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COVERSHEET

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Fauquier schools brace for the unthinkable — an active shooter

Schools to add more combat tourniquets, cameras and secure entryways

By Colleen LaMay
FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

Even before the tragic school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, the Fauquier County School Division was working to increase security at all 20 elementary, middle and high schools for the upcoming school year.

That work includes adding secure vestibules at the front entrances of schools, a work in progress due to funding and supply-chain issues. In addition, schools are putting more cameras inside and outside schools, adding new desktop and phone apps that teachers and staff can use to summon

police and training staff on how to use combat tourniquets on people with severe gunshot injuries.

“I’m almost sad that we have to talk about things like this and deal with things like this, but we ... just have to keep our kids as safe as we can,” said David Graham, assistant superintendent of administration for the Fauquier County School Division.

All school staff will be trained to use combat tourniquets to staunch the flow of blood from gunshots, Graham said. “If you can keep the bleeding stopped and get them care, there’s a chance they can make it.” Uncontrolled bleeding is the number one cause of death after a mass shooting. “I hope I am getting ready to spend money on tourniquets we never use,” Graham said.

See SECURITY, page 6



FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF PHOTO/ROBIN EARL
Sal Torelli, lead school security officer for Fauquier schools, is working at Grace Miller Elementary School this summer, while children attend summer school.



Barreling to the finish line

Catlett cowgirl Kyndal Waln guns for home in the barrel racing event at the Fauquier Fairgrounds arena July 15. The competition was part of the Tru Grit Rodeo, a highlight of the Fauquier County Fair last week.

See more rodeo coverage on page 45 and photos from the fair on page 4.

PHOTO BY BETSY BURKE PARKER

New online tool helps Fauquier Hospital patients estimate cost of care in advance

By Colleen LaMay
FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

A new online tool aimed at centralizing hospital service prices from across the state was launched recently by the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association. The tool consolidates public access to online links to pricing at every hospital in Virginia, including Fauquier Hospital in Warrenton, to “help support patients’ health care decision-making,” according to the VHHA.

Here are the links to help patients and their families find cost information at Fauquier Hospital:

- **Cost estimator** allows patients to find the estimated cost of hundreds of procedures, based on their health coverage: <https://www.fauquierhealth.org/cost-estimator>
- **Financial assistance program** will help patients determine whether they are eligible for financial assistance if they cannot pay their bills: <https://www.fauquierhealth.org/financial-assistance>
- **Hospital charges listing** <https://www.fauquierhealth.org/hospital-charges-listing> is a complete list of all services and items provided by Fauquier Hospital, including the five most common charges for these services. The hospital recommends the Cost Estimator as a better tool for most patients.

See COST, page 13

SPORTS: Colleen Schaner and Jacob Robinson are 2022 Fauquier Times Kettle Run Athletes of the Year. PAGES 43, 44, 46, 47



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Fauquier schools brace for the unthinkable — an active shooter

SECURITY, from page 1

In addition, Fauquier schools are adding controlled entryways at all its 20 schools. Vestibules are one of the best investments the school division can make because they help control the flow of visitors and, if the unthinkable happens, may help contain a gunman, Graham said. “It’s a grim victory, but it’s a victory” if a gunman never makes it past the office, he said.

So far, seven schools have vestibule entries with two sets of locked doors. Four more schools have received funding for vestibules but are waiting for the materials to install them. The remaining schools are still waiting on funding. “We’ve got some to go, and because of what’s happening, I think additional money will come, and we will stretch it as far as we can,” Graham said.

Law enforcement officers are at the core of every school’s plan to keep children safe. At Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, “Law enforcement responders failed to adhere to their active shooter training, and they failed to prioritize saving the lives of innocent victims over their own safety,” according to a report on the shooting released July 17 by the Texas House of Representatives’ Investigative Committee on the Robb Elementary School Shooting.

Sal Torelli, lead school security officer for Fauquier schools, said he read the entire 77-page report and was deeply disturbed by what it described as the “systemic failures” and “egregiously poor decision-making” that ended in the deaths of 19 students and two teachers.

Almost 400 police officers responded to the massacre at Robb Elementary School that day, but 77 minutes passed before police stormed the classroom and shot and killed the gunman.

“If I hear gunfire in a school, I am going after the threat,” said Torelli, who carries the same Glock pistol he used as a sheriff’s deputy. “There is no waiting. There is no retreating. That is a price I am willing to pay.”

Active shooter training

Active shooter training has been an integral part of “hardening” schools nationwide since the Columbine tragedy in 1999. As part of that training, officers must be willing to risk their lives without hesitation. That failed to happen at Robb Elementary, the Texas report says.

