

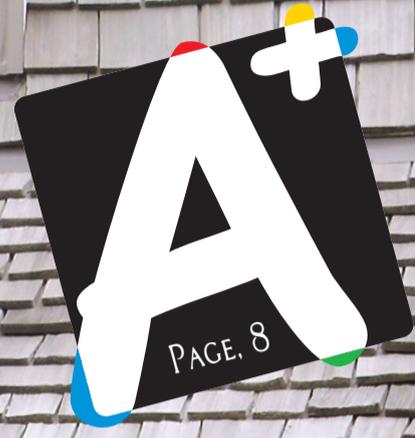


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OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14
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Burke CONNECTION



The "Resign Ralph!" protestors maintained a respectful distance from the entrance to the Marsden campaign event held at the same time at the Burke Centre.



Protestors: 'Resign Ralph!'

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Sharing Wisdom Of Positive Aging

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Public Weighs in On Budget Priorities

NEWS, PAGE 3



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Pictured are members of the Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Standing between Chairman Sharon Bulova and Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity is Beth Holst, Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter Regent, who holds the Proclamation.

County Honors Women Veterans

At the March 19 meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, was honored with a Proclamation which officially designated March 18 – 24, 2019, as Women

Veterans Week in Fairfax County. The Proclamation recognized the vital contributions of female veterans, their service in dangerous combat zones and their willingness to take the oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Local residents and the area's workforce were able to chill out on Tax Day with Kona Ice as it passed out free shaved ice on Tax Day.

Chilling Out on Tax Day

The stressors of Tax Day, April 15, in Fairfax were relieved for a few minutes as locals took the opportunity to relax and chill. Local resident and owner of Kona Ice, Trung Dinh, hosted

under the motto "No taxation without relaxation." His Kona Ice truck doled out free tropical-flavored Kona Ice cups at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax).

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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

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.”

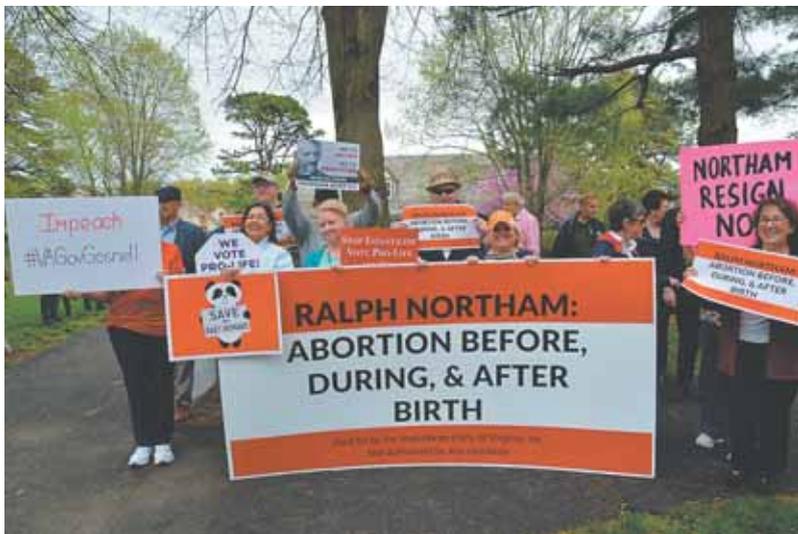
Members of the Community Action Advisory Board echoed those concerns, including Elethia from Reston. “I am a CAAB member, but I speak for myself today,” she said. Elethia is worried for the county's senior residents like herself who more and more are being forced to sacrifice other essentials in order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

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION



The Fairfax County Republican Party Committee joined the protest, with most holding anti-abortion posters.



Kofi Annan, president of the Fairfax County NAACP addresses the group of protestors calling for the resignation of Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam. “He has done great harm.”

Protestors: ‘Resign Ralph!’

Fairfax NAACP and others gather to demand resignation of Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, who was “no-show” at the event.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

Much of the immediate furor over the scandals that surround Virginia’s top elected officials, which saw Governor Ralph Northam and Attorney General Mark Herring facing backlash over blackface incidents and Lt. Governor Justin Fairfax accused of sexual misconduct, seems to have died down.

For weeks after a photo in Northam’s 1984 yearbook surfaced in February, identifying him as one of two men in the picture — one in blackface and one dressed in the robes of a Ku Klux Klansmen — the Governor was the target of local, national, and even international news cycles and ridiculed by late night talk show hosts. The story only grew when Commonwealth Attorney General Herring admitted to having worn blackface for a costume event in college.

The third hit to Virginia’s “Big 3” elected officials came quickly thereafter, with Fairfax being accused by first one woman, and then a second of conduct tantamount to sexual assault. Fairfax categorically denies the allegations.

THE MEDIA ATTENTION has diminished, and it appears a majority of Virginia voters – albeit a slim one – favor Northam’s continued occupancy of the Governor’s mansion in Richmond, according to a recent poll by the Christopher Newport University Wason Center for Public Policy in

Newport News, Va., but there are many in Northern Virginia who are not so willing to forgive and forget.

“It’s not about not believing in redemption or rehabilitation,” said Fairfax County NAACP president Kofi Annan, “but the Governor has yet to acknowledge his error or to offer a sincere apology. ... We will continue to stand on principle. Principles matter. Values matter. He needs to resign.”

