Pure Pasty Competes in World Pasty Championship

News, Page 3

The Pure Pasty Co. owner Mike Burgess and head chef Nicola Willis-Jones working on preparations for their journey to Cornwall, UK, and participation in the World Pasty Championship.

Planning 20 Parks: Inside Tysons or Out?

News, Page 8

Equestrian Athletes Need Opportunities, Too

News, Page 3
The following summary contains various incidents from the Vienna Police Department from Feb. 17-23.

**Animal Case – Quarantine** 17-001591 100 Block Harmony Drive, SE Feb. 11 9 a.m. ACO Barker received a report from INOVA Urgent Care regarding a resident who was treated at their facility after being bitten by his dog. The owner of the dog was advised of the 10-day quarantine process.

**Suspicious Vehicle** 17-001626 400 Block Dominion Road, SE Feb. 12 11:15 p.m. A resident observed a vehicle driving recklessly. She noticed the driver park the vehicle then get into the backseat. Several days later the resident found clothing in the area where the vehicle had been parked. It is not known if the two incidents are related.

**Juvenile Case** 17-001456 Cedar Lane School 101 Cedar Lane, SW Feb. 13 8 a.m. School administration advised of a student receiving an inappropriate picture on his cell phone and sharing it with other students.

**Arrest – Warrant Service** 17-001455 Cedar Lane School 101 Cedar Lane, SW Feb. 13 2:46 p.m. An adult student had a warrant for his arrest in Fairfax County. Ofc. Harter arrested the 18-year-old man from Deerwatch Drive in Chantilly on the warrant charging failure to appear on credit card larceny. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was released on his signature.

**Suspicious Event** 17-001461 200 Block Tapawingo Road, SE Feb. 13 4:04 p.m. A resident reported continuous harassment from a juvenile through text messages, email and other social media. Ofc. Harter spoke to the juvenile and advised the resident of the process to follow should the harassment continue.

**Suspicious Event** 17-001477 500 Block Gibson Drive, SW Feb. 14 9:30 a.m. A resident found a used syringe in her yard.

**Arrest – Narcotics Violation** 17-001483 Echo Street and Niblick Drive, SE Feb. 14 11:44 a.m. MPO Lose observed a vehicle commit a traffic offense and initiated a traffic stop. Upon his interaction with the driver he detected the odor of marijuana. The driver was found to be in possession of a measurable amount of marijuana. MPO Lose issued a summons to the 25-year-old female from Chilcott Manor Way in Vienna charging possession of marijuana. She was released on her signature.

**Fraud** 17-001592 BB&T Bank 260 Cedar Lane, SE Between Feb. 15 at 12 p.m. and Feb. 17 at 3:29 p.m. An employee reported one of their customers had become the victim of a scam when she was instructed to purchase iTunes gift cards. In return the individual would wire money directly into the customer’s bank account.

**Animal Case – Quarantine** 17-001700 The Hope Center 140 Park Street, SE Feb. 17 11:45 a.m. An employee was bitten on the hand by a cat during a medical procedure. The cat was released to its owner who lives in Fairfax. This case was forwarded to the Fairfax County Animal Control to follow up on the quarantine procedure.

**Suspicious Event** 17-001585 Cedar Lane School 101 Cedar Lane, SW Feb. 17 1:01 p.m. School administration reported threats that were made by one student toward another student.

**Arrest – Drunk in Public** 17-001610 7-11 519 Maple Avenue, West Feb. 18 12:07 a.m. Ofc. Reedy observed a woman run from the 7-11 with a 12-pack of beer and meet with a man in an adjacent parking lot. As the officer approached the couple the woman ran off and the man attempted to hide the beer. It was determined that the beer had been stolen from the store however the employees did not wish to prosecute. The man appeared to be intoxicated and was placed under arrest. Ofc. Reedy transported the 21-year-old man from Piney Grove Court in Fairfax to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with drunk in public.

**Arrest – Narcotics Violation** 17-001614 Wolftrap Hotel 430 Maple Avenue, West Feb. 18 12:44 a.m. Officers were attempting to locate the...
Pure Pasty Competes in World Championship

Vienna “pasty” chefs take their specialties to competition to the place where pasties were born.

By DONNA MANZ
The Connection

Vienna’s The Pure Pasty Co. is off to Cornwall, England, to compete in the World Pasty Championship on Saturday, March 4. Interpreting traditional Cornish recipes to adapt to tastes – and ingredients – across the pond, The Pure Pasty Co. has entered six of its signature pasties in the “open” (not made-in-Cornwall) category. Owner Mike Burgess and head chef Nicola Willis-Jones leave for the UK on Tuesday, Feb. 28.

“We’ve honed our craft,” said Willis-Jones, who, like Burgess, grew up in England. “Pasties can be filled with anything but the crust is what makes a pasty a true Cornish pasty.”

Admitting that “it’s all in the crust,” Willis-Jones and Burgess have dedicated themselves to making a crust that can be translated with British ingredients and refining fillings that are well-loved and creative.

“A lot of research went into learning what previous winners offered,” said Willis-Jones. And, lots of experimentation with substitute ingredients for those foodstuffs they cannot bring into the UK for the competition. British butter, for example, is not the butter produced in the United States; it has a higher fat content than does American butter. To adapt the crust recipe to accept British butter, Willis-Jones used KerryGold butter. “The first crust I made with it fell apart. I revised the recipe to make it work perfectly.”

