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BREAKING
&
RECENTLY
BROKEN
NEWS

Warrenton: The Flyer



Arts Focus
Page 6-7

LOCAL NEWS
Fact-Based
Fun Edgy Civil



VOLUME XXVI - Mar-Apr Take 2

EXTRA EXTRA!

THIS IS OUR TOWN PAPER

Deal or No Deal?



By Ike Miller

The more I have reviewed the Hotel Burg business model, the more it appears that private club membership fees to join and monthly dues are a significant component to its combined revenue stream. The cap for total membership in Leesburg appears to be 200 to 250 members. An example noted that a “Couples” membership initiation fee of \$2,750 and annual dues for \$5,500 for access to “members-only” portions of the Hotel property and amenities offered only for members. The Hotel Burg has a seven-month track record. By all appearances this model will be applied in Warrenton as well.

The likely scenario is that much of Hotel Street space would be used for high-end dining and private club amenities. A New York strip in The Burg’s main restaurant in Leesburg is offered for \$90 – with each side at \$14! (Fourteen dollars for french fries !?). This may attract some wealthy visitors to Warrenton and negatively impact existing restaurants in downtown, but for local citizens it is not affordable regular dining.

If indeed the likely scenario of the offer to the Town to sell this building for a fraction of it’s appraised value and then to

(continued on page 3)

Why I love Warrenton, a small town, and want to keep it that way.

By Waldo Ward

I moved to Warrenton in 2005. I retired in 2008. I knew I had to keep active after retirement. I have always liked to walk, so I started walking every day. I have several routes I take around the town. I have met and made friends with a lot of people in Warrenton. Several incidents have made me really appreciate living in a small town like Warrenton.

When the Covid hit, I stopped walking around town. When it was decided I could start walking again, I went back to my previous routes. There were several people that I had spoken to before who were glad to see me. One lady in particular told me that she had been worried about me and was glad to see me again. I was really touched by this. I realized this would not happen in a big town where people did not know each other. Recently there was an accident in which another older man was struck by a car. He was hurt. I understand that he is recovering at home. Hopefully he will be out walking again soon.

When I went into my bank, the ladies there were glad to see me. They had been worried I had been hit. I thought that was really nice of them. Another good thing about living in a small town.



What If We Had the Space in Warrenton to do this...? ...we do!

By Joseph Esposito

I believe we could use one of the areas of 18 Court to create a historical tea room experience. The room could be a decor of the 1800's and having customers served by people in period clothing as well. We could do an English style tea sitting with finger sandwiches, deserts and clotted cream. It would be great to partner with local business for the food, but FHS would supply the tea, I suggest having this event at least one Sunday a month to start and holidays. Creating themed Sunday's based on Women of Virginia, this may need to be thought out well, have music, with piano, violin, etc.. This could bring out the arts, history, education experience and local food providers.

Editors Note: The ideal space is the Presidential suite over the vestibule entrance with vaulted ceilings overlooking Court Street to one side and the main stage and ballroom space on the other side through awesome arched windows and the room has eight 100-year old chandeliers hanging above. The space has a small kitchen that is perfect for storing the tea sets and teas.

Keeping the 18 Court Street Town Asset: Tangible and Intangible Benefits to the Town of Warrenton

The mental health of all people improves with the addition of the creative arts, whether as a creator or an audience of the artist. This is widely proven by psychologists, counselors, churches, and other doctors. A space like this gives a shared experience for diverse groups that breaks down cultural, political and societal boundaries creating aspects of connection, human relations and develops kindred neighborly actions and creatively weaves threads of lasting friendships into a small town. This reduces animosity and hostility between disparate groups, brings people together and unites our Town. The possibility of this Warrenton Neighborhood Arts Project (to be named at 9 am at the April 14th Working Session) at 18 Court Street is truly an example of Love Historic Old Town Warrenton and all of our Fauquier County neighbors.

The building will remain a Town of Warrenton asset without being a financial burden or liability. Additionally, the plan allows for capital improvements to restore the building back to its original magnificence while making needed improvements consistent with today’s standards in building codes. The nonprofit alliance will also develop a direct relationship with Fauquier County setting the precedence of continuing the legacy of the Historian led walk-able tours well into the future and becoming a living historical building museum in the County Seat of Fauquier in Warrenton Virginia.

What is the Neighborhood Arts Porject at 18 Court Street all about and how much revenue will it generate for the Town? The

(continued on page 3)

Editors' Pick

WHERE'S WALDO? >>>

Look for Waldo in a different place in new publications. Waldo is one of the most spotted longtime residents and he loves to walk the streets of our beloved Historic Old Town of Warrenton. He especially wants to preserve the charm. There is a delightful article about Waldo on page 7. Waldo submits articles on **WPAC.blog** about recent sightings from his regular walks and strong opinions on Town matters. Each **W:TF** will feature a new Town resident.

«« The drawing of Main Street pictured on the left is a series of drawings by a local resident, Christopher Lambert. He draws mainly for fun, though you can occasionally find his work for sale in local shops. You may have encountered him locally drawing pictures of people's pets. He doesn't charge for them, he uses drawing as a way to connect to people. Currently some of his drawings are hanging in Frame Craft at 64 Main Street where you can purchase a calendar with those drawings or the original drawings.



Waldo Ward, Warrenton Town Resident

About WPAC

The Warrenton Public Advisory Committee (WPAC) contains the group of local people who value truth and facts when making decisions to keep the Historic Old Town Charm of Warrenton Virginia and matters of concern with Town Council. We strive to bring subject matter expert inputs to a wide variety of small town issues and concerns and to inform our community of fact-based information, presented in a transparent forum. If you align with these values then you are part of the WPAC community. All are welcome in the discussion. Check out our blog www.wpac.blog for more information or to become a contributor.

Warrenton: The Flyer (W:TF) is a compilation of inputs from people in Warrenton communities including residents, shop keepers, business owners & friends ~25 mile radius.

The editing, ads sales, production publishing and promotion of W:TF flyer is done by a small local business called We The Flyers.

>>WeTheFlyers@protonmail.com<< for advertising & article submission. Donations & AD purchase: WeTheFlyers.org

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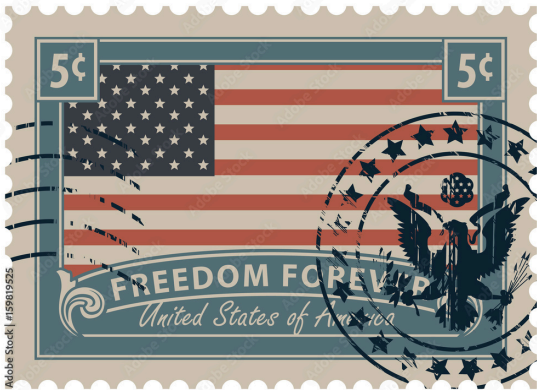
Reports

Letters To The Editors

In this section **Warrenton: The Flyer** publishes Letters to the Editors (WPAC) and Community Event Reports for topics relevant to our town. Please submit to our publisher: WeTheFlyers@protonmail.com WPAC will curate articles based on interest, relevance, and space availability.