After the Texas shooting, the Fauquier County Sheriff’s Office opened a conversation about active shooter training locally, said Sgt. Aaron Vescovi, in charge of all school resource officers in Fauquier schools. “We are still having a conversation about that,” he said.

Vescovi and Fauquier school officials declined to provide specifics on active shooter training, because of concerns that it could compromise student safety. “I feel confident we are trained to meet whatever threat faces our schools,” Vescovi said. “We are trained to meet the threat as fast as possible and

preserve life as best we can.”

“I am very happy where we are with school safety today here in Fauquier County,” Torelli said.

The findings of the Texas committee are the most complete outside account of what happened during the massacre on May 24. “We must not delude ourselves into a false sense of security by believing that ‘this would not happen where we live,’” the report says. “The people of Uvalde undoubtedly felt the same way. We must all take seriously the threats to security in our schools and the need to be properly prepared to confront active shooter scenarios.”

Fauquier County is one of just seven of 132 school divisions in Virginia with armed SSOs, said Torelli, who retired from the Fauquier County Sheriff’s Office in 2017 and joined the school division as an SSO a year later, in 2018, the same year a gunman killed 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

Keeping doors locked and entrances secure

Other failures that cost precious time at Robb Elementary included doors that were left unlocked in violation of school policies, the report says. That gave the gunman “unimpeded access to enter” and cost the school precious minutes that teachers could have used to hide children and lock doors.

Torelli gets it. Most days, he walks about 10 miles through the buildings at sprawling Fauquier High School. He makes sure that doors that open to the outside of the school are always locked, not propped open or ajar.

“I spend most of my day walking the hallways, checking the doors, checking the parking lot, moving around constantly,” he said. “Your job is to move around and be visible.” His goal, he said, is to be “omnipresent.”

At Fauquier High School, the vestibule is a set of double doors at the entrance to the school. People can exit through the double doors, but they can’t enter through them. Visitors—including parents, contractors, substitutes or anyone else—must press a buzzer and show ID, generally a driver’s license, to school staff to get through the first set of doors.

Once through the first set of doors, visitors still cannot proceed into the school because the second set of doors leading into the school is locked. The only place to go is the school office, where visitors must sign in. IDs are scanned to create a visitor badge and to check against sex offender lists in all 50 states.

Threat assessments

Every Fauquier public school has a threat assessment team that is tasked with identifying and addressing threats or potential threats to school security. The shooter at Robb Elementary School shared his fascination with school shootings on social media and shared pictures of guns he bought, but no one relayed concerns to school officials.

See SECURITY, page 7

Security tool box

Safety and Security: 23 full-time armed officers

SROs: These are school resource officers employed by the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office. All carry guns and enforce local, state and federal laws. Each high school and middle school has a full-time SRO. Grace Miller and Claude Thompson elementary schools, at the most far-flung edges of Fauquier, also have full-time SROs. **Total number of school resource officers: 10**
SSOs: School security officers are school employees who also carry guns but can enforce only school-board policy. However, they train with the sheriff's office and must have worked for a law-enforcement agency within the past 10 years. All three high schools, along with eight elementary schools and Southeastern Alternative School, have SSOs. **Total number of school security officers: 13 plus two substitutes.**

School tip line

Anonymous tip line available to community members who may have a concern about school safety. The line is monitored by school administrators, student services and Fauquier County Sheriff's Office. Access it at <https://www.fcps1.org/Page/2696>. People who have a concern involving a life-threatening emergency should call 911.

School safety audits

All schools are inspected annually for safety and security readiness. SRO/SSO and office of the Fire Marshal participate in all inspections (Results are registered with the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services). All building principals complete school safety surveys as part of this process.

Security vestibules (controlled entryways to schools)

- Currently in seven schools
- Funding is available to add security vestibules to four schools. Installation is being held up by supply-chain issues.
- Grant applications are being submitted for all remaining schools. For security reasons, school officials declined to say which schools are still awaiting security vestibules.

Officer training

- Joint active-shooter training with the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office
- Firearms qualifications conducted with the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office

RAPTOR Alert System

Web and cell-phone notification system for school emergencies, directly linked with local law-enforcement agencies. Teachers and staff will be able to alert authorities to threats by using an app on their phones.

Combat application tourniquets (Stop the Bleed)

- Expanding the number of tourniquets in schools to staunch bleeding from severe wounds.
- Training all staff to use the tourniquets

Avigilon Camera System

- All school buildings have been updated to this surveillance system, with more cameras being added inside and outside schools.
- Real-time shared access with Fauquier County Sheriff's Office
- Digital building mapping of all schools has been completed as part of the Avigilon System for first responders. This allows law enforcement to quickly determine the layout of every school, reducing the time it takes to respond to crises.