A pasty is a hand-held meal, a butter-rich crescent-shaped crust enveloping saucy fillings. Originating in Cornwall, UK, the tin miners took these hand-held pies down into the mines for their lunch. The pastry encompassing the filling was sturdy and rich, and crimped around its edge. The miners held the pasty by the crimped edge which they discarded after eating the filled part of the pastry. Tin left arsenic on their hands and crimped around its edging. The miners

The Cornish pasty enjoys a special protection status, Protected Geographical Indication (PGI), and only pasty makers based in Cornwall who make their pasties in a traditional manner, following a traditional recipe, are entitled to label their products as Cornish pasties. “Cornish pasty” makers undergo a PGI audit.

By working together, Willis-Jones and Burgess perfected the six pasties they are preparing for the World Pasty Championship. They are: the Reuben pasty, based on the reuben sandwich - company category; the Moroccan Lamb and the chicken masala, made by Mike Burgess, in the professional category; the Kevin’s Bacon, invented in the shop by a former employee named Kevin Christensen, accented with bacon pieces, entered in the professional category; crafted by Willis-Jones. Willis-Jones adds her BBQ pork and the Southwest vegan in her sub-missions in professional category.

Final competition products were identified based on customer polling and a mission to represent the U.S. with iconic American ingredients.

The southwest vegan pasty incorporates Cajun spices as well as corn, sweet potato and black beans; the Reuben and barbecued pork are regional favorites.

“The Kevin’s Bacon is solely ours,” said Willis-Jones. “No one else makes that. It also contains brussel sprouts, red peppers and onions and cheddar cheese.”

The Moroccan lamb and chicken masala are regulars on the menu; the others are intermittent, but, popular, chef specials.

Willis-Jones and Burgess arrive early Wednesday morning and will finish up their ingredient shopping then. It is also make-the-dough day for Willis-Jones who says the dough is best rested overnight before she rolls it out on Thursday.

On Thursday, Willis-Jones, with assistance from Burgess, will make the fillings and roll out the dough and fill the dough shells, forming the pasties. The pasties will be baked on Friday. On Saturday morning, competitors arrive at the championship venue with their baked entries which are reheated and judged.

Ahead of their journey back to their homeland, Willis-Jones and Burgess contacted people in Cornwall to scout around for replacement ingredients. “We are well-prepared,” Willis-Jones said.

WHEN BURGESS OPENED

The Pure Pasty Co. in Vienna in October, 2010, he had already visited pasty shops throughout England researching their products. Chough Bakery, a World Pasty Championship winner more than one time, brought Burgess into the shop for a day to study the baker’s award-winning pasties. Over the past six and a half years, Burgess and Willis-Jones have perfected their recipes and made a name for The Pure Pasty Co. throughout the D.C. area.

“It’s something we’ve wanted to do,” Burgess said. “Nicola has been nagging at it for the past three years, at least,” he said as they both laughed about the history of their upcoming championship participation. “We had to clear the space in the business to do this, but, we’re ready.”

Visit The Pure Pasty Co.’s Facebook page for updates from Cornwall at www.facebook.com/ThePurePastyCo/. The shop, which also sells British snacks, is at 128 Church St NW Vienna. Call 703-255-7147 or visit www.purepasty.com.

Equestrian Athletes Need Opportunities, Too

By Ken Moore
The Connection

natalie Martinisko was the young-est speaker before the county’s Board of Supervisors Tuesday, Feb. 14.

“I’ve tried a lot of other sports besides horseback riding and I have not liked them as much, so we decided to look for barns. The only ones we could find were about 30 to 45 minutes away,” said Natalie.

She told the 10-member Board of Supervisors she wanted to ride with one of her friends whose family owns horses. “I think it would be great to let people train at their houses,” said Natalie.

But the county’s zoning ordinances prohibited home occupation lessons and her friend’s mother couldn’t give Natalie lessons.

“There are many kids that don’t fit into the traditional sports model of soccer, baseball, volleyball, swimming or dance. I know because my daughter tried most of those sports and none really clicked for her.”
Residents Testify

From Page 3

said Natalie’s mother, Mary Martinisko.

“Being that she’s always been animal oriented, I signed her up for summer camp at Frying Pan Park,” said Mary Martinisko “Over time, she said horseback riding was all that she really enjoyed.”

The Board of Supervisors passed a change to the zoning ordinance on Feb. 14 that will allow “small scale horseback riding lessons as a home occupation subject to specific limitations designed to minimize the impact of the lessons on surrounding properties.”

Specifically, the proposed ordinance would allow residents to conduct riding lessons at home like piano lessons, tutoring, or other private instruction activities.

“My girls have taken tennis at other people’s houses, they have taken soccer, they have taken swimming and basketball at other people’s houses, but they haven’t been able to take riding,” said Kim Karanik, of Great Falls. “I hope this gets looked at and passed tonight.”

Supervisor John Foust received 17 letters or emails in support of the proposed amendment, Sharon Bulova received 15, Pat Herrity received 11, “all in support,” he said.

“Clearly, there’s a shortage of opportunities,” Herrity said.

The board passed the zoning amendment unanimously.

NOT ALL SPEAKERS spoke in favor of the zoning amendment.

“Well, I was the only person in opposition to these proposed changes at the Planning Commission hearing in January,” said Anne Huffman, of Great Falls. “This set of proposed changes are too intense for people, environment, streams and the horses themselves.”

(See Huffman’s letter to the editor in the Feb. 22 issue of the Great Falls Connection.)

“Horses have a high impact on land,” said Huffman. Penny Gross acknowledged one of Huffman’s objections, regarding manure and its impact on the health of local streams.

“Manure can be a significant issue,” said Gross. She remembered years ago, when two students wrote her, asking for special exception permission to allow their horses to be boarded underneath the decks at their houses.

“I wrote back and explained why that wouldn’t be such a great idea. Their parents have thanked me ever since,” said Gross.

Huffman spoke before the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

“This type of applicant needs to be given public scrutiny. There’s a huge difference between indoor piano lessons and outdoor horseback riding instruction,” said Huffman, asking who will monitor care of the horses and the amount of activity that takes place.