In May 1921, John Barton Payne pledged funds for the permanent structure for the Warrenton Library in Fauquier County, Virginia and a founder of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond in 1911



Trial over Amazon

By Percy Dunagin

Another small step in the long saga of the proposed Amazon Data Center has taken place, with little noticeable indication of a resolution. On March 9th 2026 at the Fauquier County Circuit Court in Warrenton, Judge Stephen Sincavage presided over an approximately 90-minute proceeding that ultimately only set up the next trial hearing date of June 15th 2026 (at 10 AM), where he will hear the full oral arguments given by both sides. Between now and then, the judge will pour over the 4,000 pages of stipulations that both parties have agreed are “the facts” in the case, along with studying the proposed order that the plaintiff filed and the written briefs that each side must submit by May 8th . For most of us laypeople, court proceedings are something we only are exposed to in the movies or TV, which makes this process appear to be drawn out. But watching the trial, along with only about 20 other observers, I was somewhat impressed by the orderly process, the calm demeanor and the respectful decorum throughout. This is not at all like the movies. This case, CL23000128-00, is trackable at <https://eapps.courts.state.va.us/CJISWeb/CaseDetail.do>) was initially filed on March 16, 2023 by 12 plaintiffs (3 are listed on the court documents: Charles and MaryGay Cross and Kevin Hampton) with 3 defendants (Town Council of Warrenton, Town of Warrenton and Amazon Data Services).

So what are the key arguments on which this case will turn? Actually the two parties agree on what the key arguments are, but of course they differ on how the law should be interpreted in its application to the agreed-upon facts. At this hearing, each side presented opening arguments before Judge Sincavage, outlining what they will argue in their written briefs and oral arguments. First, the plaintiff, represented by Mr. Mullin, and then the defense, represented by Mr. Westover. While both sides referred to and pointed out the pertinent facts in the case, these are not known by many people. Let me review some of those facts in chronological order. April 13 th , 2021: Town Council approved by unanimous voice vote the “Initiation of a Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment to Add Data Centers to the I District”. This document did not include the statement that this action was in the public interest, as required by Virginia Code 15.-- 2286(A) which states “Any such resolution or motion by such governing body or commission proposing the rezoning shall state the above public purposes therefor.” August 10th , 2021: Town Council approved by unanimous voice vote the “Text Amendment to Add Data Centers in the Industrial (I) District”. This text amendment did include the required statement on public interest: “WHEREAS, the Town Council has determined that the health, safety, general welfare of the public and good zoning practice warrant this amendment”. Feb 14th , 2023: Town Council approved 4-3 the Special Use Permit (SUP) for Amazon to proceed with its proposed data center in Warrenton. March 11th, 2025: Town Council approved by unanimous voice vote the “Resolution to Initiate ZOTA-25-1 to Remove Data Centers as a Permissible Use within the Industrial Zoning District.” This text amendment did include the required statement on public interest. July 8th, 2025: Town Council approved 6-0 the “Ordinance to Approve ZOTA-25-1 Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment to Article 3, 9 and 12 to Remove Data Centers as a Permissible Use within the Industrial Zoning District.”

The plaintiff’s argument centers around the claim that the resolution to change the zoning is defective in 2 ways, either of which invalidates (void ad initio) that zoning change and the subsequent SUP. The first defect stems from the absence of the public purpose statement as required by Virginia code. The second defect is the lack of a written, signed resolution for the initiation of the zoning change that occurred on April 21st, 2021. The plaintiff cited in opening arguments many legislative precedents supporting their case. The defense’s main argument is that the two legislative actions, the underlying zoning change and the SUP, are independent. Therefore, the validity of the zoning change does not affect the subsequent SUP, which was approved on Feb 14th , 2021. In fact, Virginia Code also allows for certain exceptions that even if the zoning change amendment was invalid, that does not require a void ad initio on all subsequent actions. Furthermore, they argue, the zoning change was in fact valid under Virginia Code standards, because the written resolution approved on August 10th , 2021, did include the public purpose statement. In addition to this, the defense will argue that Virginia Code 15.2-2286 also requires that any appeal to a zoning ordinance must be made within 30 days, which the plaintiff did not do. In fact, the defense will argue, the Town of Warrenton and Amazon operated under the presumption from 2021 to 2023 that the zoning amendment was valid, and hence went forward with the debate and approval of the SUP. Only in March 2023 was this suit brought that challenged all that. The plaintiff is asking the Court to do the following actions: 1) void ad initio the text amendment of April 2021; 2) void the SUP; 3) make all permits and actions for the data center project null and void; 4) issue a permanent injunction on the use of the property that would be pursuant to the voided actions; 5) issue a writ of mandamus on counts 1, 2 and 4 above; and 6) direct the Town officials to take the appropriate actions.

Despite the cordiality and apparent agreement on many facets of the case, it is by no means simple, nor is it obvious at this point, which way the judge will rule. We will all have to wait until June. Meanwhile, Amazon must also wait to build the data center, which still has several logistical obstacles such as power and water, to negotiate.

Comments? see WPAC.blog

Headlines & Front Page News Continued

Keeping 18 Court Street (continued)

vision of this space is as follows: Weekly Live Music by Gloria's Music Alliance, Theatre groups such as Fauquier Community Theatre, History Events by Fauquier History Museum (FHM) and Art Shows by Local Artists. The plan includes nighttime dance clubs (Tango, Country dancing, Swing), chorale, Orchestra, Recitals, two-person Historical theatre shows and storytelling, art gallery openings, local church gatherings, local evening meetings, celebrations, awards ceremonies and holiday gatherings. A silver screen will be added for movie nights and matinees.

The plan has ample daytime slots open for both the nonprofits special events and for other groups such as Weddings, Celebrations of Life, Special Occasions, Senior citizens activities, Police Fire and Rescue public activities, Daughters of the Revolution, VFW events, Rotary Club, Shriners, & others such as Town of Warrenton special business activities. The plan specifically includes Seniors, Individuals with Disabilities and youth.

We will be asking FHM to develop a plan to support the restoration, construction and major maintenance such as fundraising through bricks, bronze plaques and grant-writing as their mission is to preserve the evidence of the past. The municipal building at **18 Court Street IS EVIDENCE OF THE PAST** and should be retained for our future generations of Fauquier County and the Town of Warrenton Virginia residents. Currently, the town spends \$25,000 in operational maintenance which will be covered by the nonprofit Lessees and the generated revenue est. is ~\$100K annually. **The Town will retain ownership.** You can voice your support TUESDAY April 14th at the Town Council Evening Meeting 6:30 pm at 21 Main Street. Sign up for 3 minutes of citizen time at the door!



