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Easter Bunny came to visit children and their families on the Town Green during Saturday's Old Fashioned Easter Egg Roll in Vienna.

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Vienna and Oakton CONNECTION

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NEWS

From left: Maggie Wise (Stenwood ES), Samantha Feldman, Rachel Neuman (Wolf Trap ES), Alex Vieira, Carolyn Nee, Elodie Stone (front, Lemon Road ES), Erin McDonald (back), Anson DeVinney (Westbriar ES)



PHOTO BY ANNIE LIM

'The Sound of Music' at Marshall High

The Sound of Music — considered to be the world's most beloved musical — is coming to the Marshall High School. Award winning and timeless, this story of a young woman who uses the healing power of music to find herself resonates more today than perhaps it did when it won five Tony Awards in 1959. The show features some of the most delightfully infectious songs of all time, an endearing love story with one of the most inspiring finales ever presented in theatre.

In addition to Marshall High Theatre students, this production features students from Lemon Road, Stenwood, Westbriar

and Wolf Trap Elementary schools.

Show Dates:

- ❖ Friday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ Saturday, April 27, at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ Thursday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ Friday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m.

All shows at George C. Marshall High School's main auditorium: 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors and \$5 for children under 12 and can be purchased online <https://www.itickets.com/events/421324.html> or the Box Office before each performance. For more information www.statmentheatre.org.

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Public Weighs in on Budget Priorities

Schools, market rate adjustments, affordable housing, immigrant services dominate public response.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

On Thursday, April 12, at 4:27 p.m., Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chair Sharon Bulova brought down the gavel that ended her last Budget Public Hearings – a circumstance not lost on many of the 150 or so speakers who addressed the board over the three days of public testimony.

Most of the speakers, even those who attended to express objections to County Executive Bryan Hill's Advertised Fiscal Year 2020 Budget, took part of their precious allotment of speaker's time to thank Bulova and fellow retiring board members John Cook (Braddock), Cathy Hudgins (Hunter Mill) and Linda Smyth (Providence).

The proposed Budget was presented to the board by the County Executive on Feb. 19, without seeking any increase in the current residential tax rate of \$1.15 per \$100 of assessed property value. Even without a tax rate increase, the average homeowner's tax bill would still rise by approximately \$150, since the average residential assessment would increase by almost 2.4 percent because property values are increasing.

Since then, there have been numerous town hall budget meetings around the county, allowing residents from the nine magisterial districts to hear more and ask questions of county staff and their own district supervisors.

THE PUBLIC HEARINGS began on Tuesday, April 9, around 4:30 p.m. just after regular board business was concluded. Over the course of three days, there were dozens of pros and cons argued in regards to the overall budget of \$8.86 billion.

Representatives from unions, councils, organizations, civic associations, social services, nonprofits, parks, environmental groups, and private citizens came before the board. Most were there to bring light to their cause and to request additional financial support, or reconsideration where funding had been cut or reduced.

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Board chair Karen Corbett Sanders was the first speaker of record, providing lengthy testimony describing the achievements of the school system and its importance to the welfare of the county, thanking Hill for a budget that includes the FCPS full funding request, and urging the board to vote their approval when the final budget comes before them on May 7.

The \$2.35 billion transfer to the school system, up more than \$86 million over last year, comprises almost 53 percent of the county's general fund budget. The total



A contingent of supporters of Fairfax County Parks attended the budget hearings, praising the current support of the board and encouraging future funds and endorsement.



Halleluiah! Finally something to sing about during the Budget Public Hearings. Musical director David North of Oakton brought a portion of his Mosaic Harmony choir to illustrate the power of music and song as he thanked the board for their support of the Arts in Fairfax. North got board members on their feet and clapping along with the choir.

number of students in the school system for 2018-19 was 188,018, about 1,000 students fewer than projected.

Kevin Hickerson, president of Fairfax Education Association (FEA), and Kimberly Adams, the president-elect of FEA were pleased that the budget included the full amount of funds requested, to include wage increases for teachers, but expressed concern that the funds would not allow such increases for support personnel.

The Fairfax County Council of PTAs also supported the Advertised Budget and applauded the new era of collaboration between the FCPS School Board and the County, but urged the board to "think into the future." In her testimony, Council president Jane Miscavage said the needs of the county's schools were only growing, especially in the areas of "special education where we face a shortage of teachers, in mental health issues among our students, in the areas of safety and security and in

the need to reduce class sizes, to name just a few." Miscavage says that today's budget responses are promising, but will fall short of future needs. "The time to plan is now."

Others who support the school's piece of the budget pie asked for funding beyond wages, reporting that schools in the county need physical improvements and upgrades to maintain the premier status of education that is conducted within their walls.

Tina Williams with the Federation of Teachers urged the board to find the means to fund universal Pre-K, and to restore pay rates for substitute teachers.

ARTHUR PURVES, representing the Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance, presented an argument against the monies directed toward the FCPS, saying that school and other county employees earn more than the average private sector worker in the region and "without such a generous pension and benefits package."

Purves questions why the school system needs \$114 million more to "serve 1,000 less students in the coming year." He presented several statistical charts to defend his statements that Fairfax County schools "are not providing the education they say they are. Where is the excellence [in the SAT-related numbers he offered]? Where is the equity?"