Annan takes exception to the fact that “first Northam admitted he was in the photo, then he said ‘nope, it wasn’t me.’” The NAACP spokesman said there is always a chance to make amends, but “he needs to start with acknowledgement before we can begin to heal these wounds.”

Annan led a group of protestors on Sunday at the Ponds Community Center in Burke, where the Governor was scheduled to appear at the campaign kick-off for Sen. Dave Marsden, the democratic incumbent for the 37th District.

“[Northam] can’t just go on like it’s business as usual,” said Annan. “The way things stand, he can’t just walk this back. As



Mike from Arlington (in shades with Union Hill poster) may be from Northern Virginia, but one reason he joined in the “Northam Should Resign” protest outside a campaign kick-off event for state senator Dave Marsden (D-37) was to express solidarity with the residents of the historic Union Hill in Richmond, who are fighting a decision to build a compressor station in the area as part of Dominion Energy’s Atlantic Coast Pipeline project. The project has been supported by Northam.

of today, we still don’t know if he was in the photo, if he was the man in blackface or the man in the Klan robes.”

“If they tell you we are unwilling to forgive, you need to know the truth,” said NAACP vice president Sean Perryman, speaking at the protest. “They have been unwilling to reach out to us. ... Outrage is not just a news cycle. It’s about doing the right thing consistently everyday.”

Perryman added that “there is nothing acceptable about appearing in blackface. There is nothing acceptable about appearing as a Klansman. Two months ago they were calling for his [Northam’s] resignation. Nothing has changed except the media has gone away ... but we’re still here.”

Marsden is Perryman’s representative, as is Del. David Bulova (D-37), who was also in attendance at the fundraiser.

Perryman told the crowd that he had campaigned for both, as well as for the statewide office seekers.

“I’ve done the phone calls and the door-knocking for them. So have many of you. But they have taken our work and our votes for granted. No more.”

Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) also attended the fundraiser and was met with derisive calls upon his arrival.

Annan, Perryman and other

SEE PROTESTERS, PAGE 5

PHOTO BY ANDREA WÖRKER/THE CONNECTION



The “Resign Ralph!” protestors maintained a respectful distance from the entrance to the Marsden campaign event.

Protesters Demand Northam Resignation

FROM PAGE 4

NAACP representatives and members, along with other Northern Virginia residents decided to bring their anger and disappointment to this event in order to send a wider message than just demanding the Governor’s resignation. Other politicians are also in their sights.

ELECTED OFFICIALS and those running for office could suffer from their association with Northam, warned Annan and Perryman. Speaker Kevin Glenn from Reston took that warning a step further, “if the Democratic Party doesn’t take notice and respect our votes and our voices. They get largely elected with the support of the black and other minority communities. If we withhold our support, they may get the message.”

When Glenn was questioned if he and others were willing to risk the potential for finally gaining a Democratic majority in the General Assembly, or at least, losing the ground made in the last elections, he responded, “Yes,” citing that the Trump-effect helped elect more women, more people of color and different religious affiliations in the last elections, particularly at the national level.

“I see politics as a long game ... this might be a real sacrifice, but it might result in better representation the next time around. We may just have to hold our noses for two years in order to get people in office who will look out for all Virginians.”

Glenn said that just electing a Democrat did not guarantee the representation that

minority communities deserve.

Danny Cendejas with La ColectiVA — an organization led by “gente Latinx” committed to upholding social justice and equality — brought the agreement and support of his group to the event.

Annan too called out the Democratic Party and those willing to stand beside Northam. He suggested that by remaining in office, Northam could very well “suppress the vote” in the next elections.

The NAACP group and their supporters were joined at the event by a gathering of area Republican organizations, including the Fairfax County Republican Party Committee with chair Tim Hannigan in attendance, the Tea Party of Northern Virginia, and the “Deplorables of Northern Virginia.”

THE ISSUES on the other side of the walkway in front of the community center revolved mostly around the Governor’s pro-choice stance on abortion, but there were a few in that group who also carried anti-racism signs with their “Northam’s Got to Go!” banners and placards.

The target of the ire of both parties was a no-show. Gov. Northam cancelled his appearance. Sen. Marsden did, however, come outside the event and spoke with members of the media.

Marsden was originally one of the many who called on Northam to step aside when the scandal first broke. Obviously, he has since changed his stance. The senator believes that “Northam is prepared to do the job for which he was elected” and has a long record of public service benefitting all Virginians.

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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.





PHOTOS COURTESY OF G.C. 'GARY' BLACK, III

Boy Scout Troop 1131 Inducted New Members and had an Order of the Arrow Callout in St. Stephen's United Methodist Church's Chapel in the Glenn in Burke

Seven New Scouts Inducted

In Boy Scout Troop 1131, an Order of the Arrow (OA) ceremony was held at St. Stephen's United Methodists Church in Burke, in the

Chapel in the Glenn to induct seven new members and have a Call Out for prospective Ordeal Members of OA.