Buses

- Location and speed of buses can be monitored via GPS
- Cameras to monitor all passengers
- All buses and buildings are part of a county-wide radio system and have access to emergency and law enforcement.

Mental Health Training

- All new staff will have a chance to receive youth mental health training before school starts.
- All current staff that already have been through training can take a two-hour refresher course online.
- All current employees who have not received the training will have opportunities for training several times throughout the year.

Fauquier schools brace for the unthinkable — an active shooter

SECURITY, from page 6

The motto in Fauquier schools is, "If you see something, say something," Torelli said. "It takes a whole community to work to make our schools safe."

Cameras

Cameras are located throughout the public areas of Fauquier public schools, excluding all restrooms and nearly all classrooms. Under Virginia law, cameras are required in some special education classrooms.

More cameras are being added since

the school division switched to the Avigilon Camera System. School resource officers and school security officers can access all the cameras not only at the school where they are working, but at all schools in the division. Camera footage is available in real time for emergency dispatchers and the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office.

Will all these efforts guarantee children's safety? "That's the crystal ball that nobody's got," Graham said.

Reach Colleen LaMay at clamay@fauquier.com

Fauquier SPCA

The Fauquier SPCA is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to providing a temporary refuge for stray, homeless and abandoned animals, and to placing such animals in a caring, appropriate home whenever possible.

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Flux

is a female, adult, DSH mix.



Harlow

is a female, adult, DSH mix.



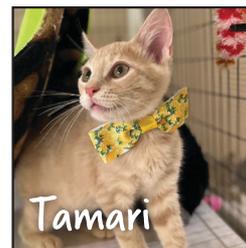
Karin

is a female, DSH mix, kitten.



Tablespoon

is a female, DSH mix, kitten.



Tamari

is a male, DMH mix, kitten.



Toaster

is a female, adult, DSH mix.

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Ana Marie

is a female, adult, Norwegian Elk Hound/Shepherd mix.



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is a female, young adult, Siberian Husky mix.



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is a male, adult, Pit-bull Terrier mix.



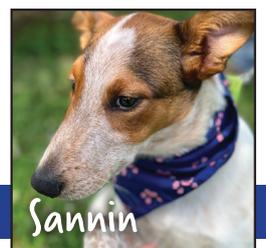
Lyra

is a female, adult, Pit-bull Terrier mix.



Nesta

is a male, adult, Pit-bull Terrier mix.



Sannin

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Limited supplies of monkeypox vaccine now available

Staff Report

An extremely limited supply of monkeypox vaccine is available to residents of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Health District, which includes Fauquier County, according to a news release. The health district is working to ensure that residents who have been exposed or are at high risk of being exposed to monkeypox receive one of the two approved vaccinations.

Anyone interested in obtaining a monkeypox vaccination may call the RRHD hotline at 540-308-6072.

The current community risk for the virus is low. Most cases of monkeypox associated with the recent outbreak in the United States have been identified in men who have sex with men, but anyone can get monkeypox if they have close contact with someone infected with the virus. Monkeypox can spread from the time symptoms start until all sores have healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed. This can take several weeks.

In the current outbreak, hospitalizations and deaths from monkeypox are rare, but symptoms can still be painful and interfere with daily activities, according to the health department. Flu-like symptoms are typically the first to

appear. Those symptoms include fever, low energy, swollen lymph nodes and body aches. Within one to three days, an infected person can develop a rash or sores. The sores go through several stages, including scabs, before healing. They can look like pimples or blisters and may be painful and itchy, the news release said.

The virus spreads primarily through direct contact with infectious sores, scabs or body fluids during sex, as well as during activities like kissing, hugging, massaging and cuddling. Monkeypox can also spread by sharing fabrics such as clothing and bedding used by a person with monkeypox. It can also spread through respiratory secretions during prolonged, close, face-to-face contact.

Monkeypox is not spread through brief conversations or by walking past someone with monkeypox.

The health department recommends residents with a new or unexplained rash or other symptoms consistent with monkeypox avoid crowds and close contact with others and seek medical care for further evaluation and testing. The VDH's monkeypox website at <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/monkeypox/> can provide more information.

Student arrested near Kettle Run High had been expelled from all Fauquier schools, sheriff's office says

By Colleen LaMay
FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

A teenage boy arrested Aug. 11 after a stolen car and gun were found in the parking lot at Kettle Run High School had been expelled from all Fauquier County public schools and was trespassing when he drove onto school property, according to an affidavit filed by the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office.