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I’ve also learned that there are resources we can use to compare Warrenton to other towns and cities across the commonwealth. We can compare ratios that show Warrenton costs around 30% more to operate than the average. Why is that? If we are getting 30% better services than the average, and it is for the greater good of our society, then I am fine with it. But if there are inefficiencies that contribute to the additional costs, wouldn’t you like to know where they are and provide feedback to leadership to improve efficiency and possibly reduce taxes?

I will follow up with a series of articles that will flesh out these details. As I learn more about how the Warrenton budget works, I will write more articles that will culminate in a “Warrenton Budget 101” that I hope will facilitate involvement of Warrenton’s tax-paying citizens.

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WARRENTON BUDGET 101

By Anthony Sippert

I’ve lived in Warrenton for 29 years. I’ve loved living here. I’ve enjoyed raising my children here, and now I enjoy spoiling some of my grandchildren here. Warrenton has so much to offer, a rural ‘small town’ feel. It’s safe, clean, and full of life. But as I am at a point where I am thinking about retirement, I am considering what I might do with the extra time I expect to have. I also find myself thinking about my children and grandchildren. What will Warrenton be like for them as we move toward the future?

I have not participated much in local government. I have not felt compelled to engage in the debates over budgetary matters. I generally felt that common sense would prevail among the leaders of the Town of Warrenton and decisions would be made that served the greater good.

I’ve recently taken more interest in the workings of this town that I’ve enjoyed living in for nearly 30 years. So I decided to learn more. I also spoke with a Councilman about the basics of how it all works. And I’ve learned that a lot of it revolves around the town budget.

Did you know that the town’s budget is easy to find? Both past budgets, the current budget, and the proposed future budget are all here

www.warrentonva.gov/177/Budget

Did you know that there are two basic funds in the Town of Warrenton budget? The General Fund covers the town’s operating costs, personnel, and overhead. There is also an Enterprise Fund that covers capital expenditures, such as replacing the water and sewer systems.

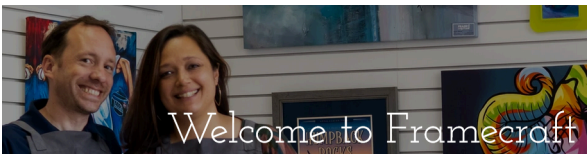
We all know we pay taxes designed to cover those expenses. But do you know how the budget is generated and how you can be involved, how you can participate in how your tax dollars are spent?



**QUICK ACCESS TO
TOWN BUDGET**
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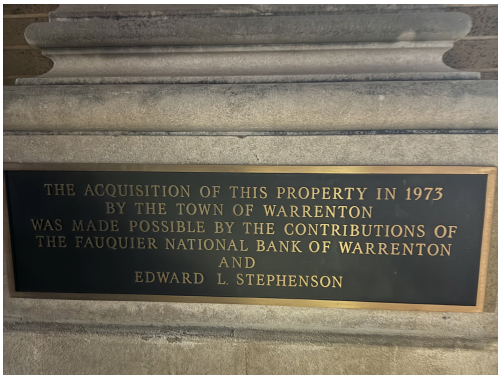


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(18 Court Street, Deal or No Deal? continued from front page)

receive loans and tax incentives similar to the County plan then the Town Council is:

1. Offering SIGNIFICANT financial subsidies to allow a developer to build a restaurant and private club that will not likely be affordable nor desirable for local residents to visit or join, and
2. Subsidizing a private club that financially prevents the average town citizen from using what can again be a usable public asset and gathering place. A Club membership application is submitted and the applicant is “vetted”... The notion of the Town subsidizing the creation of a private club with a Town asset should not sit well with taxpayers nor business owners.

The appeal of a shared space for an indoor year-round Farmer’s Market, a concert venue, art festivals and for profit and non-profit access to this space is undeniably an option to be seriously considered. This model has been proven by Gloria’s and the 501(c)3 financials are publicly available. Tim Dingus and others have a successful track record in the arts community, this space can produce a reasonable profit to offset maintenance and upkeep and REMAIN the only building the Town can offer in the Historic District for any similar purpose. The Town also preserves an asset that will only appreciate in value.

I wish Mr. and Mrs. Ash and their company all the best in the Warren Green Building venture. But strong-arming the Town Council to force a deal with the town to sell Hotel Street hurriedly and inferring that the Warren Green Building offer is contingent on Hotel Street being part of the deal is NOT the way to be business-friendly in Old Town Warrenton.

In a few years we will need to complete a Judicial Complex mandated by the Commonwealth. Estimates for this project range from \$95 million up! The County owns the General District, JDR and Circuit Court buildings. These Courthouses will become obsolete. I see no mention of the Town Council and the Board of Supervisors even discussing a plan for these structures. The Town Council and the BoS apparently have not even sat in the same room in at least a year (if not longer) to discuss the Town’s future, the County’s repurposing of these buildings and the impact it may have on existing Town businesses and the citizens of the Town and County.

Since renovation of the Warren Green Building will likely take two years to complete, the Town should at least delay the sale for 12 to 18 months and see if a viable community event center can be created and operated for all to enjoy!

The Town Government should not rush and purportedly vote to sell this building in April – even with a public hearing and rush a vote in April or May.

An updated appraisal and detailed inspection should be completed prior to any further negotiation. I find it hard to fathom, that if the building were in such a state of disrepair then WHY did the Town Government operate in it from the early 70’s to 2024?

I hope to see a large and vocal crowd at the April Town Council meeting and many of us signing up and speaking in support of exploring alternatives for Hotel Street.

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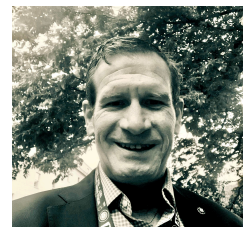
TOWN Truths and-or COUNCIL Consequences

Dedicated to providing accurate information to Town Residents and Town Businesses to further the action on new or current town topics, propositions, & votes.

Our Town Council Members



Paul Mooney AT-LARGE Term expires 12/31/2026
Councilman Paul Mooney is a husband and father of four, a local small business owner, and a Marine Corps reservist. Paul says he's passionate about his community and wants to ensure it stays a place where families, individuals, and democracy can thrive.



David McGuire AT-LARGE Term expires 12/31/2026
David McGuire has a Master's Degree in History. As a fiscal conservative he believes in the transparency of government. The primary responsibility of being a Town Council Member is "to have integrity in all your actions both public and private."



Eric Gagnon WARD 5 Term Expires 12/31/2028
Councilman Eric Gagnon is a retired publisher, training professional, consultant, and inventor, with experience as an entrepreneur, business owner, and technology patent litigation & licensing specialist. Eric often says he believes in truth, transparency and standing behind your word.



Michele O'Halloran, WARD 4 Term Expires 12/31/2028
Councilmember O'Halloran originally from the Republic of Panama, immigrated to the United States in her early 20s. She has resided in Arizona and Florida, employed in both private and public sectors as a Human Resource Manager before moving to Warrenton 20 years ago.



