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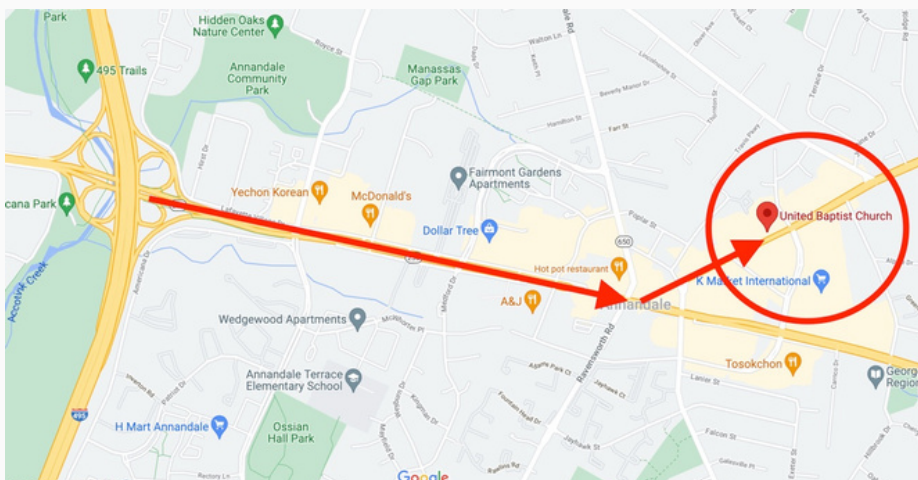
CHESAPEAKE COMMUNIQUE

Official newsletter of the ALPCA Chesapeake Region

See you in Annandale - March 11th!!!



As mentioned in our previous issue, the 23rd annual Spring Thaw License Plate Meet in Annandale, Virginia is now an official ALPCA Chesapeake Region event. Join us Saturday, March 11th at The United Baptist Church, 7100 Columbia Pike, Annandale VA 22003, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Located just over a mile inside the Capital Beltway I-495 at exit 52B, Route 236 east. Tables available on a first come, first served basis for \$10 each; walk-ins \$5 admission. Doughnuts and coffee will be provided; a donation auction will be held in the late morning. Awards for best Washington, D.C. themed plate display and best other display. Meet hosts are Jeff Potter (703-346-7200 or jeff.potter0920@gmail.com) and Andrew Pang (202-615-6468 or alpcas3877@comcast.net).



The United Baptist Church is just over a mile inside the Capital Beltway (Exit 52B)

Current Chesapeake Regional Events for 2023

**SPRING THAW
ANNANDALE, VA
MARCH 11, 2023**



DETAILS



**LATE SPRING MEET
MECHANICSVILLE, VA
MAY 20, 2023
DETAILS NEXT ISSUE**



**SUMMER MEET
MT. AIRY, MD
DATE & INFO COMING SOON**





Be sure to check out our website: alpca-chesapeake.org



New Virginia optional honoring historic African-American newspaper to debut in 2023

As 2023 begins, drivers in Virginia will have a new optional plate to choose from. This plate, a long time in the making, will be a first not just in Virginia, but in the nation. The Richmond Planet license plate is scheduled to be released in early 2023 after final state police and EZPass legibility testing is completed. Once the plate is released to the public it will be the first plate in Virginia honoring the work of freed slaves who in 1884 began publishing one of the first African-American owned newspapers in the nation, The Richmond Planet.

The Richmond Planet used a symbol of a flexed bicep and that logo is being incorporated into the new plate. In addition to being one of the first Virginia non-collegiate plates to honor African-American achievement, it will be the first in the nation to feature a QR code which when scanned will take you to a website detailing history of The Richmond Planet newspaper. The Virginia General Assembly passed legislation establishing the special plate in its 2022 session. By July, 2022 pre-registrations had reached the needed 450 mark to begin design finalization and pre-production with production slated for the start of 2023. The plate was the creation of Reginald Carter of Essex County, VA and drew support from many legislators and celebrities including fellow Essex County, Virginia-native singer Chris Brown.

Update: as of publication, the plate has received state police approval and awaiting EZPass approval. The plate should be available for drivers by April, 2023.



The Richmond Planet optional will be the first in the nation featuring a scannable QR code linking to a website giving history on the famous Richmond, VA newspaper. The license plate debuts in 2023.

**photo: Instagram
richplanetvplate**

Chesapeake Region

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The Chesapeake Communiqué is currently being published quarterly: January, April, July, & October. If you have information you'd like featured in the newsletter, please contact Larry Haake #12770 by email at heykey4@gmail.com or phone (804) 651-6843.

Looking for contributions about plates and plate collecting activities from Maryland, DC, and Delaware for a future issue. If you have a plate of interest or story about the hobby you'd like to share please let us know!