The other "elephant in the room" as it was described by Randy Crueller, Vice Chair of the Fairfax County Employee Advisory Council, is the gap between the expected 2.51 percent Market Rate Adjustment for county employees, including law enforcement and first responder personnel, and the actual 1 percent MRA included in Mr. Hill's budget.

Crueller was joined by numerous representatives of Fairfax County employees of every level and every job description in denouncing this decision. Even candidates seeking to fill the seats of the outgoing board members' seats – like Alicia Plerhoples who has set her sights on the chairmanship of the board, and James Walkinshaw, running for Braddock District Supervisor - expressed support for a fully funded MRA in remarks for the record.

Plerhoples and Walkinshaw were also just two of dozens who hammered home the need for more affordable housing in Fairfax County.

Mary Paden, chair of the South County Task Force for Human Services, warned the supervisors that "gentrification" could push many lower income residents out of the county "that they work in and that their tax dollars have helped grow," especially in areas like the Route 1 corridor. Paden says all of the expensive efforts to improve the area, widening Route 1 and investing billions in local development will "certainly benefit some, but harm many more without equal investment in affordable housing."

Members of the Community Action Advisory Board echoed those concerns, including Elethia from Reston. "I am a CAAB member, but I speak for myself today," she said. Elethia is worried for the county's senior residents like herself who more and more are being forced to sacrifice other essentials in order to pay for housing.

On the topic of funding legal services for immigrants in detention, the speakers were often passionate in their views.

Several groups and individuals pleaded for the \$200,000 to fund such legal services, while others strenuously objected to using taxpayer's dollars to provide services they say are not offered to legal residents and citizens of the county.

The public hearings are over, although there is still time for residents to make their opinions known via the county's website. The Board of Supervisors Budget Committee meets on April 26 to discuss possible changes to the proposed Budget, then will hold their Budget mark-up meeting on April 30 before final adoption at the Board meeting on May 7.

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NEWS

Old Fashioned Easter Egg Roll Held in Vienna

“I love this town,” said Del. Mark Keam (D-35), into his Facebook Live video as he watched kids scatter about picking up eggs.

Children and their parents descended upon the Town Green on Saturday morning to partake in the Old Fashioned Easter Egg Roll put on by the Town of Vienna and Historic Vienna Inc. Lilly Dunning Widman, special events coordinator for the Department of Parks and Recreation, hadn't even finished her countdown from ten before kids tore through the caution tape and into the field of eggs. Screams of disappointment and joyful cheers filled the air as the brightly colored eggs were picked up within the span of a manic minute.

“We had about 350 people come this morning,” said Widman. “We boil 240 eggs for the egg decorating and egg roll stations and then 2,000 eggs for the egg hunt. So we have about 2,200 eggs to make our big egg event happen,” said Widman. In order to ready the green, the Town goes through preparations. “We create little hunt areas for the kids, pound in posts, create a bunny visiting area, egg decorating station, and a race area for the egg roll,” said Widman. “This event has been happening for almost 20 years and it gets better every year.”

Before the oncoming mayhem of egg searching children began, Vienna Arts Society's members wel-



PHOTO BY LISA FAY/THE CONNECTION

Children and their families line up outside the designated egg hunt area.

comed attendees with a statement regarding 42 benches spread throughout Vienna as a celebration for VAS's 50's anniversary called “Take a Seat Vienna.”

Benches painted with town scenes, flowers, or famous characters invite people to sit and appreciate the town. They will be stationed around town until the Fall, when there will be an auction on Nov. 2 at the Vienna Community Center. A brochure detailing where the benches are is available in the Freeman Store.

—LISA FAY

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NEWS

From left: Leigh Kitcher, Treasurer of HVI; Susan Fay and Patti Bentley, storekeepers at the Freeman Store; Lu Cousins, VAS Art Center Director; Anne Stunz, President of HVI; Kathy Hardman, HVI board member; Laurie DiRocco, Mayor of Vienna; Deborah Kennedy, VAS member; and Del. Mark Keam (D-35) gather around the bench outside of the Freeman Store, titled "Church Street, Vienna VA" by Bob Magnuson.



PHOTOS BY LISA FAY/THE CONNECTION



Children press up against the caution tape lining the egg hunt area eagerly awaiting the start time.



Children run around picking up eggs.



Children partake in the Old Fashioned Easter Egg Roll

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Opportunities for community service and/or religious education are some of the reasons that parents might consider switching a child from public to private school.

Making the Leap from Public to Private School

Signs that a public school isn't meeting your child's needs.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Elizabeth and Kent Hillegass noticed that their 6th grade son's grades began to drop while the number of times they received notices from the school regarding his misbehavior had increased. He was also having challenges socially.

"He was really unhappy, the other kids made fun of him, he didn't have any friends and to top it off his grades were awful," said Elizabeth. "I would lie awake at night crying because I felt helpless."

After a series of neuropsychological tests, the Hillegasses learned that their son had ADHD. The testing psychologist advised them to see an education consultant who helped them determine that a quiet school environment with small class sizes would best suit their son's needs. The Hillegasses ultimately decided to send their son to a private school with a student-teacher ratio of 10 to 1.

"We've always been supporters of public education, but the class sizes and noisy environment were too overwhelming for him," said Kent. "It was like he was lost and unable to focus when he was at school. He couldn't sit still and pay attention in classes and was always getting into trouble, which made him feel ostracized, like he was the bad kid in school."