Becoming a Star Scout

At Troop 1131, St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, Burke, Matthew Luisi passed his Star Scout Board of Review. Matt is in eighth grade at Trinity School in Falls Church, where he plays recorder in the band and has completed basketball season, and now he plays lacrosse. Matt has been the Troop Quartermaster for two years and plans to be a patrol leader soon. Matt's parents are Shelly and Bob.



Star Scout Matthew Luisi and his mother Shelly.

Promoted to Second Class Scout

Mark M. of Boy Scout Troop 1131, St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, Burke, has passed his Second Class Scout Board of Review. Mark is in sixth grade at Ravensworth Elementary school where he plays E-Flat Alto Sax in the band. Mark's mother is Laura and his father is Fran.



Second Class Scout Mark M. and his father Fran.



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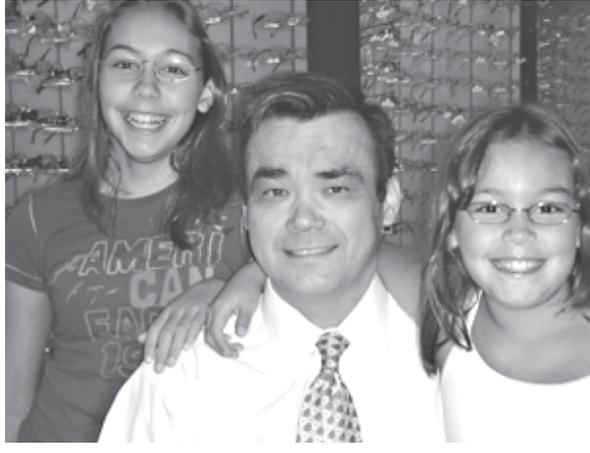
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Opportunities for community service and/or religious education are some of the reasons that parents might consider switching a child from public to private school.



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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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PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION



There were more than 20 workshops and panel discussions at the Positive Aging and Wellness Fair on topics from memory care to avoiding scammers.



Auxiliary Police Officers, from left, Nina Aldrich, Fred Sanborn, and Ashley Soloff, were at the NoVa Positive Aging and Wellness Fair looking for recruits. Here they are working hard to convince Burke resident Dorothy Keenan to join their ranks. So – did they recruit Keenan? Probably not, since she is the leader of busy nonprofit GrandInvolve.

Sharing Wisdom of Positive Aging

Positive Aging and Wellness Fair draws crowd for education, information – and fun!

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The 2019 Northern Virginia Positive Aging and Wellness Fair on April 8, powered by the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV) and Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., has grown dramatically over the years, requiring more and more space to spread its wings.

This year, for its ninth edition and for the first time, the event was held at the Fairfax County Government Center at 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax. Even that impressive structure started to look more like Union Station than the halls of government. Some 600 registered fair attendees, 75 exhibitors, with more than 20 workshops in session, along with the staff, volunteers, facilitators and sponsors created an air of organized chaos as they mingled with the regular business of the county at work. Before the actual event-day, the event's website apologetically announced that walk-ins were no longer being accepted, such was the response received.

Pam Wiener, Director of Adult Services at event co-host JCCNV, officially opened the fair and was followed by opening remarks from Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield), who chairs the county's 50+ Committee. Tisha Deeghan, Deputy Executive Director, Fairfax County, also took a brief turn at the podium before handing things over to the keynote speaker Pat Collins, the long-time general assignment reporter for News4.

"I'm one of you. I'm 72. I belong here,"

said Collins, as he stood to address the packed theatre with his signature "snow stick" in hand.

For the next hour, Collins kept his audience enthralled – when they weren't laughing at his hilarious descriptions of "coming up in the old days," trained by "grizzled old men with typewriters – and no degrees."

The Emmy award-winning Collins ranged far and wide in his remarks, from his own history and how he "accidentally became a reporter at age 15" to stories across the timeline of his career. Starting as a print journalist with the Washington Daily News, then the Washington Star, his first foray into television news reporting didn't go quite as expected.

"On my first day, first thing in the morning, they told me I wouldn't actually go on air until I was ready, and until they thought I was ready," recalled Collins. "Guess when I did my first on-air broadcast? You guessed it! On the 5 p.m. news that same day!"

After stints at WJLA and WDVM (Now WUSA-TV) in D.C. and WLS-TV in Chicago, Collins found his home at News4 in 1986. The veteran newsman says he has the best gig these days. "I can cover everything from



Everyone wanted a photo op with keynote speaker and beloved local News4 reporter Pat Collins, including Pam Wiener, director of Adult Services for the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (left) and Nancy Weinstein (right), also with the JCCNV. The JCCNV is a pilot of the event, along with Celebrate Fairfax and other partners.

murders to snow storms," all while working just three days a week.

While he may now have transitioned to

"part-timer," Collins insists he's "not done, yet" saying that older adults have a lot still to offer in experience and life lessons learned that they can share.

"And what else can we older adults do? What other power do we hold? That's right, we vote," he noted to enthusiastic applause. "So keep going, keep active, use your knowledge and your skills. We have plenty left to do."

THE WORKSHOPS were held in three sessions, with topics like "Better Brain Healthy: Save Your Memory and Your Mind," "The Street Smart Senior: How to Avoid Getting Scammed," "Reaching Your Financial Goals," "Finding a Meaningful Encore Career," "Looking for a Meaningful Volunteer Experience," and "Gadgets and Gizmos for Your Health and Happiness."

