fairfax

Next Reflex Dance Collective: *Flight*

Oct. 1, 5 p.m., Van Dyck Park

Fall for the Book Festival

Oct. 6-15
Fallforthebook.org

Bonita Lestina Old Town Hall Performance Series – U.S. Air Force Band, Voice and Euphonium Recital

Oct. 14, 8 p.m., Old Town Hall
Join members of The U.S. Air Force

Band for the opening concert of the *Bonita Lestina Old Town Hall Performance Series*. This concert will feature an exciting array of music for mezzo-soprano and euphonium! This concert is free and open to the public. No tickets required.

Next Reflex Dance Collective: *Flight*

Oct. 15, 5 p.m., Providence Park

Best of FAVS

Oct. 27, 6 p.m., Sherwood Center

City of Fairfax Band: *The American Rhapsody*

Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m., Fairfax High School

FAIRFAX CITY CLIPS

It's easier than ever to subscribe to Fairfax City's e-newsletters. Text **keyword** to 888-492-1526.

Keywords for popular e-newsletters:

CityNews
(news and videos)

CitySchools
(CloseUp)

Sustainability
(environmental sustainability)

CityArts
(arts, performances, concerts)

CityPD
(arrests and crime reports)

Transportation
(transportation projects and news)

Museum
(exhibits, programs)



Subscribe to see what you're missing!
www.youtube.com/user/cityoffairfaxva

Community Connect Expands Services for Residents, Business Owners

Community Connect

City Of Fairfax Fire Department FOR BUSINESSES & PROPERTY MANAGERS

Together, Building A Safer Community, Through Prevention, Preparedness & Response

CREATE A PROFILE FOR YOUR BUSINESS OR COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

<https://www.communityconnect.io/info/va-cityoffairfax>

Community Connect, the First Due secure public safety database self-managed by city residents and business owners, has expanded its services.

Now, city residents may request residential smoke alarm inspection and replacement services, provided free by the city fire department.

Commercial property users now may identify on-site contacts to be alerted for active public safety-related issues and identify property managers to assist responders with special facility-access needs.

Community Connect is a secure database where you decide what information to include in your profile. Information is secure and accessible only to first responders when called to your property. Info: fairfaxva.gov/CommunityConnect, 703-385-7878



Arbor Day Celebration, Oct. 22

Help the city celebrate our 35th year as a Tree City USA with the Arbor Day Foundation at a tree planting from 9-11 a.m. Oct. 22 at Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway. The Environmental Sustainability Committee and Parks and Recreation Department will teach participants about the benefits of trees, and how to properly plant and care for them. A limited number of free native tree saplings will be available for attendees to plant at home.

Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Arbor Day"), 703-385-7816

What's the best way to dispose of food: compost, trash, or garbage disposal?

BEST: Composting.

Residents can bring a wide range of food to the city composting center adjacent to City Hall, including veggie scraps, coffee grounds, soiled food — even meat and bones. Please bag all compost dropped off at the Composting Center; free bags are available at the center. Residents can pick up a free compost caddy in the City Hall Atrium. Or consider launching your own backyard composting program for rich, nutrient, natural mulch. *Info: fairfaxva.gov/composting*

GOOD: Trash. If you can't compost, put your food in the trash. Bag your food waste to protect against odor and animals.

BAD: Garbage disposal. This choice involves excessive water use, fatty and greasy items washing down the drain, and introducing food solids into your plumbing and into the wastewater system. The more food you can keep out of the pipes, the better. *Info: composting@fairfaxva.gov*



What's scarier than Halloween?

Millions of pumpkins thrown in the trash every November! Keep this frightful activity at bay by dropping off your pumpkins, jack-o-lanterns, gourds, painted pumpkins, and other decomposable food décor at the City of Fairfax Composting Center at Fairfax City Hall.

Be creative: pumpkins can be composted in backyard composters, or even buried in the backyard. However, please do not dispose of any pumpkins or food in the woods. *Info: fairfaxva.gov/composting*

Plastic Bags Prohibited for Curbside Yard Waste Disposal

A quick reminder: residents who receive refuse collection service from Fairfax City must place yard waste at the curb on collection day in paper bags, reusable containers, or bundles. Yard waste in plastic bags will be marked with a red tag and left at the curb for the residents' attention. Prohibiting the use of plastic bags for yard waste reduces plastic pollution in the city. *Info: fairfaxva.gov/recycling, 703-385-7837*



Community Cleanup, Nov. 6

Help keep city parks, forests, and streams clean and clear of harmful debris: join the Fall Community Cleanup Nov. 6. Individuals and groups — family, friends, civic associations, clubs, scout and school groups, book clubs, sports teams, everyone — can join in the fun. Additionally, volunteers may earn stormwater utility credit by participating in this event.