A parent's decision to move a child from public to private school can be based on factors that run the gamut from smaller class sizes to tuition that can cost as much as \$50,000 annually. Although it's a choice that should not be taken lightly, there are signs that it might be time to make the change if it's possible, say education consultants.

"I suggest to parents that they focus on the needs of their child, not on the prestige that they think a private school holds or the sticker on the back of your car that lets everyone know that your child attends a certain school," said Kim Hardy who was the education consultant to the Hillegass family. "There's a range of factors that parents should take into consideration."

The first, advises Hardy, is whether their child is

happy and well adjusted. "If a child is bored or frustrated at school, not just because their grades aren't good and they've given up, but there are also cases where students are making straight As without much effort and are bored because they aren't being challenged."

When the accommodations that a school can offer don't meet the needs of one's child, that's another clue that a change is necessary, suggests Arlington-based education consultant Rita Fetters.

"Some children need to be in a classroom with a low student teacher ratio so that teachers have time to redirect students who have trouble staying focused," she said. "Other students need a lot of exercise and outdoor activity to release energy so that they can focus better in class. Public schools may not be able to offer that."

The Heights in Potomac, Md. builds activity and exercise into each school day including outdoor recess and a challenging physical education program that not only releases energy, but teaches important life skills.

Fetters says some parents make the change because they want specialized opportunities that a public school might not offer.

"If religious education is important to a family, that is certainly one reason to leave a public school," she said. "If a family wants their child to be involved in public service beyond what is required to graduate, they might choose a private school that has community service built in to the curriculum."

One such school is St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School (SSSAS) in Alexandria, Va. "Our school offers religion classes and weekly chapels," said Mandi Sapp of SSSAS. "We also have a ton of service-learning opportunities that students ... do throughout the year, including global service trips offered in Middle and Upper School. We have done a lot of work with ALIVE (ALexandrians InVolved Ecumenically) in Alexandria."

If a child is unhappy and asks repeatedly to change schools, Fetters believes that is a reason to give serious consideration to academic switch.

"At the end of the day, parents have to take a long, hard look at their child and their family," Fetters said. "They have to find the best school for their family, not the one that's most prestigious or most popular. Does what the school offers as a whole align with your family's values and your child's needs. Whether it's public or private, that's what a parent must determine."

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NEWS



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

The Vienna Ben & Jerry's owner Kyle Hosch had lots of willing assistants on Free Cone Day, like Carol Hamal (left), a volunteer with local non-profit Committee for Helping Others (CHO). CHO was the designated charitable organization that Hosch called the "perfect partner" to benefit from donations made during the event. On the right is scooper-extraordinaire and B & J's employee Moira Harris.

Kindness Comes in All Flavors

Vienna's Ben & Jerry's hosts Free Cone Day.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

Vanilla? Chocolate? Maybe some Coffee, Coffee BuzzBuzzBuzz? Or how about a scoop of community kindness? On Tuesday, April 9, at the 2019 Ben & Jerry's Free Cone Day, kind-hearted ice cream lovers could get a double-dip with their favorite flavor and the opportunity to help their neighbors.

At times, the line stretched halfway down the sidewalk on the east side of the Vienna Shopping Center on Maple Avenue while hordes of treat seekers waited their turn for the free frozen fun. Some folks even gathered before the official 12 noon start time, like Audrey Paulsen, from Oakton, who had been shopping at the almost-next-door Vienna Rexall Drug Center.

"I am always on a diet," she laughed, "but when it's free, you just gotta do it."

SINCE 1979 Ben & Jerry's has been offering Free Cone Day at shops around the country and the world to show their appreciation for their customers' loyalty. These days, about a million scoops get handed out around the planet during the event. The Vienna shop decided to spotlight local non-profit Committee for Helping Others (CHO).

But "there are no strings attached on Free Cone Day," reminded Kyle Hosch, who owns this location with his wife Christine. "Of course, we would love to see CHO fill up their donation jar. It is a great cause and they help so many local families in need. But donating is not a requirement. Those free cones will still be handed out, no matter what."

The Maple Avenue Ben & Jerry's is the second location for the Hosch family. Resi-

SEE BEN & JERRY'S, PAGE 10

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Carolyn Mysel, chair of the Food Pantry and Holiday programs, and Anne Moran, chair of Publicity for the Committee for Helping Others were front and center at the Vienna Ben & Jerry's Free Cone Day. The ice cream give-away was free, with no strings attached, but most patrons made a donation to help CHO help local neighbors in need.



Marilucy Kennedy and her 9 year-old Evie aren't from Vienna, but heard about Free Cone Day on the radio - and who wouldn't make a special trip for some Ben & Jerry's on the house.

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Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: "Taking Territory."

Through June 1, gallery hours at MPA@ChainBridge, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Taking Territory: New Works by Susan Goldman, Barbara Kerne, Eve Stockton and Patricia Underwood, features pieces that mine many of the techniques employed by artists working in printmaking today. An opening reception is set for April 11, 7-9 p.m. Visit mpaart.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/APRIL 19-20

"Ripcord." Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna. The Vienna Theatre Company's production of Ripcord centers on retirement home roommates, Abby and Marilyn, who mix together about as well as oil and water, getting into Odd Couple-esque situations. Tickets are \$14 at viennava.gov/webtrac or in person at the Vienna Community Center.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Nottoway Park Egg Hunt. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 9537 Courthouse Rd, Vienna. BYOB (bring your own basket) for the annual family Egg Hunt. Children ages 1-9 will hunt for candy and eggs filled with treats, win door prizes and greet the Easter bunny. Separate hunts and door prizes by age group. Egg Hunt Schedule: ages 1-2, 10:30 a.m.; ages 3-4, 11 a.m.; ages 5-6, 11:30 a.m.; ages 7-9, 12 p.m. \$10 per child (cash only). Registration from 9:30-11:45 a.m. in the Hunter House parking lot. Call 703-324-8569 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/nottoway-park/egg-hunt/042019.