A new affidavit for a search warrant was filed last week and appeared to seek access to the teenager's school records. No information was available on why he was expelled. The teenager's name is not being published because he is a minor.

"Security footage of the incident from the school shows the driver of the vehicle parking in the student parking lot of the school before exiting the car and walking throughout the parking lot," the affidavit says. "When informed of the identity of the driver of the vehicle, the school principal, Meaghan Brill, advised that (the teenager) had previously been expelled from all Fauquier County Public Schools."

Law enforcement spoke with Nicholas Napolitano, executive di-

rector of student services and special education at the Fauquier school division, who confirmed that the teen was not permitted on school property, according to the affidavit.

No information was available on why the teen was walking around the parking lot. "Still an active investigation at this time," Sgt. William Kemper wrote in an email.

The teen was charged with larceny of a firearm, possession of a firearm on school property, trespassing, and possession of tobacco products by a minor, according to an earlier affidavit requesting a search warrant.

The gun was a Smith and Wesson .38-caliber revolver found inside an open fanny pack in the car's glove box. The gun did not belong to the owner of the car. It had been reported missing before Aug. 11, according to the earlier affidavit. Three bullets also were recovered from the car.

The incident

Fauquier County sheriff's deputies were first called to Kettle Run after a staff member saw a car being driven erratically in the school

See **STUDENT**, page 5

Correction

A new precinct in the Scott District was omitted from a story on Scott District School Board candidate Clay Campbell in the Aug. 24 print edition of the *Fauquier Times*. The new precinct is:

501 Hopewell, Coleman Elementary School, 4096 Zulla Road, Marshall 20115



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Remington Town Council candidates want progress but differ on the details

CANDIDATES, from page 1

candidate, current council member Amanda Hart, qualified for the ballot but withdrew from the race.

Voter turnout in the town of 650 residents has historically been measured in dozens, not hundreds, although turnout could be boosted significantly this year because of a state law moving town elections from May to November. That means, for the first time, voters will cast ballots in town and federal elections simultaneously.

Much of the discourse ahead of the election has been shaped by the competing philosophies of the two men running for mayor.

Polk, whom the council appointed as interim mayor in March 2021 after the death of longtime Mayor Gerald Billingsley, has used his position to harness the “power of influence and persuasion,” as he puts it, to push for a wide-ranging package of initiatives that he calls a “revitalization for a destination.”

Allison, a town councilman and vice mayor until last year, is running to unseat Polk. He says he does not necessarily disagree with some of the ideas discussed recently but says that Polk made sweeping plans without input from the council. The council — not the mayor — should take the leading role in the future of the town, Allison argues, echoing sentiments from some current council members.

Polk recently took the unusual step of endorsing a list of six candidates for town council. He held a small rally Sunday to campaign on their behalf and to promote his ideas. The town, he says, needs to refurbish the downtown commercial

district to attract more visitors. This would capitalize, he says, on the recently opened Rector Tract Park and the planned Rappahannock Station Battlefield Park, both located just outside of town on the Rappahannock River.

The town should also be more accessible to pedestrians, he says, both for visitors and for residents — and especially for children walking to Pierce Elementary School, which is also located just outside of town. A recent engineering study found that a 10-foot-wide multiuse paved path along James Madison Street from the river to the school would help achieve this aim — but that building it would cost between \$1 and \$2 million.

Realizing these ideas, Polk acknowledges, is complicated by the fact that the town government does not control the public rights-of-way, meaning that the Virginia Department of Transportation would need to agree with — and pay for — many of the projects. Additionally, some of the most important elements of Polk’s plans, including the riverside parks and the elementary school, are not within town limits, meaning that moving forward would also require a buy-in from the county.

Allison has declined to endorse candidates as a matter of principle, arguing that Polk’s outspoken policy advocacy since his appointment is anathema to the “representative” role that a mayor should play. Polk, he says, has left the council out of important policy discussions, something Allison has pledged not to do if he is elected mayor.

See **CANDIDATES**, page 6

Student arrested near Kettle Run High had been expelled from all Fauquier schools, sheriff’s office says

STUDENT, from page 2

parking lot. Staff notified the school resource officer, who tried to contact the driver. The boy fled on foot into the woods between Kettle Run and Greenville Elementary School.

Deputies ran the license plate of the car through a computer database and discovered that it had been stolen from a Prince William County resident. While dispatchers were on the phone with the car’s owner, a law enforcement officer saw a cell phone lying on the front passenger seat of the stolen vehicle.

Dispatch confirmed that the phone did not belong to the car’s owner. Law enforcement sought a search warrant for the contents of the cell phone, which they believed belonged to the boy.