No special events will be permitted, she was told.

See Residents, Page 7
From Page 2

Crime

A woman who committed the larceny from 7:11 (incident #17-001630). They located the woman in her hotel room and found her in possession of a measurable amount of marijuana. Ofc. Reedy issued a summons to the 23-year-old female from Jade Court, NW in Vienna charging possession of marijuana. She was released on her signature.

Police Service 17-001612 Vienna Police Station 215 Center Street, South Feb. 18 12:51 a.m. A resident came to the Vienna Police Station stating he was having suicidal thoughts and wanted assistance. Officers notified the man’s family and worked with them in transporting the man to an area mental health facility to receive the assistance he was requesting.

Assault / Destruction of Property 17-001690 300 Block Maple Avenue, West Feb. 18 12:21 a.m. Lieutenant Taylor observed a traffic violation and initiated a traffic stop. Upon his interaction with the driver he detected the odor of marijuana. A measurable amount of marijuana was located in the possession of both the driver and passenger. Lieutenant Taylor issued summonses to the 19-year-old female from Trumpet Circle in Sterling and the 20-year-old man from Oak Plank Court in Oakton, charging possession of marijuana. They were both released on their signatures.

Assault – Narcotics Violation 17-001619 300 Block Park Drive, NE Feb. 18 7:20 a.m. Officers responded to a complaint of a noise violation coming from a home under construction. Work was being done at the property outside of the time frame noted in the town ordinance. Ofc. Harter issued a summons to the 56-year-old man from Saint George Road in Delmar, Del. charging violation of the town’s noise ordinance. The man was released on his signature.

Suspicious Event 17-001640 Wolftrap Hotel 430 Maple Avenue, West Feb. 18 between 5:17 p.m. and 9:58 p.m. A citizen reported an incident that happened in his hotel room where he believed he may have been assaulted. The citizen was transported to an area hospital for evaluation.

This case is being investigated.

Assault – Narcotics Violation 17-001643 / 17-001645 Wolftrap Hotel 430 Maple Avenue, West Feb. 18 11:20 p.m. Officers responded to check on the welfare of a couple in their hotel room. A measurable amount of marijuana was found in the room. The female was also in possession of another narcotic. MPO Smith issued a summons to the 23-year-old man from Piney Grove Court in Fairfax charging possession of marijuana. He issued two summonses to the 23-year-old female from Jade Court, NW in Vienna charging possession of marijuana and possession of a controlled substance. The couple was released on their signatures.

Domestic Dispute 17-001648 East Street, NE Feb. 19 12:16 a.m. Officers responded to a verbal dispute between an elderly resident and her daughter who was visiting her.

Assault / Destruction of Property 17-001650 Wolftrap Hotel 430 Maple Avenue, West Feb. 19 12:20 a.m. Officers responded to a verbal dispute between a woman and her ex-boyfriend. The woman assaulted the man then pushed over his moped as she was leaving the scene, causing some damage to the moped. The man refused to pursue charges against the woman for the assault or the destruction of property.

Civil Case 17-001692 300 Block Windower Avenue, NW Feb. 20 12:54 p.m. A resident reported his neighbor had trimmed limbs from his trees that were hanging over the neighbor’s property. The two men were advised this was a civil matter.

Police Service 17-001710 200 Block Cedar Lane, SE Feb. 21 10:06 a.m. A citizen requested a welfare check on a relative.

Police Service 17-001672 John Marshall Drive, NW Feb. 19 9:45 p.m. A resident reported her ex-boyfriend was at her house and she wanted officers to respond while she asked him to leave and trespass him from the property. The man left the residence without incident.

Police Service 17-001723 Rite Aid 215 Maple Avenue, West Feb. 21 3:15 p.m. An employee reported a customer in their store who they believed was being scammed because she was purchasing Green Dot Cash Cards to pay her business electric bill. The customer was upset that the police had been notified and advised she did not want any assistance.

Vandalism 17-001784 Marshall Road Elementary School 730 Marshall Road, SW Between Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 7 a.m. An employee responded to vandalism inside the school. This case is being investigated.

Assist – 1-yr-Old Drowning 17-001771 Vienna Woods Swim Club 950 Desale Street, SW Feb. 22 11:13 p.m. Ofc. Reedy observed an occupied vehicle parked in the lot of the Vienna Woods Swim Club. Upon his interaction with the driver he found the man had dumped trash on the property. Ofc. Reedy issued a summons to the 21-year-old man from Tapawingo Road, SW in Vienna charging dumping trash on private property. The man was released on his signature.

Assist EMS 17-001782 Town of Vienna Police Service Yard 600 Mill Street, NE Feb. 23 9:07 a.m. An officer responded to assist rescue personnel with a non-life-threatening injury, for further treatment.

Suspicious Event 17-001795 Louise Archer Elementary School 324 Nutley Street, NW Feb. 21 2:02 p.m. A PTA member advised that someone sent suspicious email using her email account to another PTA member.

Assault – Drunk In Public 17-001799 Plum Street, SW Feb. 23 9:02 p.m. Officers responded to the report of a domestic dispute where a man was hitting a parked vehicle with a stick. They located the man who lived at the residence and appeared to be intoxicated. The parked vehicle belonged to the man’s son and he did not wish to pursue charges for any property damage. Ofc. Slobonak arrested the 63-year-old man from Plum Street, SW in Vienna and transported him to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. He was charged with drunk in public and turned over to the custody of the deputies.

CASE UPDATES Sex Offense 17-001381 Sugaring House Spas 103 Beulah Road, NE, #201 February 11 4:30 p.m. On Feb. 22 Detective Leroux obtained a warrant on a summons warrant charging assault in this case. Ofc. Rohr arrested the 33-year-old man from Bolten Road in Centreville. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with two counts of assault and released on his signature.