Spring Fest. 10 a.m.-noon at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. For ages 3-8. Celebrate the changing of seasons with self-guided arts and crafts, entertainment, and the opportunity for children to get a photo with Bunny (bring a camera or smartphone for photos). Bring an Easter basket for the Parent/Child Easter Egg Hunt (10 eggs per child). Activity No. 4501.319. \$5 per person; children under 36 months are free. Registration in advance is required for all participants. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 21

Breakfast Buffet. 8 a.m.-noon at Vienna American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Vienna. Get omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy and more. Adults \$10, children 12 and under \$4. Call 703-938-6580.

MONDAY/APRIL 22

Ayr Hill Garden Club. 12:45- 3 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. The Ayr Hill Garden Club welcomes all to its monthly gathering, featuring botany professor and past National Science Foundation Director Carl Taylor, Ph.D., presenting Ferns In The Landscape. Free and open to the public. Email emilielarson@rcn.com.

TUES-WEDNESDAY/APRIL 23-24

Omara Portuondo's "Last Kiss" Tour. 8 p.m. at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Omara Portuondo, legendary Cuban diva and original member of the famed Buena Vista Social Club, comes to North America as part of



Nottoway Park Egg Hunt

BYOB (bring your own basket) for the annual family Egg Hunt. Children ages 1-9 will hunt for candy and eggs filled with treats, win door prizes and greet the Easter bunny. Separate hunts and door prizes by age group. Saturday, April 20, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 9537 Courthouse Rd, Vienna. Egg Hunt Schedule: ages 1-2, 10:30 a.m.; ages 3-4, 11 a.m.; ages 5-6, 11:30 a.m.; ages 7-9, 12 p.m. \$10 per child (cash only). Registration from 9:30-11:45 a.m. in the Hunter House parking lot. Call 703-324-8569 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/nottoway-park/egg-hunt/042019.

her worldwide "Last Kiss" farewell tour. \$50-\$65. Visit www.wolfrap.org for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 24

"Dining with Dorothy." 12:30 p.m. at Culinaria Cooking School, 110 Pleasant St NW, Vienna. Join with friends or make new ones. Newcomers are always welcome. Limited space available. \$30 per person in advance. Reserve space with event chair, Dorothy Flood at dflood1706@gmail.com.

Holy Happy Hour Recital Series. 6:15 p.m. at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Featuring Michael Lodico, Director of Music at St. John's Lafayette Square Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C., the 30-minute musical offering will be followed by wine, hor d'oeuvres and fellowship. Free and open to the public; a good will offering to support the music department will be taken. Visit www.Lewinsville.org or call 703-356-7200.

THURSDAY/APRIL 25

20 Years in the Secret Service. 7:30-9 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Meet Rebecca Vaughn, former Vienna resident and the daughter of the author, Rufus Youngblood, as she talks about his story, a personalized journey through history from the unique perspective of a Secret Service agent who protected five US presidents. Books available for sale and signing. Free. Call 703-938-0405 ibrarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/4808596.

FRIDAY/APRIL 26

McLean Art Society Meeting. 10 a.m.-noon at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Featuring local artist Gavin Glakas who will bring his own model and demonstrate portraiture. Guests are welcome. Call 703 790-0123.

Longfellow Trivia Night. 6-8 p.m. at Longfellow Middle School Lecture Hall, 2000 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. Relay For Life of Langley-McLean will be hosting a trivia night with all proceeds going to the American Cancer Society. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Parents and children are both welcome. \$5. Email relaylangleymclean@gmail.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 26-28

"Ripcord." Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna. The Vienna Theatre Company's production of Ripcord centers on retirement home roommates, Abby and Marilyn, who mix together about as well as oil and water. Tickets are \$14 at viennava.gov/webtrac or in person at the Vienna Community Center.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

Plant Sale. 8 a.m.-noon on the lawn of Freeman House, Vienna. Hosted by Five Hills Garden Club, there will be a variety of plants for sale and each will be labeled as to its requirements for care. The labels will include whether they are deer or other critters resistant. There will also be gardening items for sale.

Outdoor Classroom Ribbon Cutting. 10 a.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. A new outdoor education shelter is coming to Riverbend Park. The outdoor classroom/picnic shelter measures 22 x 44 feet and can be reserved by the public. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

Live Music: Justin Roberts & the Not Ready For Naptime Players. 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Three-time GRAMMY Nominated Justin Roberts has been crafting songs for kids and parents that navigate the joys and sorrows of growing up. All ages. \$12-\$15. Call

703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

Blake Lane Park Awareness Celebration. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Blake Lane Park, 10033 Blake Lane, Oakton. A fun-filled day for friends and family with games, nature walk (at noon), theater games and art, face painting and information to help save Blake Lane Park. Bring a snack or baked goods to share (optional). Free. RSVP at www.eventbrite.com/e/blake-lane-park-awareness-celebration-tickets-59287038127.