Larry Kovalik WARD 3 Term Expires 12/31/2028
Councilman Kovalik is a Senior Field Service Engineer for medical laser systems.. As a 25-year resident Larry fully supports our town's Vision and Values statement regarding the preservation of Warrenton's small-town character. Respect, Protect, & Preserve are his priorities.



William Semple II WARD 2 Term Expires 12/31/2028
Bill, Vice Mayor and Councilman is a retired entrepreneur, businessman and Navy veteran best known for inventing and successfully licensing mapping programs for common electronics. Bill says he has an avid commitment to preserving the Warrenton he loves.



Roy Francis WARD 1 Term Expires 12/31/2028
Roy retired from the Federal Government where he served as the Departmental Printing Officer for the Department of the Interior. A fiscal conservative, he says he believes in supporting representative government, listening to the people, openness, and transparency.



Carter Nevill Town Mayor Term Expires 12/31/2026
After graduating he remained in Charlottesville working in restaurants until he became a Southeast Regional Sales Manager for the leading importer of South African wines. In 2004 he opened Carter and Spence, Ltd. He is active in Old Town, greater Warrenton & Fauquier organizations.

- cnevill@warrentonva.gov

pmooney@warrentonva.gov

dmcguire@warrentonva.gov

rfrancis@warrentonva.gov

wsemples@warrentonva.gov

lkovalik@warrentonva.gov

mohalloran@warrentonva.gov

egagnon@warrentonva.gov
- 540-359-5246

540-272-5329

540-422-3590

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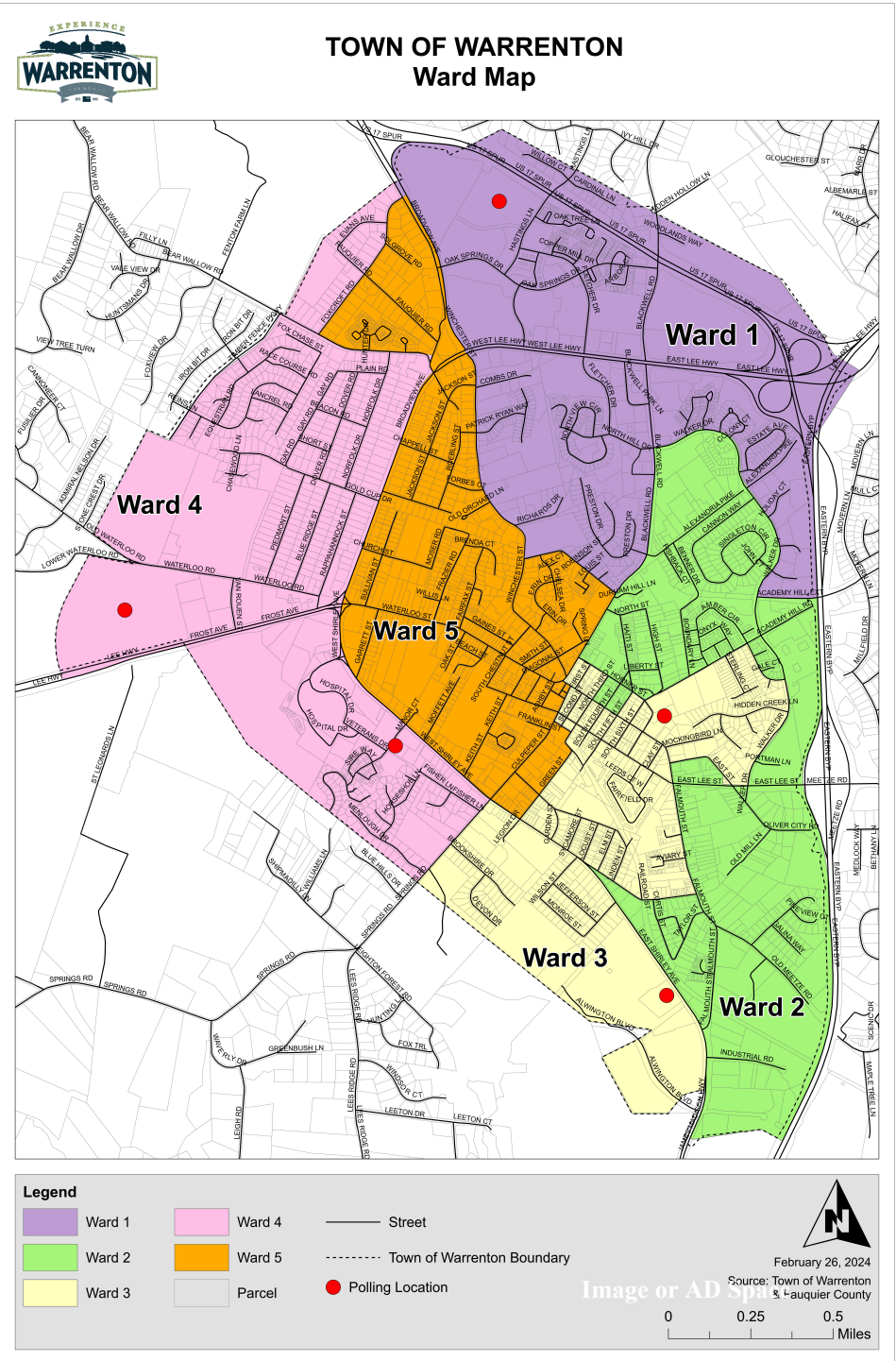
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540-645-6156

Your TWO CENTS is Welcome!



Town Council Meetings Transparency Needed for Warren Green Hotel Building & 18 Ct Street Potential Sale

Regular Meetings of the Town of Warrenton Town Council are held in the Council Chambers, Town Hall, 21 Main Street on the **second Tuesday** of each month **Working Session** at 9 AM and **Regular Meeting with Public Speaking Session** 6:30 PM.

Suggestion: Prepare about 400 words and make TWELVE copies for the town council and staff or submit online to comments to townclerk@warrentonva.gov



Planning Commission Regular Meetings are held on the **third Tuesday** of the month at 7 PM in the Town Council Chambers at 21 Main Street.

The **Architectural Review Board** will meet on the **fourth Thursday** of every month at 21 Main Street.