CRASHES Maple Avenue near Park Street, SE 17-001583 Feb. 17 12:04 p.m. Two vehicles were traveling southeast in the left lane of Maple Avenue approaching the intersection of Park Street, SE. Both drivers stopped for the red light. When the light turned green Driver 1 took his foot off the brake and drifted into the rear of Vehicle-2. No damage was observed to either vehicle. Driver-2 complained of pain and was evaluated by rescue personnel, but was not transported.
Results of the 2017 session of the General Assembly.

GOOD THINGS
Progress in funding mental health and addressing the opioid epidemic on multiple levels were among the successes of the 2017 General Assembly session.

❖ In addressing the opioid crisis, the General Assembly passed important steps, including the Downstream Accountability Act, which will increase funding for state police.

❖ The Virginia Board of Corrections was given additional authority and resources to review clemency for people with serious mental illness being released from jail.

❖ The budget included 3 percent raise for state employees, increase for teachers and a larger increase for state police.

❖ The Virginia Board of Corrections was given added authority and resources to review deaths in local and regional jails.

❖ Negotiation and legislation will accelerate the city’s sewer system improvements, enabling the city to fix its sewer system that dumps raw sewage into the Potomac River whenever it rains. Wendell Berry’s version of the golden rule: “Do unto those downstream as you would have those upstream do unto you.”

❖ Scott Surovell’s bill requiring Dominion to provide better information on coal ash pollution, disaster preparedness, and recycling.

❖ Eileen Filler-Corn’s bill requiring that insurance cover up to a 12-month supply of hor- monal contraceptives when dispensed or furnished at one time.

❖ School boards are required to have anti-bullying policies that includes notifying par- ents that their student was involved in a bullying incident.

❖ Use of Facebook Live allowed members to stream floor discussion, and report to constitu- ents and answer questions directly.

BAD BILLS
❖ Terry McAuliffe has already vetoed some of these, and is expected to veto some others.

❖ Expanded access to concealed weapons; vetoed by Governor. SB1362 would allow anyone with a military ID card to carry concealed weapons; HB2077 would allow guns in emergency shelters and prevents state police or others from prohibiting them for any reason.

❖ Fund ending of Planned Parenthood, vetoed by Governor.

❖ Anti-Sexuality City Law HB 2000 says no locality shall adopt any ordinance, procedure, or policy that restricts the enforcement of federal immigration laws.

❖ As a reality check on the Virginia General Assembly, HB2025 would allow discrimination against LGBT community under guise of religious freedom, and passed 21-19 in the Senate and 57-37 in the House of Delegates.

❖ HJ 545 would allow special committees of the General Assembly to overturn regulations, upsetting separation of powers. Constitu- tionally, it is unconstitutional (first resolution): “Presents that the General Assembly may suspend or nullify any or all portions of any adminis- trative rule or regulation.”

❖ Photo identification required for absentee ballots.

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES
The biggest missed opportunity of the 2017 General Assembly session was the failure to advance any redistricting legislation, which passed in the Senate and died in the House of Delegates. It’s clear that Virginia voters want an end to gerrymandering, but hopes for reform before the next census in 2020 are dimmed.

❖ Mental Health in Jails: $4.5 million was removed from the Governor’s proposed budget that would have paid for desperately needed mental health screening in jails.

❖ Legislation to raise Virginia’s threshold between misdemeanors and felonies from $200 to $500 failed. Virginia’s at-risk for unintended preg- nancy at no cost to Virginia voters.

Thanks to Ken Plum, Scott Surovell, Marcus Simon, Jennifer Boyko, Adam Ebbin and others whose columns and responses helped inform this editorial. We welcome opinions and additions to this list.

——— MARY KIMM
mkmimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Vienna and Oakton Connection
March 1-7, 2017

Faith Notes
Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday at noon.

Passages DivorceCare
If you are experiencing the pain of separation or divorce, the caring community at Vienna Presbyterian Church invites you to attend Passages DivorceCare. This program offers a path toward healing.

The next 15-week DivorceCare series will be held Tuesdays from 6:45 to 9 p.m. beginning on Feb. 21. Vienna Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of Maple Avenue (Rt. 123) and Park Street in Vienna. Cost to cover materials is $20; scholarships available. For more information or to register call 703-938-9050, go to www.viennapers.org, or send an email to Passages@ViennaPers.org.

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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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Vienna & Oakton Connection
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First Baptist Church of Vienna located at 450 Orchard Street, NW Vienna. Sunday services are held at 7:45 and 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., Wednesday Night with the Family service is held at 6 p.m. followed by corporate singing at 7 p.m. Bible studies take place Tuesday’s at noon.

Wesley United Methodist Church located at 711 Spring Street SE, Vienna, Virginia 22180, at the corner of Spring Street and Moore Avenue. 10-10 a.m. fellowship time in the fellow- ship hall, 11 a.m. traditional family worship in sanctuary. If you are seeking a church who encourages: car- ing and supportive fellowship, an active and devoted prayer life and study of scripture, support for local and world missions, an open, responsive aware- ness to the presence and power of God’s Holy Spirit.

Youth Activities at Wesley United Methodist Church Activities are open to all 6th-12th graders. Youth Sunday School meets every Sunday at 10 a.m. in the upper room.

Youth Bible Study will meet every Sunday at 4:30 p.m. off-site. Following bible study we will ride together over to the church for youth group. Email the Youth Ministry Staff for the address. The Anchor meets every Sunday from 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Join us for dinner, games, worship, and diving deeper into the Word.

During the summer, Youth Sunday School meets most Sundays at 9 a.m. in the upper room.