The teachers were engaging experts in their fields. Among them were Patricia Rohrer, Long Term Care Program Manager with the county's Health Department, Carrie Brill, Caregiver Specialist and Management Analyst, Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging, Cathy Turner, Director of Senior Health at Virginia Hospital Center, Cherie Lejeune, Age+Tech Innovator, and even a staffer from the Office of the Attorney General.

More experts manned the exhibitor

SEE POSITIVE AGING, PAGE 13

BURKE CONNECTION ♦ APRIL 18-24, 2019 ♦ 9

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: Collect. Through April 26 in the McGuireWoods Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. The COLLECT! 2019 exhibition features more than 70 original works of art generously donated by the community of artists at Workhouse Arts Center. This year's collection includes painting, sculpture, fiber art, jewelry and more with subject matter varying from traditional figuration, natural landscapes, bright and bold abstraction, eclectic clay wares to conceptual collage. Visit www.workhousearts.org for more.

Dynamic Dimensions: Layered Meanings in African Art. 7 a.m.-7 p.m. daily, through April 29, in the Buchanan Hall Atrium Gallery, Fairfax Campus, George Mason University. Led by African art historian Dr. LaNitra Berger, students participating in Objects and Archives in Art History: Curating an Exhibit, spent two months using the Fine Arts Gallery as a laboratory in which to discover the essentials of researching and curating an exhibition. Students learned about provenance, original functionality, and the formal features of African art, in addition to valuable technical skills needed to put together an art exhibition. Visit www.facebook.com/Dynamic-Dimensions-Layered-Meaning-in-African-Art-403224373588514, or call Naomi Arlund, student curator, at 703-993-8756.

Art Exhibit: [Land]scape. Through May 19, in the Art Lab Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Curated by GMU MFA Candidate, Emily Fussner. The [Land]scape exhibition asks visitors to engage the notion of landscape on multiple levels. Featuring a range of painting, photography, mixed media, printmaking, sculpture, and video works, the exhibition itself becomes a landscape revealing a strata of emerging art practices. Visit www.workhousearts.org for more.

Group Exhibition: Degrees of Honor. Through May 19 in the Warrior Way Gallery, 1st Floor, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Degrees of Honor is a group exhibition surveying the works of artists addressing the concept of honor in different perspectives. Explore works with expressions of separation, pain, loneliness, turmoil, stories and memories. Featured artists include Rene Vincit, Gene Moty, Karen Chin and Christa Turpin. The Warrior Way is an exhibition space designated for artwork by active duty, retired and veteran service members. Visit www.workhousearts.org for more.

Floating Garden. Through May 26, in the Vulcan Gallery, 2nd Floor, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Toronto-based Artist Amanda McCavour creates experiential, immersive environments that represent places in her memory. Her three dimensional, embroidered art installations are made up of fabric designs that float within the space. Motifs included in her works are flowers, birds, plants and replications of living room furniture. Visit www.workhousearts.org for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 19

Plazapalooza Music Festival. 1-10 p.m. at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Music Productions Club of GMU hosts a free on-campus day of music featuring student bands and local musicians – 15 acts perform on the Sub 1 Quad (Rain Location: Lecture Hall). Free. Email cweinrot@gmu.edu or visit www.facebook.com/MusicProductionsGMU for more.

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

Various Chamber Ensemble Concert I. 7 p.m. in the deLaski Performing Arts Building, A323, Music Studio, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. Join the Mason Chamber Ensemble as they present a variety of works. Free and open to the public. Free and open to the public. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/various-chamber-ensemble-concert-i for details.

APRIL 19-MAY 25

The Full Monty. Fridays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.;

George Mason Friends Book Sale

Thousands of books, CDs, DVDs, and more at the George Mason Friends Spring Book Sale. Come early for the best selection, then come back on Sunday for half-price bargains. Thursday, April 25, 3-9 p.m.; Friday, April 26, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, April 28, noon-5 p.m. at George Mason Regional Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Free admission. Visit georgemasonfriends.blogspot.com or call 703-813-6616.

Visitors browsing at the George Mason Friends Book Sale



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE MASON FRIENDS



PHOTO BY JORDAN INGRAM

Abby Rasheed and the Sundry Collective perform at Plazapalooza 2018.

Plazapalooza Music Festival

Music Productions Club of GMU hosts a free on-campus day of music featuring student bands and local musicians – 15 acts perform on the Sub 1 Quad (Rain Location: Lecture Hall). Friday, April 19, 1-10 p.m. at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. Email cweinrot@gmu.edu or visit www.facebook.com/MusicProductionsGMU for more.

Sundays, 2 p.m. at Workhouse Arts Center, W-3 Theater. Based on the cult hit film of the same name, *The Full Monty*, a 10-time Tony Award nominee, is filled with honest affection, engaging melodies and the most highly anticipated closing number of any show. Due to mature language and situations, this production is intended for adults and not suitable for younger audiences. \$20-\$35. Visit www.workhousearts.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 20

Easter Egg Hunt. 9-11 a.m. at Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria. Join Franconia UMC for an Easter Egg Hunt for all from toddlers to 12th grade. The festivities start at 9 a.m. with breakfast and Easter egg hunting starts at 10:30. Free. Visit franconiaumc.org or call 703-971-5151.