Planning Commission Work Sessions are held on the **fourth Tuesday** of the month, as needed, at 7 PM in the Town Council Chambers at 21 Main Street.

www.warrentonva.gov

By Ike Miller
Much confusion surrounds the proposed sale and re-use of the Warrenton Green Building (County-owned) and the Old Fauquier Bank Building (Town-owned). The County Board of Supervisors has reviewed developer proposals for many months to return the County-owned Warren Green Building property to a hotel, private club and restaurant. Purportedly, the County's initial offer from Madison Dale, the Maryland-based developer, includes a taxpayer-funded, low-interest rate loan for purchase, tax incentives, removal of at least 22 public parking spaces in a County-owned lot on Lee Street among other enticements. We can only assume the Town received an initial offer to sell Hotel Street with similarly generous terms. In March's morning session, the Town Council received a high-level public presentation extolling how the Hotel Street sale can be rolled into the proposed WGB sale. Mr. Ash, the presenter warned the Town Council that the sale should happen quickly as "time kills deals...". The Town Council has an obligation to publicly disclose the entire initial offer, hold at least two public hearings and explore alternative public uses. The Town Council should NOT sell the building at 1/3 of its appraised value, much less loan money defer

(continued on page 5)

Town Truths & Council Consequences News



Comic By Glen Latham, our Warrenton hometown cartoonist

TOWN BUSINESS -Of Note

Phillip Carter Strother is named Interim Town Attorney

Mr. Strother (pronounced Strawther) attended his first Town Council Meeting Tuesday January 13th 2026. Philip Carter Strother is the founder and managing partner of Strother Law Offices, PLC. Mr. Strother has extensive experience with complex litigation in administrative tribunals, and federal and state trial and appellate courts, including the Virginia Supreme Court and the U.S. Court for Appeals for the 4th Circuit. Mr. Strother is also duly admitted and qualified as an Attorney and Counselor at the Supreme Court of the United States.

As lead counsel in three land use cases before the Virginia Supreme Court, Mr. Strother successfully represented the interests of clients in complex land use litigation. He handles a wide variety of land use and zoning transactions and has successfully represented clients before the Board of Supervisors and Board of Zoning Appeals in multiple jurisdictions in the Commonwealth.

SUBMIT ARTICLES AND ADS to
WeTheFlyers@protonmail.com

The Town Council Approves Christopher Martino as Interim Town Manager

Mr Martino has executive experience in Prince William County where he paved the path for the "Digital Gateway" that amounted to ~10 Million square feet of Data Center land use permits in 2016-2019. When he retired in 2021 there were over 35 data centers operating and permits granted for even more. There are currently about 44 data centers operating or near operation. Beginning in Gainesville and traveling through Manassas via I-66 or any other major road, there is no doubt you have noticed these exceptionally large and aesthetically unappealing monster buildings. Let's hope his love for Data Centers stays outside of the Town of Warrenton and the Fauquier County line. Comments on this article or Data Centers in general?

www.WPAC.blog to join the discussion



comments? www.WPAC.blog

(Transparency Needed... continued from Page 4)

payment and/or offer financial incentives to ANY developer. It is the last remaining Town-owned building in the Historic District. Let's not rush to failure while considering selling this asset. After all, the citizens own this property—not the current Mayor and Town Council.

A SEMPLE Request from the Town Council to Town Residents

By Patty Pratt

As of the January Town council meeting several topics were discussed that are directly related to the Warrenton Town budget; including the passing of a debt-funded water and sewer infrastructure which involves Bonds to total 90 MILLION dollars with the first "tranche" of money set at 16 Million dollars. Additional discussion of the WARF annual budget shortfall is concerning. In closing remarks Town Council Member Bill Semple asked all residents to familiarize themselves with the Warrenton Town Budget right now. He explained that often people start participating too late in the process or after it is passed. Town Council member, Eric Gagnon, after written attacks on social media by anonymous contributors that Eric was trying to shutdown the WARF, explained his actions at the December meeting. Following an angry scolding and outcry from people who read this information, Eric stated that he doesn't have a side on how to pay for the deficit, but has a duty to be transparent to the residents regarding the budget; raise property taxes, take out annual loans, or alternatives.

warrentonva.gov/77 Budget



QUICK ACCESS
TO BUDGET
«



Dupers Delight? @ 2/10 Town Council

By Patty Pratt

The Town Council meeting had some unusual contentious moments when a motion that was presented during the working session (closed and open sessions) was re-hashed in front of the public in the evening session. The motion begins at 36:17 (see video) and goes awry when Ms O'Halloran presented a jumbled word salad of a motion that included the words adopt and develop a new resolution for 2026. Then Mayor Nevill at 37:20 stated the commission "fell off the rails" and added more contention with phrases like "no longer relevant with change in Town Attorney," "needs to redefine how its going to find discovery", "if we rush in", "unprofessional" dancing around the true issue at hand. At 40:00 Mr Kovalik, said to the Mayor "off the rails in front of the public... is disparaging...". At this moment, I and others of the public saw the mayor smile and laugh sheepishly. Is this a case of "Duper's Delight?" The Town Attorney clarified that this was only a motion to renew the motion that was stayed. Mr McGuire claimed that this was a "fast ball" and not what was hashed out earlier..."a curve ball". SO what is going on in the background? The mayor said the re-establishment of the resolution was necessary to continue the Commission on Open and Transparent Government so that it doesn't reflect "one member's whim". What are the Mayor's whims and hidden objectives? Why did the Mayor invite Renard Carlos back to the microphone after his comments were over during citizens time? -to make sure he addressed the timing of the New Business on the agenda?. Mr Carlos complained that motions drawn in the same day of a Town Council meeting should be postponed to the following month to give citizens more time. Hmmm ...the commission has been "stayed" for monthsnot allowed to work! Another month drawing this out benefits who? Did the the mayor know what Carlos was going to say? All, including the Mayor should follow the rules of conduct. Is the Mayor trying to run out the clock? What is lurking in the background ... ? The Town residents demand a transparent government now. Transparency Please!

Your Town: Local News



An interdisciplinary shared space fostering growth, connection and creative exploration.
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72 South 5th Street
Warrenton, Va 20186
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ART TOWN?

Warrenton Emerges as the Next NOVA Art Community?

Through the Purple Door...

Art Studio 81 is a vibrant community-driven Art Collective located at 81 Main Street (side entrance), Warrenton, VA. It aims to connect local artists with the community and provide a venue for them to display and sell their art. The collective also offers classes and workshops, fostering the appreciation of the arts through an open-to-the-public shared art studio. The space is filled with displays of vivid, expressive local art, including works from nationally known artists, all with a connection to

Warrenton. The collective's mission is to create a destination for homeowners to acquire original local art at an affordable price and to elevate the arts throughout the Warrenton community.

Look around the Main Street shops and you'll discover dozens of studios and artists. Not only will you find paintings, mixed media, crafts, jewelry, sculptures and drawings, you will find musical and venues for both performance, instruction and ballet and theatre types. Warrenton is long known for the theatrical outdoor street walks at various times of the year such as Halloween Ghost stories that come to life on our streets. Warrenton businesses and restaurants also support several arts and crafts



Angel Tighe; Colorful Themes Commissioned Designs

ART SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:
* **Theme:** Love Earth, Compassion, and Peace
* **Size:** Up to 16" x 20"
(Any media, must be able to hang on the wall).
* **Requirement:** Must be an original work by the submitting artist.
* **Timeline:** We are accepting pieces starting March 1st 2026 thru April 15th. Pickup by April 20th. ...more details at Studio 81



Warrenton. The collective's mission is to create a destination for homeowners to acquire original local art at an affordable price and to elevate the arts throughout the Warrenton community.