To receive the newsletter or for more information contact youth@wesleyvienna.com

St. Thomas’ Episcopal Church located at 150 Orchard Street, NW Vienna. On Sundays and Thursdays, and during the summer months, St. Thomas’ Episcopal Church offers a path toward healing.

Youth group is open to all 6th-12th graders. Youth youth group meets every Sunday at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Youth group will meet every Sunday at 4:30 p.m. off-site. Following bible study we will ride together over to the church for youth group. Email the Youth Ministry Staff for the address.

The Anchor meets every Sunday from 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Join us for dinner, games, worship, and diving deeper into the Word.

During the summer, Youth Sunday School meets most Sundays at 9 a.m. in the upper room.

To receive the newsletter or for more information contact youth@stthomasvic.org

543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna offers a monthly Healing Exhurist with the Lay- ing on of Hands and Anointing for Healing (first Sunday of the month, 5 p.m. at St. Mary’s Chapel. The Healing Ministry is led by the Rev. Valerie Hayes and Alexandria MacCracken and in- cludes a team of lay healers who have gone through intentional training and formation. Contact the Rev. Valerie Hayes at vhayes@holycorner.com.

Yoga Class with a Christian Fo- cus is held Saturdays, 3-4 p.m. McGill Hall or the Library at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. This group is suitable for those with beginner and/or intermediate yoga experience. Dress comfortably and bring a mat. Feel free to bring a towel, block(s) or strap if you have them. Con- tact the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

Mom’s Group meets second and fourth Thursday of the Month, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. Join the group for coffee and fellowship. The group meets in the

Church of the Holy Comforter

See Faith Notes. Page 7
Residents Testify

From Page 4

at the Planning Commission hearing.
“Good luck enforcing that,” Huffman said.

CURRENTLY, A SPECIAL PERMIT to

teach riding lessons requires a $8,180 ap-

plication fee, just to start the process.

“While evidence is anecdotal, the eques-

trian community has seen a long-term de-

cline in the number of riding programs

available in Fairfax County, as property

owners and horse trainers are concerned

about the consequences of potential zon-

ing violations associated with the board

of more than three horses or with offering any

riding lessons,” according to staff reports.

“This has garnered so much support from

the riding and equestrian community,” said

at-large Planning Commissioner Jancye

Hedentiemi at its public hearing on Jan. 12.

“It has been encouraging to those of us who

love horses here in Fairfax County.”

Beverly Dickerson, of Oakton, is president of

Fairfax for Horses.

“There is a large unmet demand for riding

lessons in Fairfax County as you are hear-

ing. Long waiting lists in the existing stables,

few places to go, and as Natalie just said,

‘Not every child is interested in team

sports,’” Dickerson told the board.

“We need to provide good recreation for

a wide range of children and adults,” said

Dickerson.

Equestrian sports need to be passed down

from other riders, said Lisa Mulville, of

Vienna. “I grew up here in the county and I

have had a horse since I was 14 and the

responsibility it taught me was incredible,”

she said.

“We’re losing a lot of revenue in this

county because as stables and horse folks

leave so do the vets, so do the blacksmiths,

so do the local tack shops,” she said.

Faith Notes

From Page 6

Lillian Croy Room, near the Church Office.
Childcare will be available just across the hall in the
Childcare Center. If you are interested in joining
the group, contact the Church Office at 703-938-
6521 so that we can plan appropriately for
materials and childcare.

St. Francis Episcopal Church. 9220
Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, has Sunday ser-

dices at 7:45, 9 and 11 a.m. with nursery care

provided. In the summer, they offer musical, edu-
cational, outreach and fellowship ministries in
addition to worship services, including an 8 a.m.
worship service without music and a 10 a.m.
worship service with nursery care. 703-759-2082.

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA)
ofers a wide variety of support groups for those
with emotional, social, and physical challenges.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a vari-
ety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on
a weekly basis. 703-941-7000 or
www.havenofnova.org.

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body
and Soul Fitness. Gain balance, energy and
strength at 10 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and
Fridays. Free childcare for registered students.
bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org.

St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church. 1830
Kirby Road, McLean, holds traditional services ev-

every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.
www.stdunstans.net.

Vienna Christian Healing Rooms are open
every Saturday, 1-4 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team
of Christians is available to anyone requesting
prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779
or www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com.

Chesterbrook United Methodist Church
is at 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Worship service is at
11 a.m. 703-356-7100 or
www.chesterbrookUMC.org.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church. 2589 Chain
Bridge Road, Vienna, is holding Sunday evening
worship service in a less formal atmosphere and
more intimate setting to help you get ready for
the week ahead. Sundays, 6 p.m. Communion offered.
No childcare. 703-938-2119 or
www.elcvienna.org.

Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church
holds Centering Prayer Group Fridays, 9:30 a.m.
at 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. The hour begins with
a 20-minute prayer period, followed by a brief read-
ing related to Centering Prayer. E-mail Chris Mason
dere@cox.net or call the church at 703-759-
3509.

Sarah Kirk, owner of the Saddlery in
Great Falls, moved to the county in 1981, and to
Great Falls in 1998. “I had three po-

nies and nowhere to put them.”

“It is disappointing to see small operations
moving, and the people that teach riding
go to Loudoun County and Maryland,”
Kirk said. “We believe passionately in this
sport.”

“EVERY OTHER SPORT, you’re allowed
to do at your home,” said Karanik.

According to Planning Commission doc-

uments, hours of operation would be limited
from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to minimize impact
on surrounding neighbors; and all horses
for riding must be kept on the property and
can’t be transported or ridden to the prop-

erty for lessons. On lots sized between two
and five acres, the maximum amount of
instruction is eight students in one day and
no more than two students can be given
lessons at any given time. On lots five
acres or more, a maximum of four students
can be taught at any given time.