Model Classic 2019. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Northern Virginia Modelers Chapter, International Plastic Modelers Society presents an annual exhibit of scale models, an educational and fun event for the entire family. The event features a display of hundreds of museum quality scale models; a modeling contest, with over 80 categories;

model kit, book and supplies vendors; raffle prizes; demonstrations; and a make and take event for children. Adults, \$8; under 18 free; \$10 per family; contestants, \$10 (includes admission). Visit www.novaipms.org for more.

Pet Adoption Event. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Pet Supplies Plus, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Find a new forever animal friend with the help of the City of Fairfax Animal Control and Animal Shelter. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/government/police/programs/animal-control/adopt-a-pet

Easter Eggstravaganza. 1-3 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Jubilee Christian Center is sponsoring its annual Easter Eggstravaganza, in the grassy area behind the Fairfax County Government Center. The event is free, including egg rolls, moon bounces, face painting, games, and door prizes (at 1:45 and 2:45 p.m.). Call 703-383-1170 or visit www.jccag.org for more.

Parsons Dance. 8 p.m. at the Center for the Arts, Concert Hall, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. New York City-based Parsons Dance is internationally celebrated for creating and performing American modern dance that is positive, life-affirming, enriching, and accessible. This ensemble has spread the joy of dance in more than 447 cities,

30 countries, and five continents. A performance discussion with a member of the company begins 45 minutes prior to the performance. Family-friendly. \$48, \$41, \$29. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/parsons-dance for tickets.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 24

Lysistrata. 8 p.m. at deLaski Performing Arts Building, A105, TheaterSpace, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. Lysistrata persuades the women of Greece to withhold sexual privileges from their husbands and lovers as a means of forcing the men to negotiate an end to the Peloponnesian War – a strategy, however, that inflames the battle between the sexes. \$20 adults, \$10 students, staff, seniors and groups. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/lysistrata for tickets.

THURSDAY/APRIL 25

Mason Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band. 8 p.m. at the Center for the Arts, Concert Hall, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. The Mason University Wind Symphony, led by composer-conductor Mark Camphouse is a select ensemble comprised of outstanding wind, brass, and percussion players in the School of Music and the University. The ensemble's mission is to study and perform the best literature available for wind band, while emphasizing soloistic and orchestral performance practice. \$12 adults, \$8 seniors, \$5 youth through grade 12. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/mason-wind-symphony-and-symphonic-band for tickets.

The Wolves. 8 p.m. at deLaski Performing Arts Building, A105, TheaterSpace, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. A timely play about a girls' indoor soccer team that illuminates with the unmistakable ping of reality the way young selves are formed when innate character clashes with external challenges. \$20 adults, \$10 students, staff, seniors and groups. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/the-wolves for tickets.

THURSDAY/APRIL 25-28

Huge Book Sale. Thursday, 3-9 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. at George Mason Regional Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Thousands of books, CDs, DVDs, and more at the George Mason Friends Spring Book Sale. Come early for the best selection, then come back on Sunday for half-price bargains. Free admission. Visit georgemasonfriends.blogspot.com or call 703-813-6616.

FRIDAY/APRIL 26

Valor Awards. 8:30 a.m. at the Springfield Golf & Country Club, 8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Fairfax County first responders will be honored at the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards Breakfast. The event recognizes police, fire and sheriff deputies in the Greater Springfield area who selflessly serve and protect residents and businesses in the local community. To register, visit www.springfieldchamber.org/events/details/valor-awards-5760.

Girl Scout Daisies. Noon-1 p.m. at Pohick Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. With so many new experiences to conquer and lessons to learn, a trusted partner and all-things-girl expert like Girl Scouts can be exactly what a girl needs to succeed in and out of the classroom. Learn more about Girl Scout Daisies, to play games, to sing songs, and more. Free. Contact Cheryl Osborne at cosborne@gscnc.org or 703-372-4341.

B-I-N-G-O. 7 p.m. at Fire Station 3, 4081 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy free coffee, entertaining callers, a friendly atmosphere, \$1,000 guaranteed jackpot, treasure chest progressive raffles, and good food available for purchase. All proceeds go to purchasing fire and rescue equipment. Visit www.fairfaxvfd.com or call 703-273-3638 for more.

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SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

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ENTERTAINMENT

Concert ‘Inspiring the Next Generation’

Introducing 2019 Fairfax Symphony All Stars: Sharon Bulova Young Artists’ Program.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (FSO) will be presenting an innovative concert featuring the 2019 Fairfax Symphony All-Stars. The All-Stars feature outstanding high school students from across Fairfax County. Each student receives personalized mentoring from FSO musicians, and the opportunity to perform side-by-side with the FSO.

In addition, honoring Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova’s long dedication and support of arts education, the FSO has named its music education program, the Fairfax Symphony All-Stars: Sharon Bulova Young Artists’ Program.