Look around the Main Street shops and you'll discover dozens of studios and artists. Not only will you find paintings, mixed media, crafts, jewelry, sculptures and drawings, you will find musical and venues for both performance, instruction and ballet and theatre types. Warrenton is long known for the theatrical outdoor street walks at various times of the year such as Halloween Ghost stories that come to life on our streets. Warrenton businesses and restaurants also support several arts and crafts

fairs that are quite popular from the vast attendance of visitors especially from nearby counties and Northern Virginia and Washington DC. -Based on these cursory facts, **yes**, Warrenton is becoming the next and likely the best Northern Virginia Art Town. Come out and visit us and be sure to **find and go through the purple door (side entrance) at Art Studio 81.**

Call for Artist - Paint the Path to Peace

The Great Mother March is more than an event—it is a 32-day transformative pilgrimage from Asheville to DC, fueled by empowerment, creativity, and a renewed connection to the Earth. **On April 18, 2026**, this movement arrives in Warrenton, and Art Studio 81 is ready to welcome it with open arms.

We are inviting local creators to contribute to our Visiting Artist Wall, a curated collection designed to support and inspire the marchers as they pass through our community.



info@warrentonartistcollective.com

Hey, Where did the Remnant Farms Tomato Stand Go?

Warrenton residents are lamenting the sudden closing of the Remnant Farms Healthy Produce and Products stand. So what happened and where did they go? Well the beat on the street has it that the lease was not renewed and that fact has been verified with Stephanie Taylor, the owner and operator. But before you start throwing rotten tomatoes at that fact, take comfort in the new info that she is nearby in Hume at 5047 Leeds Manor Road. And speaking of comfort, she is now specializing in creating very healthy recipes and has an emerging nutritional emphasis now present on the shelf and ready to buy in the new location. Stephanie misses her Warrenton friends and hopes you will take the time to drop by her new location. You'll find the same warmth and new recipes.



Photo of Oil Painting by Benjamin Allen, art resident at Studio 8, Art Collective (see article on this page for more information.) Benjamin accepts commissioned work. Inquire at Art Studio 81.

Dog-Friendliest Town in Fauquier County

Our town has all the hallmarks of being the most friendly town around. The miles long Greenway begins with a dog park with fresh water and off-leash possibilities. Many businesses and restaurants allow dogs to enter if they are well behaved of course. Additionally along Main Street, you can find a dozen water bowls left out for our furry residents. Step inside one of the retail stores and you are likely to find doggy accessories and pet friendly treats.

Through the efforts and recent improvements on many main arteries, evidenced by the Town Council Approved Strategic Plan for Walkability, residents with their dogs are seen happily dotting the sidewalks. This gives an impression of a warm, welcoming and friendly town certainly warrants the title of the Dog-Friendliest Town in Fauquier County. Hopefully, Governor Spanberger doesn't spoil dog ownership in the state -dog walking taxes are NOT dog friendly.

TOMATO STAND NEWS:
*new shopkeepers
*corner of Waterloo St. & Sullivan St (near stoplight)
MISSY@CHESTNUTHILLFARMMARKET.COM
THURSDAY-SATURDAY 10-5
UNTIL MID-MARCH, THEN DAILY





The Artist.

Taylor Boyd is a surrealist painter and multimedia artist based in Warrenton, Virginia. From a young age, she knew she wanted to be an artist, and today she lives her dream. She is the recipient of numerous awards from organizations including the Associated Press, the Fauquier Times, and The Warrenton Lifestyle Magazine. She is recognized for her bold styles, use of color, and public works of art. Taylor is currently the vice president of the Warrenton Arts Commission and an active member of her community. Her work is part of countless private collections and is displayed and available at her studio gallery.



7 NORTH 5TH STREET WARRENTON, VA
TAYLORBOYDSTUDIOS@GMAIL.COM
Follow @TaylorBoydStudios

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Meet A Warrentonian Waldo Ward

By Veronique Dunagin

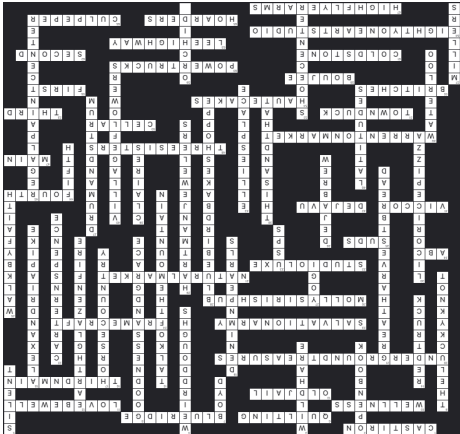
Did you know that the town of Warrenton has its very own Waldo — yes, it’s true! His name is Waldo Ward. You have probably seen him walking around our historic town but he is not sporting a red and white striped shirt and hat. Our Waldo can be found with a long walking stick, straw hat, lively southern accent and smile that would make anyone smile back. Some folks around town have fondly appointed him as our walking Town Mayor.

Waldo grew up in Oxon Hill, Maryland and when he married his wife (recently celebrated 40 years of marriage) they moved to Bowie, Maryland. In 2005 the Wards came upon the town of Warrenton and were attracted to its beauty and small-town atmosphere. They soon moved in with the 2 youngest kids and are now blessed with four grandchildren.

He spent his working life as a Union Ironworker in the Washington DC area, doing renovations on the US Capitol, the White House, and even the Pentagon both before and after 9/11. Retiring in 2008 at the age of 55, he started walking every day around Warrenton, getting around three miles in if the weather is good.

Waldo enjoys meeting people, many of whom have become his friends. They often stop to talk to him and ask him about his walking. Others who spot him simply give him a friendly honk on their car horn or exchange waves while driving by. When he isn’t chatting or waving, he is thinking but he delights in the physical exercise also. His favorite route to walk is on Main Street — popping into the shops or resting at Denim and Pearls for their \$5 mussels on Monday.

(continued top next column)



I asked Waldo to share what he has learned from the local folks that have grown up in and around Warrenton. Some folks want bigger stores and more restaurants but others don’t want to see it grow. The folks that move here from populated crowded areas though, universally oppose more growth. Surprisingly though, many who don’t work in Warrenton or Fauquier County don’t pay attention to the town politics. When Waldo first moved to town, he didn’t get involved in town politics either, until the Amazon debacle. Of course there are always good and bad points on both sides of this issue but how it has been handled is disgraceful.

We have an election for a new town Mayor this year. Would Waldo, our walking town Mayor, put in his hat for consideration for the job? Most certainly not, but he would love to see a candidate get voted in who doesn’t alienate large parts of the population, because that fuels tension and hostility in our town. He’s a man who sees both sides to the issues, and the good in all of us – a rare treasure of a person. Warrenton should be proud to have our Waldo!