“The amendment would increase the
maximum number of horses or ponies that
can be boarded by right on a property from
three horses on any lot, to up to five horses
on lots containing a minimum of two acres
and less than five acres, and up to eight
horses on lots containing five or more acres.
The maximum number of horses that may
keep, boarded or maintained shall not in-
clude the horses owned by the resident of
the property,” according to planning docu-

ments.

Karanik gave credit to Foust for helping
her navigate the zoning process that pre-
vented home riding.

“What I am trying to fight for is continu-
ing the equestrian sport in the community.
We felt the importance of bringing the sport
to children,” said Karanik.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com
Vienna and McLean affected by 30-year vision for Tysons; more debate Feb. 23.

By Ken Moore

When creating a new city, county planners target a precise number of parks. Vienna and McLean are the most affected by Tysons planning. Tysons needs 20 playing fields, a vision articulated in the 2010 Tysons Comprehensive Plan based on projections through 2050 ranging from demographics, office and residential use, transportation and more.

“If Tysons is to be a place where citizens live, work and play, then it must have adequate athletic fields within its borders,” said Town of Vienna Mayor Laurie A. DiRocco.

The plan calls for one field for every 4.5 million square feet of mixed use development, according to Planning Commission documents.

“The availability of 20 athletic fields will most certainly make Tysons a more desirable location as against its competitors,” said Rob Jackson, co-chair of the Greater Tysons Citizens Coalition and a member of the McLean Citizens Association.

“We have extreme concern about any attempt to weaken the requirement for the landowners to provide 20 full-size athletic fields to allow its residents, children, adolescents and adults to live, work, study and play in Tysons,” Jackson said.

Residents and business owners of Tysons and surrounding jurisdictions testified before the county’s Planning Commission Wednesday, Feb. 8 to respond to current reorganizing of the voluminous Tysons Comprehensive Plan.

Speakers, planners, developers and commissioners debated specifically a new sentence on page 112 of the plan:

“Some of the active recreation facility needs may be accommodated by adding or upgrading facilities at existing or future public school sites or in nearby existing parks surrounding Tysons,” according to proposed edits to the Comprehensive Plan Amendment.

That “stands out significantly as it is more than a mere editorial change,” said Mark Zetts, longtime planning and zoning chair of the McLean Citizens Association, who was recognized by the Planning Commissioners on Feb. 8 for his continuous service to McLean, Tysons and Fairfax County.

“This inserted language is problematic on multiple levels,” said Zetts.

“The Town of Vienna, contiguous to Tysons, currently does not have adequate field space for its residents and youth. We don’t want Tysons population growth to add to the shortage and negatively impact our quality of life,” said DiRocco.

Sally Horn, McLean resident and co-chair of the MCA’s Tysons Liaison Committee, said the “added language would increase the pressure to place athletic fields designed to serve Tysons in the surrounding communities, including McLean, which lack useable, sufficient available land to meet both Tysons needs and the needs of their communities.”

VIENNA AND McLEAN don’t have enough fields for their own use, said Jackson.

“While Tysons is off to a good start, transportation failure is still on the radar screen,” said Jackson.

“While creating a grid of streets for Tysons makes planning for irregular shapes difficult, especially diamond-shaped fields needed for baseball and softball leagues, according to county planners.

Currently, they forecast need for approximately 11 diamond shaped fields and nine rectangular fields. But county planners reported last Wednesday that developers have been more willing to proffer for rectangular fields.

Sol Glasner, interim president and executive director of the Tysons Partnership, said they are not advocating for fewer fields but flexibility in how fields are planned while Tysons takes shape.

“Proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan that limit flexibility will make it more challenging to meet the vision of Tysons that we all share,” said Glasner.

Dranesville Planning Commissioner John Ulfelder asked DiRocco, “What if somebody showed up in Vienna and said, ‘We’re prepared to install turf and put up lights and upgrade your existing diamond fields.’ How would you react?”

“If the county decided to do that, we’d be very happy for that to happen, yes,” said DiRocco. “We are always looking for improving our fields and the use is needed tremendously.”

COUNTRY PLANNERS suggested that some developers could be willing to upgrade softball and baseball fields outside Tysons.

“I know that some have argued that since McLean and Vienna youth sports leagues currently are the predominant users of the fields in Tysons, it would make more sense for Tysons developers to upgrade those fields rather than to build the full complement of required fields in Tysons,” said Horn.

“This argument misses the point,” she said. “We are not planning for 2020 or even 2030; we are planning for the infrastructure required in 2050, when the demographics of Tysons — 200,000 employees and 100,000 residents — will require at least 20 urban fields in Tysons to meet the needs of youth and adults who live and work in Tysons.”

Providence Planning Commission Chair Niedzielski-Eichner scheduled a decision-only hearing on Feb. 23.

Additional topics to be discussed include traffic demand management and transportation, initial development levels and forecasted growth, public facilities and environmental stewardship.

News
Planning 20 Parks: Inside Tysons or Out?

Vienna and McLean affected by 30-year vision for Tysons; more debate Feb. 23.

Get Involved:

Tysons Comprehensive Plan Amendment
- Planning Commission decision only hearing Thursday, Feb. 23, 8:15 p.m.
- Board of Supervisors public hearing Tuesday, March 14, 2017, 4 p.m.
Fairfax County Government Center Building, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Va. 22035

The Tysons vision forecasts an urban center that include 200,000 jobs and 100,000 residents, 75 percent of development within a half-mile walk of four Metro stations, a sustained Tysons with restored streams, a network of public parks, open spaces and trails, and a redesigned transportation system with circular routes, community shuttles, feeder bus service and improved pedestrian and bicycle routes and connections. The Tysons Comprehensive Plan Amendment proposes to update recommendations for the Tysons Urban Center to reconcile the text and maps with studies and planning activities that have been completed since 2010, such as grid and other transportation studies, urban design guidelines and a transportation funding plan.