8th Annual Taste of Vienna. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. at the Vienna Fire House, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. Presented by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Admission is free; buy food directly from individual vendors. Beer and wine tickets are available online. Proceeds from Taste of Vienna directly benefit the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Visit www.TasteOfVienna.com.

Gala to Support Local Youth. 6-11 p.m. at Hilton McLean, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, Tysons Corner. Chefs Tobias Dorzon, Nicholas Pine, and Kaimana Chee and Food Stylist Lisa Cherkasky are ready to demonstrate their cooking skills with students during PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families' annual Spring Forward Savoring Success Gala. The gala includes live and silent auctions, raffles, dinner, and dancing. Cooking demos from 6-7:45 p.m. Tickets start at \$200 (and \$175 for young professionals). Visit www.phillipsprograms.org/events.

"Enchanted Forest" Joy Prom. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Centreville Baptist Church, 15100 Lee Hwy, Centreville. Similar to Tim Tebow's "Night to Shine," this is a free event for all who register and intended to be a night of fun for the special needs community as well as a time of respite for families and caregivers. Local youth are volunteering to be coupled with participants as "buddies" throughout the night's activities. Registration is open to all ages 13 and up, but not limited to high school students. Visit www.cbvva.org/joyprom.

Salute Local Superheroes. 7:30 p.m. at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. Area residents nominated their Vienna superhero – someone who goes out of their way to serve the community or is simply a good neighbor – to receive recognition for his or her good deeds at Mayor Laurie DiRocco's Volunteer Reception. The Town Business Liaison Committee will present the Carole Wolfand Award to a business that consistently shines by providing support and service to the community. Visit viennava.gov/volunteers.

SUNDAY/APRIL 28

Blood Drive. 7:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Sponsored by Inova Fairfax Hospital. Preference is for participants to sign up at www.lewinsville.org/event-items/blood-drive/. Walk-ins will also be welcome. Bring a photo ID. Free. Visit www.lewinsville.org or call 703-356-7200.

Spring Tea Charity Fundraiser. 1-3 p.m. at River Bend Golf & Country Club. The Great Falls Friends & Neighbors Scholarship Fund Board hosts their Spring Tea Charity fundraiser. Wear Sunday best and hats. Open to the public. 12 and older, \$40; children 0-11, \$20. \$10 from each ticket is tax-deductible. Visit www.gffnsf.org for raffle and event tickets.

Walk on the Hill. 2-5 p.m. in the Windover Heights' neighborhood of Vienna. Hosted by residents in the historic Windover Heights District and Historic Vienna, Inc., visitors are invited to stroll through many of the district's gardens. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Windover Heights Historic District, which was established April 2, 1979. The Ayr Hill Garden Club is celebrating its 90th anniversary, and the Vienna Arts Society will mark its 50th anniversary. Walk on the Hill is free and open to the public. Windover residents will provide punch and cookies. Rain or shine. viennava.gov/hillmap.

Ayr Hill Garden Club. 2-5 p.m. at Walk on the Hill, 307 Windover Ave., NW, Vienna. The Ayr Hill Garden Club's photography show during the 2019 Walk on the Hill, celebrating their 90th Anniversary, will feature flora and fauna photos from club members as well as guest exhibitions submitted by students from Madison High School. Free and open to the public. Email emilielarson@rcn.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 30

Historic House & Garden Tour in McLean. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. with headquarters at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Tour five private properties: a 1754 home with ties to the Revolution, an 1842 home, a contemporary Japanese influenced home with terraced gardens, and a Tuscan inspired villa. Visit gardencluboffairfax.blogspot.com or www.vagardenweek.org. Advance tickets \$40 online; \$50 day of tour.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 3-5

"Ripcord." Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna. The Vienna Theatre Company's production of Ripcord centers on retirement home roommates, Abby and Marilyn, who mix together about as well as oil and water. Tickets are \$14 at viennava.gov/webtrac or in person at the Vienna Community Center.

BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THROUGH SUNDAY/APRIL 21

Holy Week and Easter Worship. St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Visit www.stjohnsmclean.org or call 703-356-4902.

- ❖ **Maundy Thursday**, April 18: noon and 6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist
 - ❖ **Good Friday**, April 19: noon-3 p.m. The Three-Hour Service and 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy
 - ❖ **Holy Saturday**, April 20: 10 a.m. Prayers for Holy Saturday
 - ❖ **Easter Day**, April 21: 6 a.m. Sunrise Service, 7:30, 9, and 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, and 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
- Holy Week and Easter.** Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road NE,

Vienna. Visit www.holycomforter.com or call 703-938-6521.

- ❖ **Maundy Thursday**, April 18 - 7:30 p.m. The "Mandatum" and Holy Eucharist
- ❖ **Good Friday**, April 19 - 12:10 p.m. The Way of the Cross; 7:30 p.m. The Liturgy of Good Friday
- ❖ **Holy Saturday**, April 20 - 9:30 a.m. Holy Saturday Prayers
- ❖ **Easter Sunday**, April 21 - 7:30, 9, and 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist; 10:10 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

THURSDAY/APRIL 18

Caregivers Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m. at UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax -

Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. For caregivers to adult family members with dementia. First and third Thursdays of every month. Hosted by Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna, scov.org. Contact facilitator Jack Tarr at 703-821-6838 or jtarr5@verizon.net.