The incident resulted in a modified lockdown at four schools in the area — Kettle Run, Greenville, Auburn Middle School and Ritchie Elementary. During a modified lockdown, no one is allowed to enter or exit the building, but instruction continues as

usual within the building, including class changes. School let out on time with an increased police presence.

Students and staff did not face a “credible threat” that would justify a full lockdown because the boy ran away when law enforcement tried to contact him, the sheriff’s office said in response to emailed questions from the *Fauquier Times*.

The teenager was arrested at 2:18 p.m. at the intersection of Riley Road and Brookside Parkway, about four miles from Kettle Run. A school resource officer first called the sheriff’s office at 11:34 a.m.

Meaghan Brill, principal of Kettle Run High School, credited the collaborative effort between schools and law enforcement. “We were prepared, and our staff knew how to respond,” Brill said. “It was a true team approach — from our school staff to division staff to the Fauquier County Sheriff’s Office — everyone came together and immediately responded.”

Reach Colleen LaMay at clamay@fauquier.com

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SPORTS: Kettle Run golf wins district tourney, Liberty football wins first game, and more. **Pages 23-28**



FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF PHOTO/COY FERRELL

Homecoming celebrations kick off on Main Street

Seniors Jack Carter and Nolan Working were among the hundreds of Fauquier High School students, parents and staffers who participated in last Thursday's homecoming parade. Kettle Run held its parade Friday. **See page 8.**

Two plead guilty in 'Trip' Bopp murder; 2 others choose trial

By Coy Ferrell
FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

As "Trip" Bopp's parents looked on from several feet away, Martin Martinez, of Manassas, pleaded guilty last week to first-degree murder and other felonies related to the April 2021 shooting death of their son, a 24-year-old farmer, outside Remington.

One of Martinez' co-defendants, Jury Guerra, of Woodbridge, was also scheduled to plead guilty last

See **MURDER**, page 12

Daily coverage online

The *Fauquier Times* will have daily coverage of the trial online at fauquier.com. The trial could last until Sept. 30.



(From top left) Darren Nathaniel Davis, 37; Jury Beatrice Guerra, 30; Martin Anuar Martinez, 31; and José Vidal Pereira, 32

The defendants

Each of the four people charged with murdering "Trip" Bopp lived in the Manassas-Woodbridge area. All are charged with first-degree murder and other felonies related to the alleged incidents that led to Bopp's death.

See **DEFENDANTS**, page 12

In response to residents' concerns, Warrenton police step up patrols in Haiti Street neighborhood

By Colleen LaMay
FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Warrenton Police Department and Virginia State Police carried out temporary "focused enforcement" as part of a larger strategy to address quality of life in the historically Black Haiti Street neighborhood after a pair of shootings a week apart in August. Several residents expressed concerns about the gunfire and neighborhood safety at the Warrenton Town Council meeting Sept 13.

Law enforcement, Fauquier Habitat for Humanity representatives and area residents met in mid-August and created a plan that included increasing the police presence in

See **HAITI ST.**, page 10

"To me it's a shame that you have to pay a mortgage, or you pay rent, and your kids can't even go outside, so it makes me feel like those kids are in jail."

MELISSA CARTER



Building community

Habitat for Humanity's Women Build team prepares to construct a new home on Horner Street in Warrenton. **See page 10.**

Commissioner of Revenue answers questions about high tax bills. **See page 2.**



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MEMBER FDIC

Habitat for Humanity's Women Build team preparing – in-person – for an October project

By Abby Zimmardi

PIEDMONT JOURNALISM FOUNDATION

On June 29 at the Fauquier Habitat for Humanity ReStore warehouse, 30 women of all ages worked together to build simple sawhorses in preparation for building a home. This is the first year since the pandemic began in 2020 that the Women Build team is operating in person again.

Women Build is a group within Habitat for Humanity where women learn and practice the skills needed to build houses in a low-pressure setting, and then build the actual house together after four training sessions. Elizabeth Neher, Women Build committee chair, said that the “Power Hour” event was to help grow community and confidence among the women.

“The spirit of tonight is really just helping women build comfort and skills so that when we all get together on the job site in October, it feels really fun, and everybody feels equipped,” Neher said.

Along with building the house, the Women Build team members

each commit to fundraising at least \$250. They began fundraising in February and, so far, they have collected \$8,000 of their \$100,000 fundraising goal. The \$100k will not underwrite the cost of the materials and the land, Neher said, but “with construction costs 30% higher than they were even a year ago, we’re more reliant on that philanthropic component.”