The 2019 All-Stars will perform in a collaborative performance with the FSO featuring program of Holst’s The Planets, Jonathan Leshnoff’s Starburst, and

Smetana’s The Moldau under direction of FSO Maestro Christopher Zimmerman. During the concert, Chairman Bulova will conduct the encore movement of ‘Jupiter’ from Holst’s The Planets.

“I am humbled by this incredible honor,” Chairman Bulova said. “The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra has always been near and dear to my heart, and is a reflection of Fairfax County’s talented, hardworking and creative community. I have always been inspired by FSO’s outreach to the young people in our community, and I am so excited to be a part of this year’s Young Artists’ Program.”

“On behalf of the Fairfax Symphony Board of Directors, we can think of no better way to honor Chairman Bulova than to name this important program in recognition of her immense support and dedication to arts education,” said Jonathan Kerr, Executive Director, Fairfax Symphony. “Inspiring the next generation of young artists is

vital to the FSO’s mission, and this program honors Chairman Bulova’s lasting-legacy of furthering artistic excellence and arts education.

The 2019 Fairfax Symphony All Stars include Abigail Leary, Adam Kurtz, Aislin Carpenter, Anna Paek, Ben Afferton, Caitlyn Clingenpeel, Cole Terpenning, Ethan Grundvig, George Pekarsky, Jacob Fujioka, Justin Park, Justin Vu, Matthew Vice, Michelle Song, Nick Brenner, Olivia Bond, Owen Wetterhan, Paul Cutler Williams, Sophia Leyva and Yilun Zhou.

“I’m always impressed with the students I coach and mentor. They’re always prepared and eager to learn,” said FSO’s Tim Wade, violinist and stage manager. “It’s heartening to know that Fairfax County is so invested in its music programs. The County benefits immensely from the program, as well, as high-quality music programs are an incredible calling card to anyone searching for an



2019 FSO All Star Anna Paek



2019 FSO All Star Yilun Zhou

PHOTOS COURTESY FAIRFAX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Where and When

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra presents “Inspiring the Next Generation” featuring the 2019 Fairfax Symphony All-Stars: Sharon Bulova Young Artists at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax Performance on April 27 at 8 p.m. Tickets \$25, \$39, \$53 and \$65. Students: \$15. Tickets call 703-9993-2782 or visit www.fairfaxsymphony.org



2019 FSO All Star Ben Afferton

excellent school system for their children and themselves.”

“The FSO and our All-Stars are

proud to serve as Fairfax County’s dynamic music ambassadors,”

added Kerr.

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Sharing Wisdom of Positive Aging

FROM PAGE 9

booths.

There were representatives from numerous home care resources and senior living communities, and other sponsors displaying medical and health-related offerings, and other businesses that provide services and products aimed at making the life of older adults easier and more comfortable, help residents age in place, and keep up with today's technologies.

Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church was just one of those offering much-needed assistance. The nonprofit uses expert volunteers to make critical home repairs or construct disability and/or accessibility improvements at no cost for qualified homeowners on a limited income.

Allegra Joffe, who represented PRS CrisisLink's CareRing Program, was on duty, introducing visitors to the program that provides daily phone calls to help those individuals living alone or disabled or with chronic illness.

"It's a great free service," said Joffe. Clients are provided with screening upon intake and periodically during their time with the program, "so we can better know them and best serve them," Joffe added.

CareRing provides a daily friendly chat, but also can assist clients with reminders about medications or appointments, checking on general well-being and

even helping ensure that clients are eating regularly.

Among the booths that lined much of the lower level of Government Center, there were even some opportunities for job and volunteer-seekers, like the Fairfax County Auxiliary Police Officer program, there to hunt for a few new "rookies" to join their ranks.

The Grandinvolve organization was also on hand, hoping to entice a volunteer or two into sharing skills, hobbies, interests and talents with elementary school kids.

THE LIST of services, products, and potential opportunities goes on. If you missed the 2019 Positive Aging and Wellness Fair, here is a way to get connected.

Check out the county's website www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults. While you are there, subscribe to the monthly Golden Gazette for information and a calendar of events. There is even a phone number – one number – to reach knowledgeable folks who can get you started or even help you navigate to the information or services that you are seeking.

Call 703 – 324 – 7948, TTY 711, 8 a.m. – 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday for help with services for older Fairfax County adults. And one more piece of advice: don't miss out when the next Positive Aging and Wellness Fair comes around again.



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

As the chair of the Board of Supervisors' 50+ Committee, Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) was one of the hosts at the 2019 Positive Aging and Wellness Fair and welcomed keynote speaker Pat Collins from News4.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 26-28

The Medium and Suor Angelica. Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at Harris Theatre, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. Two one-act operas: Menotti's *The Medium* and Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. \$20 adults, \$15 seniors, \$5 youth through grade 12. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/opera-the-medium-and-suor-angelica for tickets.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

ECHO Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-noon at St. Bernadette Catholic School Gym, 7602 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Huge Yard Sale featuring table after table of fashion accessories, toys, home decorations, kitchen utensils, more. Proceeds benefit ECHO, an all-volunteer organization aiding people in need in the community. Admission free. Call 703-239-1678 or visit www.echo-inc.org.