Memory Cafe. 2-4 p.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. Connect with others living with loved ones with dementia. Helping those with dementia and their caregivers find fun, resources and "family." Email Carol Blackwell at lovriver@aol.com or call at 571-236-6933.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

McLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER 2019 GOVERNING BOARD ELECTION



Friends of the McLean Community Center
& McLean Citizens Association

Invite You to Meet the Candidates!



Sunday, April 28, 2-4 p.m.
at McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101

Join us for an informal reception with refreshments.

RSVP: ELECTIONS@MCLEANCENTER.ORG

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NEWS

Ben & Jerry's Hosts Free Cone Day

FROM PAGE 7

dents of Vienna for 12 years, they are happy to practice good local citizenship, and have used their business to support school fundraisers and the like.

"We've only been open since September," said Kyle. "Free Cone Day helps us not only make more people aware that we are here and ready to serve them, but also gives us a chance to do even more good in our own hometown. That feels good."

And that also does a lot of good for people in need, was Carolyn Mysel's take on the event. Mysel directs food and holiday programs for CHO and was on hand with the CHO donation jar and a friendly smile at the entrance to the ice cream parlor. Even though cone partakers didn't have to pay a penny for their sweet, or donate a dime, most seemed more than willing to chip in. In addition to running a year-round food pantry, CHO assists with emergency financial aid, clothing, furniture, transportation, and even Meals on Wheels.



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WOKREN/THE CONNECTION

Ice cream is for everyone. Jonny went traditional with chocolate in a cup, which he enjoyed outside the scoop shop on Ben & Jerry's Free Cone Day.

Ben & Jerry's is at 136C Maple Avenue West while the good folks of the Committee for Helping Others offer their community kindness flavor all year round. Just contact them at www.cho-va.com or call 703-281-7614 for more information.

By the way...I picked the Coffee, Coffee, BuzzBuzzBuzz. No regrets!

Madison High Student Wins Third Grand Prize at State Science Fair

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Madison High School student Justin Hu captured the third grand prize at the 2019 Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair for his project Using Self Assembled Monolayers for the Fabrication of Implantable Strain Gauge Sensors. He also won first place in the Materials Science category. Hu qualified to compete in the International Science and Engineering Fair scheduled for May 12-17 in Phoenix.



Madison High students competed at the Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair.

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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 9

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/APRIL 18-20

Holy Week Services. At Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Lewinsville Presbyterian Church invites the surrounding community to mark Holy Week with worship services. Free and open to the public. Visit www.lewinsville.org for more.

- ❖ **Maundy Thursday**, April 18, 7:30 p.m. with the Rev. Scott Ramsey preaching.
- ❖ **Good Friday**, April 19, noon and 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ **Easter Vigil**, April 20, 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Annamaria Groenenboom will preach at both Good Friday and Easter Vigil services.

FRIDAY/APRIL 19

Good Friday Service. Noon-2:30 p.m. at 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls Area Ministries celebrates Good Friday Service: The Seven Last Words of Christ from the Cross. Visit facebook.com/pages/category/Organization/Great-Falls-Area-Ministries-399361921208/.

Application Deadline. Leadership Fairfax is now accepting applications for its premier professional leadership development programs – Leadership Fairfax Institute and Emerging Leaders Institute. The 10-month programs begin September 2019. Classes meet once a month and participants work outside of class with a cohort to plan and implement projects. The programs build participant knowledge of community topics, legislative processes, leadership assessments, and strategic interactions. Limited scholarships available. Applications are due April 19. Call 703-752-7555 or visit leadershipfairfax.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Holy Meditation Retreat. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Holy Saturday Meditation Retreat: Spend the day in noble silence, meditating and creating a space to be still and listen. Donations accepted. Register at unityoffairfax.org/events.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 20-21

Easter Mass. Saturday – 8 p.m.; Sunday – 7 a.m., 8, 9:30 (Church), 9:45 (Chapel), 11:15 (Church), 11:30 (Chapel); and 1 p.m. (Spanish) at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. All are welcome. Call 703-896-7412 or visit www.olgcva.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 21

New Thought Easter. At Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. New Thought Easter Service: 6:15 a.m. outdoors on the Labyrinth (weather permitting), 9 and 11 a.m. An Easter egg hunt for the younger members of the Unity community will follow the 11 a.m. service. Free. Visit unityoffairfax.org.

Easter Worship. 6:30 a.m. at Great Falls Park, 9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Celebrate Easter with Great Falls Area Ministries. Visit facebook.com/pages/category/Organization/Great-Falls-Area-Ministries-399361921208/.

Easter Celebration. 9 and 11 a.m. at Lewinsville Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Lewinsville's Festival Services will feature their Chancel and Westminster Choirs accompanied by organ, brass and tympani. Rev. Scott Ramsey will preach, and they will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. There will be balloons and Easter eggs. Children, parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles and others are also invited to the annual Easter Egg Hunt at 10:15, beginning in Fellowship Hall with Egg Games, Empty Tomb Treats, Balloon butterflies and flowers, and more. Then move outside (weather permitting) to the Peter's Green for the Egg Hunt. Each child should bring a basket.

TUESDAY/APRIL 23

The McLean Area AAUW Branch Meeting. 7 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean. The program will feature Susan Folwell, a psychotherapist known locally for her work in domestic violence, family abuse, and related issues. She offers a blend of compassion, expertise, and a keen insight based on more than 25 years of experience in the field. Members of the community are welcome and encouraged to attend. Visit mclean-va.aauw.net.