The future homeowner, Mia Rector, worked alongside the women volunteering to help build her home. Rector is a single mother of five children — aged 6, 7, 9, 11 and 14 — and applied to be a homeowner in 2021; she will have a new home by December 2022.

“In our current place, my kids don’t have their own space to play, study and grow,” Rector said in her letter to Fauquier Habitat for Humanity. “We are so excited to have a home to call our own. The kids are already planning to create a garden in the back yard, and they are looking forward to getting a dog.”

In October, the Women Build



COURTESY PHOTO

About 30 women with Habitat for Humanity's Women Build group gathered June 29 for a team training session. The goal was to build the skills they will need to build a house.

team will begin construction on Rector's new Horner Street home in Warrenton.

The Women Build volunteers work with Rector — not for her — to prep and build her house. It's a unique non-profit model, said Taylor Rivera-Stone, associate director of engagement and development. Rivera-Stone joined Habitat for Humanity nine years ago; she said it was the first time she had volunteered with a non-profit that emphasized this kind of partnership.

Powered by women

The people who make up the Women Build team are first-time volunteers, experienced volunteers, people who are comfortable with power tools and people who have never held one before.

“What I love about Women Build is it gets women from every background, every walk of life, and it brings them together and empowers them,” Rivera-Stone said.

Kristi Kiernan is a first-time Fauquier Habitat for Humanity Women Build volunteer. She came with her friend, Allison Marshall, who is also a first-time volunteer. They both said they were comfortable using power tools prior to joining the team, and they brought their 12-year-old daughters to show them “an exam-

ple of what strong women can do,” Kiernan said.

Other members included team leaders, some of whom were also first-time volunteers, like Missy Sutton. She said she joined because she was looking to do something meaningful, meet new friends and to also give back to her hometown — she also “saw it as a challenge” because she said she is not good with construction.

“The teamwork is the part of this that I love,” Sutton said. “Everyone contributes their unique talents and skills.”

In addition to building community and a new home for a family in need, the project will help future generations, Darryl Neher, CEO of Fauquier Habitat for Humanity, said.

“You’re not just building Mia’s home; you’re helping her for life,” he said to the 30 team members. “This is a 70 to 100-year home.”

There is one more Power Hour event in October before the actual building of Rector’s house begins, and Neher encouraged anyone -- not just women -- to join the team.

“It’s such an incredible opportunity to get connected to amazing people in the community,” Elizabeth Neher said. “Come one, come all — everyone’s welcome — come build a community with us.”



Mia Rector will be moving into a new Habitat for Humanity House in Warrenton with her five children before the end of the year.

PHOTO BY ABBY ZIMMARDI

In response to residents' concerns, Warrenton police step up patrols in Haiti St. neighborhood

HAITI ST., from page 1

the area during two long weekends, Sept. 8 to 10 and again Sept. 15 to 17. During the first weekend, police made six arrests, mainly for nuisance offenses such as being drunk in public and made 15 traffic stops. During the second weekend, police arrested one person for being drunk in public, and issued 20 tickets or warnings for traffic offenses.

“As a result of the partnership with the stakeholders, we were able to address these issues quickly,” Police Chief Michael Kochis said. Police will continue to partner with residents to address any ongoing issues, he said.

“The residents were very clear,” Kochis said. “They want their community to be policed; they just don’t want to be overpoliced,” he said.

“Haiti Street is not only a good community,” Kochis said, “It’s a great community. Those residents are just as engaged as in Gold Cup or any other community in Warrenton.”

The increased police presence came after two incidents in which shots were fired but no one was injured. A man from the Free State area west of Warrenton, Deandre Burke, 20, allegedly fired a gun from a vehicle after a “verbal altercation” with another individual in the neighborhood. A second incident involving gunfire happened a week earlier — again involving a person from outside the neighborhood -- but no charges have been filed in that case yet, and no additional information is available.