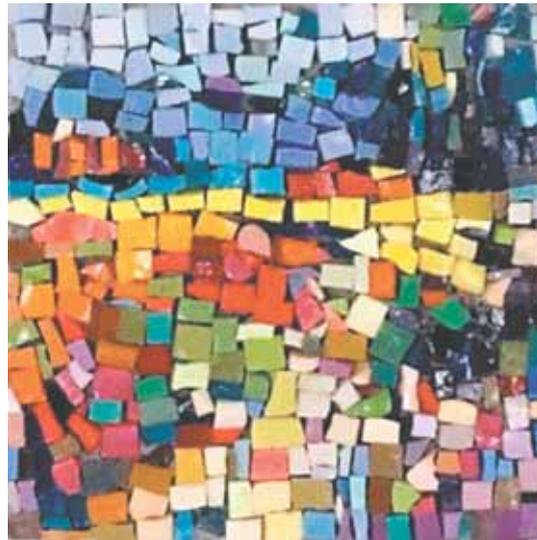
Fairfax CASA Run. 10 a.m. at Fairfax County Courthouse, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Be part of the superhero family and community of volunteers and supporters who make a difference through Fairfax CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), where they all work to advocate for abused and neglected children right here in Fairfax County. Run in the 8k race, or dress up with your children — yes, superhero costumes, capes and all — for the 3k Superhero Children's Fun Run. Food and drinks, prizes and a raffle, and more family fun waits at the finish line. \$20-\$35. Visit www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com or www.fairfaxcasa.org.

Author Event: Meet Dale Perry. Noon-2 p.m. at Barnes and Noble Manassas, Westgate Plaza, 8117 Sudley Road, Manassas. Meet local author Dale Perry of Fairfax. She will be signing copies of her book, *Adventures of the Super Bunny Club*. This book follows a bunny named Blue as he is introduced to the wild, wonderful and

Art Exhibit: Collect

The COLLECT! 2019 exhibition features more than 70 original works of art generously donated by the community of artists at Workhouse Arts Center. This year's collection includes painting, sculpture, fiber art, jewelry and more with subject matter varying from traditional figuration, natural landscapes, bright and bold abstraction, eclectic clay wares to conceptual collage. Through April 26 in the McGuireWoods Gallery, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. Visit www.workhousearts.org for more.

Tuscan Landscape, Anita Damron, 2015, 6 in x 6 in.



whooshing world of international floppy-eared intrigue. Purchase books before signing. Call 571-612-8634 or visit MascotBooks.com for more.

Fundraiser: VFW Post 8469. 1-5 p.m. at Bowl America, 5615 Guinea Road, Burke. VFW Post 8469 will host a public bowling event to raise funds to help support veterans' needs. The cost is \$20 for three games and shoes, plus a raffle ticket to win either a decorative Flags of Valor Flag, a guided day hike in the Shenandoah, two tickets to Amy Grant at the Birchmere or a bowling ball. There will also be a Certified Service Offices on site to help with Veteran benefit issues.

Lysistrata. 2 p.m. at deLaski Performing Arts Building, A105, TheaterSpace, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. Lysistrata persuades the women of Greece to withhold sexual privileges from their husbands and lovers as a means of forcing the men to negotiate an end to the Peloponnesian War – a strategy, however, that inflames the battle between the sexes. \$20 adults, \$10 students, staff, seniors and groups. Visit

cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/lystrata for tickets.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra presents: Holst's Planets. 8 p.m. at Center for the Arts, Concert Hall, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. The program includes Leshnoff: Starburst; Smetna: The Moldau and Sarka from *Ma Vlast*; Holst: The Planets, featuring the 2018 Fairfax County All-Stars Youth Orchestra. Pre-performance discussion at 7 pm: Join conductor Christopher Zimmerman and special guests. Tickets start at \$30, \$15 student tickets available. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/holst-39-s-the-planets.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 27-28

LEGO Model Train Show. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area LEGO Train Club (WamaLTC) members will hold a two day LEGO-based train show. All trains, buildings and scenery in the display are built from LEGO blocks and shapes. Donations of unwanted LEGO pieces and sets

are appreciated to help support WamaLTC's efforts to bring fun and education to all ages through its activities. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org or call 703-425-9225.

The Wolves. Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at deLaski Performing Arts Building, A105, TheaterSpace, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. A timely play about a girls' indoor soccer team that illuminates with the unmistakable ping of reality the way young selves are formed when innate character clashes with external challenges. \$20 adults, \$10 students, staff, seniors and groups. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/the-wolves for tickets.

SUNDAY/APRIL 28

Britain on the Green. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Gunston Hall, 10709 Gunston Road, Lorton. The 22nd Britain on the Green show will feature two hundred British cars and motorcycles, music, food trucks, youth activities, and admission to Gunston Hall and grounds. \$10 adult; \$5 children 6-18. Visit www.capitaltriumphregister.com/bog/ or call 703-522-6571.

Spring Ballet: Coppelia. 12:30 and 3:30 p.m. at Metropolitan School of the Arts, 5775 Barclay Ave., Alexandria. *Coppelia* is a charming, humorous ballet of infatuation, deception, and finally a love that prevails. Dance along with Swanhilda and Franz as they find their way to love and "happily ever after." \$12. Visit www.metropolitanarts.org for more.