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As It Is Happening



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Thankfully I woke up today (duh!) – without the crushing, incapacitating fatigue that I woke up with two weeks ago, post-my-last-immunotherapy infusion.

As I have written previously, I did not alert my oncologist to my bedridden status then or since as I have been trying not to worry that I had crossed some Rubicon-type line concerning my treatment and its side/straight-on effects. Apparently, and I will continue to believe (cling to this belief) that my inability to get out of bed two Saturdays ago was indeed an aberration rather than an actualization, of life in this new Kenny lane.

So here I sit at my desk writing away, fully dressed, teeth-brushed and clean-shaven, all by 8:15 am, pill-popping as I go.

As I recall two weeks ago, when I finally summoned the strength to extricate myself from under the covers to get dressed and attempt to walk downstairs and restart my day (I had gotten up earlier to feed our cats breakfast and give Chino his insulin shot), “The clock on the wall” (clock radio, actually), to quote George Thorogood, said 3:53 p.m. (And other than bathroom breaks, that was all I could muster in the nine hours since I woke up at 7 a.m.)

No pain, just zero energy. It was almost as if I was paralyzed.

Writing back to the present, anticipating this morning, I’ve been a bit apprehensive the last few days – fearful that when I awoke today, I would once again be fighting that terrible fatigue and considering a new reality in my cancer existence.

When my eyes popped open at 6:30 this morning, I was grateful (as my father used to say: “Any day that I wake up is a good day”) and relieved that when I raised my right arm to roll back the covers, I did so with relative normalcy; and even more relieved when I was able to swing my legs out from underneath the covers and onto the bedroom floor where I had no difficulty getting my bearings. Before too long (maybe 30 seconds or so), and after a few deep breaths, I stood up and officially began my day without any further adieu. Although I hadn’t taken any Roloids: “Oh, what a relief it is!”

Dare I say then it will be a normal day, up and at ‘em with nary a hint of fatigue in the forecast.

Rain, however, is in the forecast and given the date on the calendar: April 13, 2019, I have to face an even greater challenge than the fatigue I experienced two weeks ago: clothes shopping.

More specifically, I have to buy a suit, as well as some upgraded good-looking casual attire which my wife, Dina will approve and that Kenny’s budget will tolerate, as I’ll be attending a family wedding and rehearsal dinner beginning May 3, 2019.

One more concern: my weight. It’s not good. It’s the talking-scale-joke-will-one-of-you-please-get-off, bad. But I have no choice. Today’s the day (for availability reasons) or it will be “Good night, Irene.” Is there a tent sale going on anywhere?

You know, now that I think about it – and feel it, I may be feeling a little fatigue.

Maybe it’s not the best day to be trying on ill-fitting clothes ALL DAY. What if I don’t have the manual dexterity to be in and out of dressing rooms, up and down while in them and back and forth to the clothing racks with shoes, slacks, shirts and suits?

What if today is another day in my life – which seemingly began at birth, where I spent hours in the “Husky”/“Portly” departments at Jordan Marsh, Filene’s Basement and Kennedy’s in downtown Boston, trying to find Kenny some “school clothes” that fit, that is excruciating AGAIN? Granted, it wasn’t cancer then as it is now, but for an overweight young boy, it was torture personified and the experience imprinted me for life as a serial-clothes-shopping-hater.

Got to go. Wish me luck. I’ll need it.

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

OPINION

Supporting Immigrant Families, Community

Comprehensive change — not one-time funding — needed to support Fairfax County immigrant families and community members.

BY MARY SUPLEY
FAIRFAX FOR ALL

Fairfax County residents in deportation proceedings are not guaranteed access to free legal counsel. According to Department of Justice data, such legal representation dramatically increases the likelihood that an individual will have a hearing, be released from detention, and be granted relief from deportation.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is considering limited, temporary, one-time funding for legal representation for county residents in deportation proceedings. Without also enacting a policy that ends the county's voluntary collaboration with ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement), this proposal is merely a band-aid that would offer assistance to fewer than 1 percent of the people who need it. A band-aid on a wound that the Board of Supervisors and Sheriff Stacey Kincaid deepen every day as they put more people into the

arrest-to-deportation pipeline.

Currently, more than 11,500 county residents are in deportation proceedings. This is because Fairfax County voluntarily collaborates with ICE in the detention and deportation of its residents and visitors. This collaboration harms migrants residing in Fairfax County and weakens our community. Every day that county leadership fails to act, more people live in fear and more residents are detained. Data from Syracuse University's TRAC program show that Fairfax County ranks 13th in the country for its compliance with voluntary detainer requests issued by ICE (view data directly at bit.ly/detainer-compliance-rates).

While funding for legal representation would be commendable, it's not enough. By itself, this proposal alone offers more comfort to the politicians who want to appear to stand with our immigrant neighbors than it does to people vulnerable to those politicians' policies. Real and lasting change will only come by ending the county's voluntary collaboration with ICE.

In late 2017, attorneys working in concert with the Fairfax for All coalition drafted the Ordinance to Protect Equal Justice for All. This countywide policy, which would end this racist collaboration and create some equity for our immigrant neighbors, will:

1. Prohibit the county from being involved in civil immigration enforcement;
2. Limit the collecting and sharing of information with ICE;
3. Expand the list of documents that are acceptable as proof of identity; and
4. Establish permanent funding for legal representation for county residents in deportation proceedings.