Store Hours
Sunday: Closed
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 12:30 - 4:30 pm
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: 12:30 - 4:30 pm
Friday: 12:30 - 4:30 pm
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SCIENCE and MATH FUN: Check the FACTS IS THE PLANET OVERPOPULATED???

By Patty Pratt

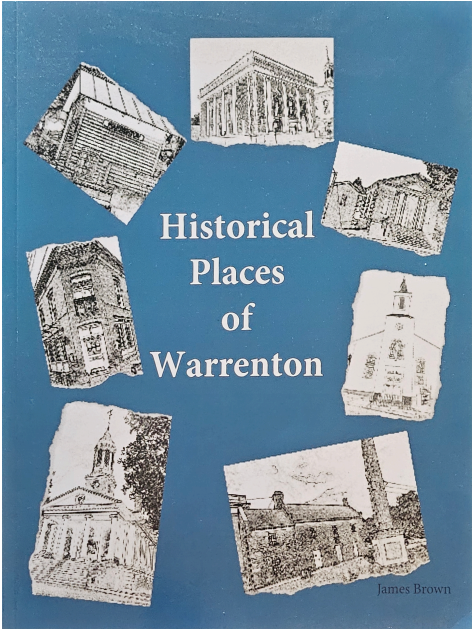
Divide the number of people on the planet into the square-foot of the state of Texas and you will see how much space EVERY LIVING PERSON IN THE WORLD would get if crammed into the Texas border.

2,423,716,000,000 = approximately 323 sqft
7,500,000,000 or a square with sides 18 feet long

CONCLUSION: NO, THE PLANET IS VAST!

Now try the same kind of division for the size of Texas compared to the rest of the planet. No cheating with AI!
Hint: The answer is less than a percent.

» Book Review «



Author James Brown see Book Review »

VERY CRAFTY CREATIONS

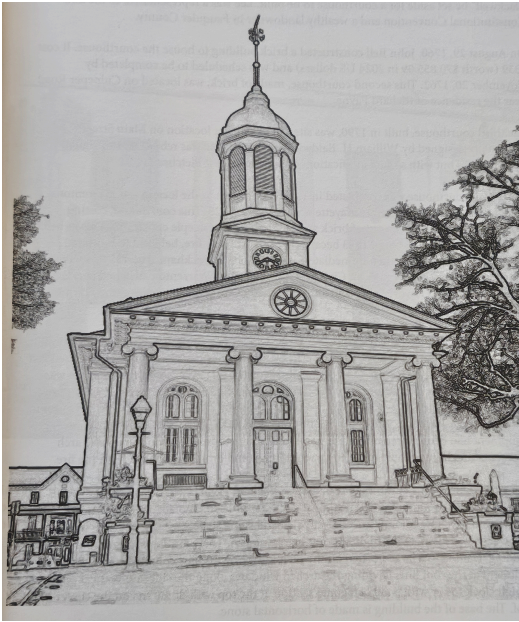
Near the caboose and Love Train sculpture at the entrance to the Greenway and Dog Park, there is a very crafty place that offers a plethora of crafts along with a teaching studio! Veronica Morales has been crafting since she was twelve years old and the abundance of crafts is evidence of just that. Her space is filled with all sorts of bright, colorful and cheerful items for sale; however, there are plenty of open large spaces for people to come and learn.

Who is behind this crafty creative space?

Verónica, a creative soul, lover of bright colors and all forms of art. Her artistic uniqueness is revealed when observing the way she combines unusual patterns to make beautifully, harmonious pieces of original art to wear or collect.

Verónica has no fear in exploring new ways of expressing her artistic vein. She has been making art since she was 11 years old, flowing from nail art to making jewelry, clothes, digital artwork and watercolors.

It should be noted that producing art is something Verónica does for fun. She is an accomplished physicist and Engineer, with a B.S. in Physics and a M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico. One of Veronica’s most beautiful creations is her son, who is already showing signs of strong creativity inherited from his mom.

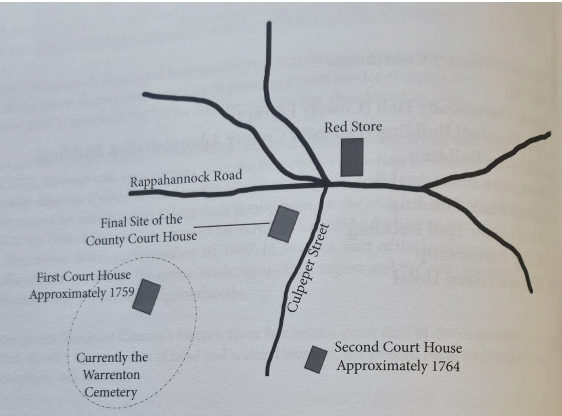


Courthouse Cluster Pages

Historical Places of Warrenton

"A living museum" is how the author describes our Town of Warrenton. This book Historical Places of Warrenton is designed as a self-guided walking tour. Explore "historical and architectural treasures hidden in plain sight...". The book is filled with stunning graphical illustrations and each page is packed with historical facts and interesting stories including John Barton Payne Community Center, the original County Library. You can buy a copy at the Warrenton Market on Main Street which features carefully curated collections with an emphasis on locally made goods and crafts. You can also contact the publisher directly at TinyThymePress@gmail.com.

About the Author: James Brown describes himself as a father, husband and Navy Veteran who loves Christmas and enjoys speaking with historians.



Historical Map: Evolution of Court House site



Home Decor and Gift shop. We carry a unique selection of new, vintage, and locally-sourced items. Get inspired!
warrentonmarket.com



Mon: Closed 77 Main St
Tues:-Fri: 10-5
Sun: 1-5 most of the time

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W:TF offers an inexpensive alternative for advertising local items for sale or posting announcements*.

*Note: when exchanging the item with the buyer make sure you are in a safe public place such as the Police parking lot.