On Nov. 6, swing by the 'pit stop' at Van Dyck Park between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to pick up snacks and supplies: gloves, reflective vests, picker tools, and trash bags. Take a moment to speak with city staff to discover how to improve environmental health and the well-being of local ecosystems.

Registration, Info: fairfaxva.gov/CommunityCleanup, 703-293-1661

A Guide on how to save a life

CPR




CITY OF FAIRFAX FIRE DEPARTMENT

Free Hands-Only CPR/AED Training

Performing CPR while waiting for medical assistance can greatly increase a person's chance of survival from cardiac arrest.

OCT. 22, 2022
9 AM - 10 AM
 FIRE STATION 403 - 4081 UNIVERSITY DR.

Register by e-mailing CPR@fairfaxva.gov



SCAN ME

Can't make the training?
 Learn CPR in 60 seconds by scanning the QR code!



WANTED

Dead or ~~Alive~~

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY



This invasive insect is extremely dangerous to native crops, including apples, grapes, peaches, and many others. If you see it.... squash it!
 And report it to:
spottedlanternfly@vdacs.virginia.gov

For more information visit stopslf.org

HOW DO YOU WANT TO EXPERIENCE OLD LEE HIGHWAY?

What signage, landscaping, public art, or other features would you like to see on Old Lee Highway?
 Be a part of the Old Lee Highway placemaking project by completing a survey online or joining our in-person events this fall.

Learn more at OLHplacemaking.com

OLD LEE HIGHWAY PLACEMAKING




HELPING HANDS

THE CITY NEEDS PEOPLE LIKE YOU

SERVE ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Board of Architectural Review (two vacancies: one business representative and one city resident); **Board of Building Code Appeals** (one mechanical or plumbing vacancy); **Commission for Women** (two vacancies); **Commission on the Arts** (one vacancy); **Environmental Sustainability Committee** (one vacancy); **Fairfax Village in the City Advisory Board** (one vacancy); **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** (two vacancies). Vacancies are subject to change.

To apply, visit fairfaxva.gov and search "boards and vacancies," or call 703-385-7935.

City Hall • 10455 Armstrong St. • Fairfax, VA 22030

Cityscene is produced by the city's Communications and Marketing Office

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- Large Print
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Cityscene is available in large print, Braille, and audio upon request.

Para solicitar ayuda con servicios de la ciudad o preguntas sobre esta publicación, por favor llame al 703.385.7800.

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 ☎ 703-385-7800 (으)로 전화 주시기 바랍니다.

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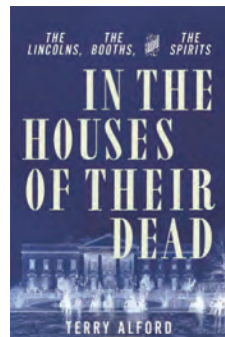
MAKING History



Not Forgotten: The Story of the Offerings at the Wall; Oct. 9
 Join Megan Leining, city historic resources specialist, to learn more about items left at D.C.'s Vietnam War Memorial. Leining researched stories of soldiers remembered with those objects and catalogued them for the National Park Service. The event is at 2 p.m. Oct. 9. *Free.* Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Offerings")

The Lincolns, The Booths, and the Spirits; Oct. 22

Learn about the strange, other-worldly contact between the families of President Abraham Lincoln and his assassin, from Terry Alford, author and retired Northern Virginia Community College professor. Copies of Alford's book, *In the Houses of Their Dead: The Lincolns, The Booths, and the Spirits* will be available for sale and signing. The event is at 2 p.m. Oct. 22. *Free.* Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Alford")



Tour the Ratcliffe-Allison-Pozer House

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays through October. Free docent-led tours. View the new exhibit, *Kitty Barrett Pozer: A Life to Honor.* Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "Pozer House"), 703-385-8414

Traveling Exhibition: True Sons of Freedom

African American men from across Virginia served in the Army and Navy during World War I — and their images are featured in a traveling exhibit at the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center through Dec. 3. *True Sons of Freedom*, from the Library of Virginia, commemorates the Great War with photographs of African American Virginians who fought overseas to defend freedoms they were denied at home. The museum is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (excluding some major holidays). *Free.* Info: fairfaxva.gov (search "True Sons"), 703-385-8414