Keyboard Conversations with Jeffrey Siegel: Chopin in Paris. 7 p.m. at the Center for the Arts, Concert Hall, on GMU's Fairfax Campus. In this concert of piano music and commentary, Jeffrey Siegel presents the eminent Polish composer Frédéric Chopin and the gorgeous pieces he created while in Paris. Family-friendly. \$44, \$37, \$26. Visit cfa.calendar.gmu.edu/keyboard-conversations-with-jeffrey-siegel-chopin-in-paris for tickets.

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

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Employment

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Holy Week at Kings Lutheran Church, 4025 Kings Way, Fairfax. All are welcome. Visit www.kofk.org or call the church office 703-378-7272.

- ❖ **Maundy Thursday**, April 18 - 7 p.m.
- ❖ **Good Friday**, April 19 - 12:15pm and 7pm
- ❖ **Easter Sunday**, April 21 - Festival Worship, 8 and 10 a.m.
- ❖ **Dulles South Easter Sunrise Service** - 7 a.m. at Brambleton Golf Course Pavilion.

Holy Week at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5800 Backlick Road, Springfield. Visit www.stmarks-elca.org.

- ❖ **Holy Thursday** - 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. (English)
- ❖ **Good Friday** - noon and 7:30 p.m. (English) and 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)
- ❖ **Easter Sunday**, April 21 - 6:30 a.m. (Spanish); 8:30 a.m. (English); 10:30 a.m. (English). Potluck Easter breakfasts served between services.

Holy Week at Historic Pohick Church, 9301 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Call 703-339-6572 or visit www.pohick.org.

- ❖ **Maundy Thursday**, April 18 - Maundy Thursday Liturgy and Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m.
- ❖ **Good Friday**, April 19th - Good Friday Observance at noon-2 p.m.
- ❖ **Easter Sunday**, April 21 - Festival Holy Eucharist at 7:45, 9:15, and 11:15 a.m.

THURSDAY/APRIL 18

District Supervisor Candidate Meet and Greet. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Meet the candidates who are running for the Fairfax Board of Supervisors: Braddock, Lee, Mason, Mount Vernon and Springfield districts. Free. RSVP at www.eventbrite.com/o/naacp-fairfax-county-12397167937.

FRIDAY/APRIL 19

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 to plan and implement projects. 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.

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.

BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 14

SUNDAY/APRIL 21

Easter Sunday Service. 10-11:30 a.m. at Harvester Presbyterian Church, 7800 Rolling Road, Springfield. Harvester Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). All are welcome. No charge; offering will be taken. Visit www.harvesterpca.org or call 703-455-7800 for more.

MONDAY/APRIL 22

Sleepy Hollow Road Walkway Project Community Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Mason District Supervisor Penelope A. Gross and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) will hold a community meeting for the Sleepy Hollow Road Walkway Project. FCDOT has changed plans for the project based on community feedback, including the width of walkways, removal of retaining walls, additional sidewalk and pedestrian crossings, and more. Learn more at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/projects/sleepy-hollow-walkway.

TUESDAY/APRIL 23

Student Environmental Action Showcase 2019. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at George Mason Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Student Environmental Action Showcase (SEAS) is a regional event welcoming students to amplify the youth voice in environmental problem-solving. Student presenters, green/eco teams, and classroom groups share their projects reducing waste, conserving energy, improving water quality, and preserving natural habitat in their schoolyards and communities. Visit www.novaoutside.org/events/school-environmental-action-showcase for more.

Installation of lighting at Hooes Road Park Public Meeting. 7 p.m. in the West Springfield Elementary School cafeteria, 6802 Deland Drive, Springfield. The Fairfax County Park Authority and the Springfield District Supervisor's office will hold a public meeting to discuss a proposal to install lighting at Hooes Road Park. The proposal also calls for lighting the parking lot and the path leading to the fields. For more information about the meeting, call Mohamed Kadasi at 703-324-8693.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 24

Greater Fairfax Community Job Fair. 1-4 p.m. at Virginia International University, 4401 Village Drive, Fairfax. An opportunity for employers and prospective employees throughout the region to meet, discuss job opportunities and find employment. Job-seekers are encouraged to complete the optional registration, however walk-ins are welcome. Free. Visit www.FairfaxJobFair.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 25

Award Ceremony. 7 p.m. at Mason District Government Office, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. The Springfield-Annandale Branch of American Association of University Women will distribute awards to local high school juniors for their achievements in promoting inclusion at their schools. All are welcome. Free. Email wchamnett@gmail.com for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 27

Spring Forward. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Colgan Hall, George Mason University Science and Technology Campus, 10900 University Blvd., Manassas. Spring Forward Family Fun Day offers adoptive, foster and kinship families a day of fun and learning about tools and solutions. Found Families Forward is partnering with NewFound Families, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS), and VDOE's Training and Technical Assistance Center. While the kids enjoy activities, parents, caregivers and professionals will be treated to keynote Family Strong: Five Ways to Fight the Fear, Beat the Burnout, and Stay Focused for the Long Haul by presenter Wendy Besmann. Following the keynote, parents and caregivers choose from a variety of breakout sessions. \$0-\$40. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-forward-family-fun-day-and-regional-conference-tickets-54145770457 for tickets.

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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.



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