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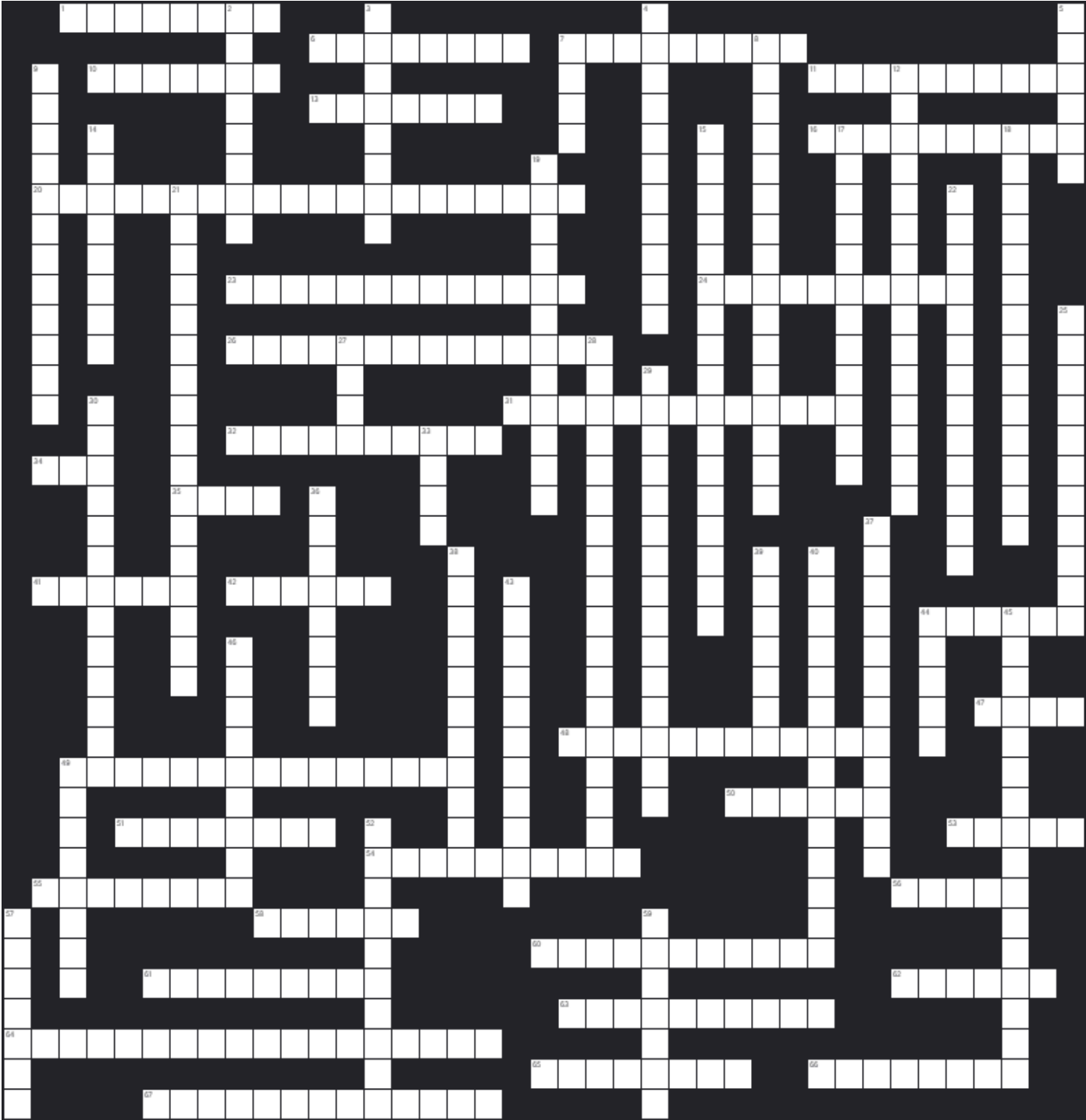
"Noteable
Churches"

Churches known for historic charm or architecture. To be on our list, please contact: **WeTheFlyers@protonmail.com**

Warrenton Bible Fellowship 46 Winchester St. Built 1912 in Romanesque Revival Style.

St James Episcopal Church 73 Culpeper St. Built 1853-1912 (post 1909 fire) Gothic interior including Saint Agnes window.

Warrenton Presbyterian Church 91 Main Street Built in 1855 and tall steeple in Italianate style added ~ 1890's



- 42 consignment treasures
- 44 intersects main
- 47 Old Town Street
- 48 clothing boutique
- 49 home decor and local crafters
- 50 need a bargain book?
- 51 fancy country decor, imported treats, wines, and Friday fish
- 53 intersects main
- 54 tasty colorful treats
- 55 outdoor
- 56 intersects main
- 58 a Bakers boutique
- 60 accessories for 4-wheels
- 61 always freezing here
- 62 intersects main
- 63 parallel to main
- 64 studio artists; upstairs-side entrance
- 65 unusual finds for a second time
- 66 intersects main near the courthouse
- 67 1 of 2 interior stores; husband's side

- DOWN
- 2 books and more
- 3 hard cider good times
- 4 best bagels is the rumor
- 5 best partner in crime; prevention
- 7 Taylor-made paintings
- 8 Tea or Coffee anyone?
- 9 3 sisters share the space
- 12 paint a ware
- 14 easy to spot bakery
- 15 crabs from where?
- 17 tack and not so tacky gifts
- 18 one way to get to main street
- 19 fancy kitchen with a "poplar" chef
- 21 breads and sweets
- 22 bonafide gifts from the Mayor
- 25 religious gifts
- 27 of the frozen kind
- 28 come in a sit a spell
- 29 gold & silver sales now in the old pharmacy
- 30 LP retro themed brick oven
- 33 need to send a quick card; get it here and the stamp too
- 36 casual coffee, foods and couches
- 37 instruments and supplies
- 38 of the Amish
- 39 Fine food at the old depot
- 40 send a gift that's alive
- 43 food and scoops
- 44 intersects with main
- 45 colorwheel crafts and supplies
- 46 fair market traders
- 49 turns into main
- 52 fix a pair or buy em new
- 57 roll out the red carpet
- 59 I wanna clay all day studio & gallery

OLD TOWN STREETS, SHOPS AND FOODIE CROSSWORD

For hints use a Warrenton MAP online or just walk around Main street!

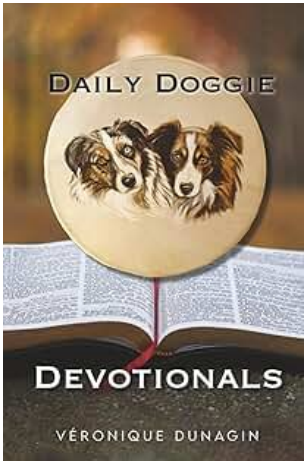


EVENT

Painting Socials - We will provide coffee, tea, acrylic paint, brushes and a 8" x 10" canvas board. Bring a picture of something you would like to paint 1st & 3rd Tuesday 10 am to 12 noon **\$25** 2nd & 4th Thursday 6-8pm **\$35** (Limit 6 attendees). Class hosted by Florence Jones.

www.warrentonartistcollective.com
Resident, Visiting and Affiliate Artist
Memberships Available
info@warrentonartistcollective.com

- ACROSS
- 1 grill with frequent live music
- 6 1 of 2 interior shops; wife's essentials
- 7 cyclery; get knobby tires
- 10 local organic kitchen
- 11 healthy beauty products
- 13 historical museum gift shop
- 16 best gourmet eat in or take out
- 20 new rocks and minerals shop
- 23 always a good bargain
- 24 filled and unfilled frames
- 26 known as local living room & kitchen
- 31 all healthy things here plus; kitchen
- 32 Ladies, please
- 34 liquid packages
- 35 think Altered, then live altered
- 41 elegant jewelry shop



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WARRENTON RESIDENT<**

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