See HAITI ST., page 31

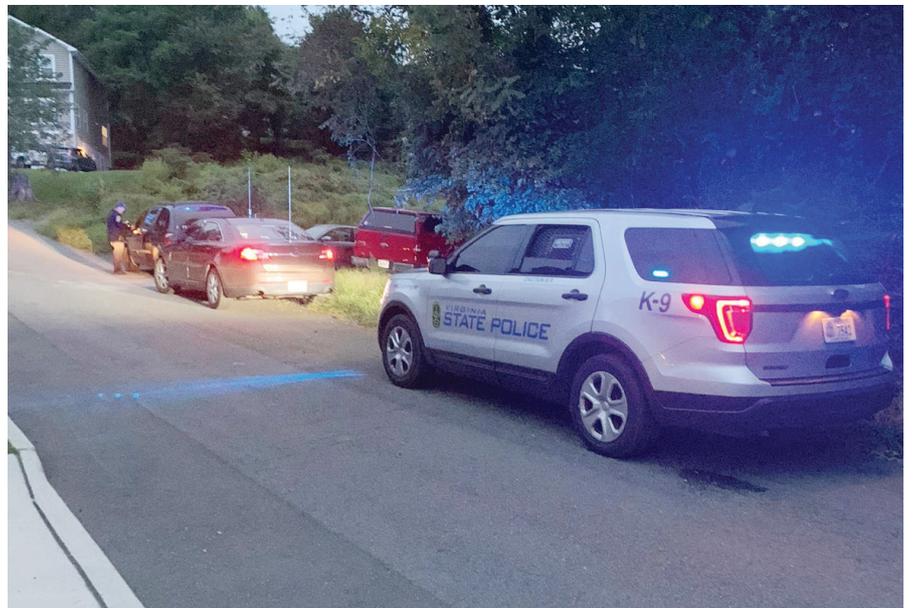


PHOTO COURTESY OF WARRENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Warrenton Police Department carried out focused enforcement on Haiti Street after two shootings.

In response to residents' concerns, Warrenton police step up patrols in Haiti St. neighborhood



FAUQUIER TIMES STAFF PHOTO/ROBIN EARL
In the summer of 2020, Warrenton Police Chief held focus groups to get input from residents about community policing. One of the group sessions was held with residents of Haiti Street.

HAITI ST., from page 10

Kochis does not remember any other gunshots fired in the Haiti Street neighborhood in the two-plus years he has been chief of police. So, residents were shocked when two people from outside the neighborhood shot at someone in the middle of the street in broad daylight.

No evidence exists of an overall increase in crime, however.

Over the past year, the police department logged 800 focused patrols in the neighborhood. Kochis explained a focused patrol means that officers went to Haiti Street and got out of their cars to check the street. He said that's a lot of work for a department with 29 officers, but worth it because residents wanted community policing.

He added that the recent focused enforcement is paying off. During the past two weeks, police received only one call for service, and that involved a domestic dispute. By comparison, police received 78 calls to the police for service in July and 35 in August.

An appeal to the town council

Darryl Neher, CEO of Fauquier Habitat for Humanity, told council members that some Warrenton residents look down on Haiti Street, referring to it as "that neighborhood" on social media and calling it a place where a shooting is no surprise. "We have all heard 'that neighborhood,'" Neher said.

"Fauquier Habitat has worked at Haiti Street for the past five years on neighborhood revitalization work," Neher said. "We're building on Haiti Street. We're investing in Haiti Street."

"That neighborhood is overwhelmingly filled with people and families who want the same thing

as the individuals sitting in this room today, a safe and affordable and quality place to live," he told the council. Habitat for Humanity has four affordable homes finished or nearly finished, with lots for 10 more.

"What I'm asking everyone here today is learn about this historically African American neighborhood that is significant to Warrenton," Neher said. "It is not *that* neighborhood. It is part of the town's fabric."

Linneka Akbar is one of the people waiting for a Habitat home in Haiti Street. She told the council she has been part of the community for 27 years, graduating from Taylor Middle School and Fauquier High School. "I love the atmosphere in Warrenton," she said. "I always talk about how it's a great place to live."

"So, my point was just to come here and say I just want to be able to move onto that street and not have to worry about my son getting off the bus or my son coming home and seeing a lot of that bad activity," Akbar said.

Melissa Carter also will move into a Habitat for Humanity house. "Everybody looks at it like it's *that* street," she said. It doesn't help that the streets don't get swept regularly, parked cars never move and sidewalks are missing, she said. "To me it's a shame that you have to pay a mortgage, or you pay rent, and your kids can't even go outside, so it makes me feel like those kids are in jail," she said.

"I am willing to work and do whatever needs to be done so that my kids can feel safe when they go to get on that school bus to go to school or come from school."

Reach Colleen LaMay at clamay@fauquier.com



Anne Talks Real Estate

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Anne C. Hall
Associate Broker, CRS, GRI, SRES
Long & Foster, Realtors

492 Blackwell Rd.
Warrenton, VA 20168
540-341-3538



These property transfers, filed Sept. 7-13, 2022 were provided by Clerk of the Court of Fauquier County.
(Please note that to conserve space, only the first person named as the grantor or grantee is listed. The kind of instrument is a deed unless stated otherwise.)