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See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/tysons/planamendments2013

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Submit Your Letter to the Editor Here
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter

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Beware Early Allergy Season

Experts offer suggestions for preventing and treating allergy symptoms.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

Those experiencing itchy, watery eyes and seemingly endless sneezing know that spring allergy season is getting an early start this year thanks to this season’s mild winter weather.

“Everything is blooming early because of the warm weather,” said Dr. Barbara Mackie, M.D., allergist, of Privia Medical Group in Vienna. “People are spending more time outside because the weather is lovely, but they’re experiencing allergy symptoms.”

One of the keys to surviving allergy season is staying ahead of it. When thermometers are rising above 60 degrees for more than three consecutive days, pollen from plants begins to move through the air. The tree pollen count has reached high concentration levels in the Washington, D.C. region, according to The American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology’s National Allergy Bureau Pollen and Mold Report.

“Most of the time seasonal allergies, whether it is spring or fall, are caused by pollens that are associated with grass, trees and weeds,” said Dr. Victoria A Garrison, M.D. a Student Health Services physician and a professor in the School of Nursing at George Mason University in Fairfax, “In areas that are damp or humid, mold spores can also be a factor. When people have allergies to these substances, the immune system will react and cause symptoms like sneezing, watery, itchy eyes, runny nose, sore or itchy throat, congestion and fatigue.”

“Mild winter temperatures cause plants to pollinate early,” added Maureen Moriarty, DNP assistant professor of Nursing at Marymount University in Arlington. “This problem may be compounded by a rainy spring season, leading to increased mold levels that can drive allergy symptoms in sufferers through fall months.”

“Being prepared can often help slow down symptoms of allergies,” added Kathy Grilliot, director of Clinical Education Respiratory Therapy Program at Northern Virginia Community College’s Medical Education Campus in Springfield.

“Before the season starts, it is a good idea to start taking a nasal steroid. This medication takes a few weeks to gain full effect so starting before the allergens are everywhere can really help to control symptoms. Eyes can also have allergic reactions, so see a specialist to have a good eye drop for allergen control.”

“A mild winter has led to early plant blooming and an early allergy season. The academy recommends beginning medications early. “What I usually tell patients who normally have seasonal allergies is to take their maintenance medications early so they’re covered when allergy season hits,” she said.

“Dogs get spring fever too and want to be outside, but they can bring pollen into the house,” said Mackie. “Wipe off their coats and paws when they come inside.”

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Vienna/Oakton Connection • March 1-7, 2017 • 9
On the morning of Feb. 8, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers showed up across the street from Rising Hope Mission Church on Russell Road in the Mount Vernon area of Alexandria. According to several witnesses, men who had just left the church’s hypothermia shelter for the day were set upon and questioned.

Some were asked if they’d seen any number of illegal immigrant criminals for which the officers were searching. Others, Latinos in the group, were singled out, finger-printed, and some even restrained, forced into vans and driven away witnesses said.

An ICE official would only confirm that two arrests were made at that location on that day.

“Every day, as part of routine targeted enforcement operations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrests criminal aliens and other individuals who are in violation of our nation’s immigration laws,” the official said in a statement.

But on Feb. 17, Kincannon and other religious leaders decided to pay a return visit to ICE, specifically at the field office on Prosperity Avenue in Fairfax. He said they have been trying to find out the names of the men who were allegedly picked up in the vans but haven’t been successful yet.

After reports of ICE officers conducting large surges of searches, “targeted enforcement actions,” for undocumented immigrant criminals that followed executive order from President Donald Trump, this action in Mount Vernon has sparked fear in the community and calls for answers from leaders, according to the religious leaders.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe released a letter Feb. 16 directed to John Kelly, commissioner of CBP to engage immediately with the director of ICE and the commissioner of DHS regarding the memos. He also said he had not been contacted by anyone from ICE or DHS regarding the memos.

McAuliffe writes. “However, the NBC report raises a concern that, unlike previous actions, ICE agents are detaining Virginia residents without cause or specific allegations of criminal activity.”

“That is something we will not stand for,” Kincannon said at the vigil. “That’s our legal cause in why we are opposing what is happening. But there’s a moral cause as well, that goes to the heart of our faith.”

Kincannon said that Jesus Christ taught “how we treat the least of these” is how we treat him.

“So when we detain people without cause, any allegation of criminal activity,” he continued, “it’s the same as detaining Jesus Christ, without cause, any allegation of criminal activity.”

Oscar Ramirez, one of the green card-carrying men who said he was detained and questioned by ICE on Feb. 8 before eventually being released, said fear in the immigrant and Latino community has caused people to stay inside, away from public and government buildings.

“We’ve come too far building relationships with the immigrant population [to] sever ties like this.”

— Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee)

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) said this is a major blow to the public’s relationship with law enforcement — one that Fairfax County Police have been working to repair and bolster.

McKay said many people don’t differentiate among law enforcement — all are “police.” And if residents, undocumented or not, refuse to open the door or run the other way when FCPD comes around looking for help solving crimes, that’s a concern.

“We’ve come too far building relationships with the immigrant population, McKay said, to “sever ties like this.”

McKay cited the recent murder case of 15-year-old Damaris Reyes Rivas, for which FCPD has arrested 10 suspects and issued murder charges against five of them.

“Without that cooperation, we wouldn’t have people under arrest,” McKay said.

FCPD Chief of Police Edwin Roessler said community involvement was definitely part of the case that helped them solve it.

Regarding the ICE activity as a threat to public trust of police, Roessler said “I absolutely have concern.”