The complete ordinance can be read at fairfaxforall.org/pledge.

It is long past time for Board Chairman Sharon Bulova, the Board of Supervisors, Sheriff Stacey Kincaid, and other officials to end the county's voluntary collaboration with ICE. A collaboration that furthers the criminalization, incarceration, and deportation of valued Fairfax County families and community members.

Fairfax for All is a coalition of grassroots, civil rights, immigrant rights, and faith-based organizations dedicated to building sanctuary in Fairfax County. Visit fairfaxforall.org.

Fully Fund the MRA to Support Our Community

BY TARRENCE TAYLOR
FAIRFAX COUNTY RESIDENT AND
EMPLOYEE

Frontline Fairfax County employees work hard every day to make our community a better place for all people.

We are nurses, educators, librarians, first responders, parks staff, sanitation workers, engineers and more. We are your friends, family and neighbors. And we want what everyone wants: the ability to make a difference, financial security, and a better life for our kids.

Unfortunately, the proposed Fairfax budget breaks the county's promise to workers like me by not funding the agreed-upon Market Rate Adjustment.

The Market Rate Adjustment is similar to a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), and it is intended to help employees keep up with the high cost of living in this area, as well as to keep up with our neighboring counties. That's why the Board of Supervisors voted to adopt a pay plan which includes a yearly Market Rate Adjustment.

The agreed-upon formula says the MRA should be 2.51 percent this year, but the proposed budget only offers 1 percent. That is simply not enough.

The Market Rate Adjustment is not just a number to me. I'm the father of seven wonderful children, and I've made a promise that nothing will get in the way of them achieving a college education. That's why I've worked hard my entire life.

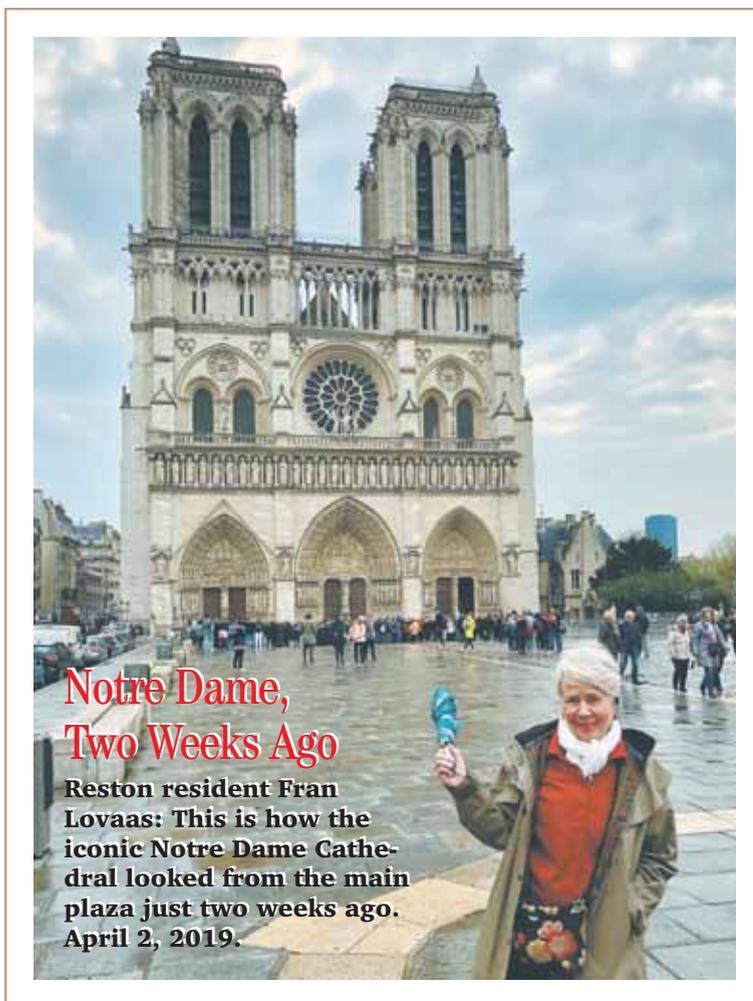
However, if the county does not keep its promise and fully fund the Market Rate Adjustment, then I may not be able to keep my promise to my kids.

Not fully funding the Market Rate Adjustment also hurts the local families who use our services to get ahead, because it keeps us from recruiting and retaining the quality workforce we need.

We are losing good employees every day. Employees gain experience and training here in Fairfax, and then leave for the surrounding counties that pay more. That costs us money and time, as we are forced to constantly train new employees.

Fully funding the Market Rate Adjustment will help keep the experienced employees that we work hard to train, right here in Fairfax County, helping Fairfax County families.

The Board of Supervisors has an opportunity to do something about this. It is their job to make changes



**Notre Dame,
Two Weeks Ago**

Reston resident Fran Lovaas: This is how the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral looked from the main plaza just two weeks ago. April 2, 2019.

to the budget to ensure it meets the needs of our community.

Please join us in calling on Chairman Sharon Bulova and the Fairfax Board of Supervisors to fully fund the Market Rate Adjustment so that our community can

continue to be a wonderful place to live, work and play.

Tarrence Taylor is a Fairfax County employee, resident and taxpayer, and a proud union member of SEIU Virginia 512.

Vienna & Oakton
CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

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