Top Dollar Deal: \$2,950,000 in Cedar Run District

<p>Cedar Run District Joshua A. Gulick to SDR Family LC, 101.2 acres at 9400 Meetze Road nr. Warrenton. \$1,175,000 Clarence J. Daniels Tr. to KP Estates LLC, 140 acres at 2033 Cottontail Lane and 33.2007 acres at 1621 Cromwell Road, Catlett. \$2,950,000 NVR Inc. to David Tajchreber, 0.5741 acre at 2738 Travers Place, Warrenton. \$918,285 Larry B. Olinger Tr. to Indus Property Group LLC, 32.9721 acres on Old Marsh Road, Bealeton. \$510,000</p> <p>Lee District Emily Shirey to Robert Lando, 0.3117 acre at 6450 Waterdale Court, Bealeton. \$415,000 Fauquier Habitat for Humanity Inc. to Jasmine Smith, conveyance of the house and improvements only, at 302-C West Bowen Street, Remington. \$180,000 Rebecca H. Irvin Tr. to Richard Kent Moxley, 0.30 acre at 303 North Rappahannock Street, Remington. \$300,000</p> <p>Center District Barbara Ann Snyder to Lynn Florence, Townhouse 19-c at 95-C Leeds Court</p>	<p>East, Warrenton. \$239,900 RFI CM LC to NVR Inc., 1.1644 acres, 1.1301 acres, 1.1594 acres and 1.2087 acres on Woodstock Street, Warrenton. \$1,600,000 John Urban Perry Tr. to Timothy S. Jones, 0.4592 acre at 6436 Cannon Drive, Warrenton. \$425,900 Rodney Greenwood to Allan Badrow, 156 Cambridge Way, Warrenton. \$498,501 Green Earth Properties LLC to Jeffrey D. Riley, Unit 201 at 635 Waterloo Road, Warrenton. \$235,000 Mary A. Hart to Gholam Hossin, 817 Colonel Edmonds Court, Warrenton. \$400,000 Victoria Lidia Croft to Sharon Sleeper, 278 Dover Road, Warrenton. \$501,000 Vongnaleth Bouapha to Aaron Marsh, 218 E. Shirley Avenue, Warrenton. \$495,000</p> <p>Scott District AK Realty Investments LLC to Kaitlyn Worley, 4.44505 acres at 5344 Baldwin Street nr. Warrenton. \$660,000 NVR Inc. to Ryan C. Daly, 0.5768</p>	<p>acre at 7891 Spotted Saddle Court, Warrenton. \$814,940 Chadwick Read Jacob to Allison L. Kelly, 7284 Mill Run Drive nr. Warrenton. \$619,000 Robert W. Springman to Wayne G. Carson, 1.6643 acre at 5347 Wade Court nr. Warrenton. \$835,000 Seyyed H. Roghani to David E. Noonan, 0.5739 acre at 4385 Sunset Court nr. Warrenton. \$510,000 Eileen M. Patchett to David Eugene Barrington, 7.5597 acres at 7261 Baldwin Ridge Road nr. Warrenton. \$730,000 Sherry Lynn Bearden to Jordan Ray Muirhead, 6752 Settlers Ridge Road nr. Warrenton. \$488,999 FS Development LLC to NVR Inc., 0.5800 acre on Thoroughbred Road, Warrenton/New Baltimore. \$300,000 Troy W. Bowling to Matthew A. Buckman, 7336 Tucan Court nr. Warrenton. \$881,000 Everett House to Vincent Israel, 7230 Auburn Mill Road nr. Warrenton. \$685,000</p> <p>Marshall District Paper Street Soap Co. LLC to</p>
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Maronda Homes of Virginia LLC, 2.2861 acres and 2.2841 acres on Enon School Road, Marshall. **\$250,000**
Timothy C. Hinkel Tr. to Mountain Hollow LLC, 156.4697 acres and 20 acres on Rattlesnake Mountain; 2.6733 acres nr. Rt. 728; 33.1259 acres and 3.9753 acres nr. Markham; and 5 acres at 12648 Moss Hollow Road, Markham. **\$1,400,000**
Timothy C. Hinkel Tr. to Mountain Hollow LLC, 13.5826 acres on Rattlesnake Mountain nr. Markham. **\$85,000**
Edwin Benitez to Mark Francis, 0.067 acre at 8335 Mauzy Square, Marshall. **\$290,000**
William E. Carter to Kenya L. Carter, 1 acre at 8515 Turnbull Road nr. Warrenton. **\$60,000**
House Buyers of America Inc. to Jolly Investments LLC, 0.7688 acre at 8329 Turnbull Road nr. Warrenton. **\$175,000**
Frederick H. Weisberg Tr. to Neiswanger Foundation, 34.7720 acres off Tapps Ford Road nr. Amissville. **\$457,625**