He said he’s been hearing the same questions from numerous sources, “challenging me with what boils down to the perception, that we’re out there as immigration police.”

ICE is out there, Roessler said, but the myth that’s developed about FCPD “doing immigration raids in certain parts of the county, it’s not true.”

FCPD does not participate in ICE’s enforcement activity, the chief said. “I need the community to understand the FCPD primary mission is to prevent and fight crime. We’re not going to assist ICE in the service of an administrative matter.”

Two memos from the Department of Homeland Security were recently published giving more detail to the executive orders on immigration and deportation enforcement.

“To maximize participation by state and local jurisdictions in the enforcement of federal immigration law near the southern border,” director Kelly wrote, “I am directing the director of ICE and the commissioner of CBP to engage immediately with all willing and qualified law enforcement jurisdictions that meet all program requirements for the purpose of entering into agreements under 287(g) of the INA.”

An ICE spokesperson said that “ICE will approach local jurisdictions to tell them about the 287g program,” but that ultimately those jurisdictions need to go through an application process to participate.

When asked about the memo, Roessler said first that any change in FCPD operation would need to go through the Board of Supervisors. He also said he had not been contacted by anyone from ICE or DHS regarding the memos.

Then he added: “Regardless of their status, we want people to have great confidence in their police department and trust. We protect and serve you, prevent crime. That’s the role we’ve been doing, and what we intend to do in the future.”


The full text of Gov. McAuliffe’s letter is available here: https://governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/newsarticle?articleId=19347.

On Feb. 17, Rising Hope pastor Keary Kincannon and other religious leaders held a prayer vigil and demonstration at the ICE field office on Prosperity Avenue in Fairfax.
Wildfire’s Chef Enjoys Creativity of His New Job

Meet Wildfire’s new sous chef Jeffrey Katz.

By Alexandra Greeley
The Connection

Seriously ready to tackle just about any cooking challenge or recipe calamity, Wildfire’s new sous chef Jeffrey Katz comes to this Tysons Galleria hot destination, Wildfire. Busy from lunch to the end of dinner service, this third-floor restaurant offers a robust menu of basically American standards, with a dinner-time focus on hefty beef dishes. Who could really turn down a 22-ounce prime rib cut, rubbed with garlic, salt, and coarse-ground black pepper? Fortunately for Wildfire, Katz knows a thing or two about cooking, especially putting out high-end meals. “I have been passionate about cooking since my childhood in New York,” he said, telling how his mother and grandmother were always in the kitchen. “I wanted to be a veterinarian,” he continued. “But I watched my mother and grandmother cook traditional Jewish holiday food for Passover and other events and I was interested in that, too. I was really conflicted because I enjoyed cooking.” To make his decision even more complicated, his family did not live near a farm, but participated in the 4-H Club. Animals such as goats, ducks, and even snakes, became part of the household. “It seemed very rural,” said Katz. “I came to respect all kinds of life. I just didn’t always want to get up at 6 a.m. to feed the chickens.” Consequently, as a junior in high school, Katz took a vocational class in cooking. Then, in his last few years of high school, he attended a culinary vocational school. “I thought I would give it a shot,” he said, “and 30 years later, I am still doing it.” After high school, Katz spent several years working in area kitchens to get some hands-on experience, noting that gaining that work know-how is invaluable for a future culinary career. “You and experiment in new recipes, he became and has remained Katz’s mentor. “Today, he is still my best friend,” Katz said.

In fact, Katz spent time at another high-end restaurant, the New American Bistro in Mamaroneck, N.Y., and took Katz with him. After four years, he gave Katz some invaluable yet tough advice: go out into the world and learn from other chefs, other restaurants. That’s what he did, and ultimately Katz has worked as executive chef and chef all over the Northeast, gaining needed experience and expertise. As a result, Katz said that he loves all kinds of cuisines, and doesn’t specialize in any one. So when a boss says to him, “Jeffrey, make this,” he takes the basic recipe, but gives it his own special twist. “I love the creativity part of my job,” he said, “and I love the camaraderie here at Wildfire.”


THURSDAY/MARCH 2
Caregivers’ Support Group 10-11:30 a.m. at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF) - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Contact Jack Tarr at 703-821-6638 or jarr5@verizon.net.

SATURDAY/MARCH 4
Vienna Recycling Day 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill Street NE. Quarterly Recycling Days help protect the Town’s environment, maintain the green scenery, and offer an outlet for traditionally difficult-to-recycle items. For a complete list of accepted items, visit viennavu.gov/quarterlyrecycling or call 703-255-6380.

TUESDAY/MARCH 7
Application Deadline. The U.S. Small Business Administration is reminding businesses in Virginia that working capital loans are still available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and private nonprofit organizations whose properties were adversely affected by the severe storms and tornadoes on Feb. 24, 2016. Deadline to file is March 7, 2017. http://disaster.sa.gov/ela. Visit www.sba.gov/disaster or email disasterrestitution_service@sba.gov.

SATURDAY/MARCH 11
Social Action Linking Together (SALT) 9:15-11 a.m. at the Virginia International University (VIU), in Conference Room (VD-010), 4401 Village Drive, Fairfax. Legislators will discuss safety net issues in the 2015 General Assembly session. Visit www.VIULife.org or contact John Horejsi at jhorejsi@cox.net or Dr. Bilgin at kbilgin@viu.edu for more.

TUESDAY/MARCH 14
Vienna Oakton Chapter of NARFB 1 p.m at American Legion Post 180, 330 North Center St., Vienna. Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Program will be “My Career in the Federal Government.” For information, call 703-938-5775.

THURSDAY/MARCH 16
Caregivers’ Support Group 10-11:30 a.m. at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF) - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Contact Jack Tarr at 703-821-6638 or jarr5@verizon.net.
Fairfax County 2018 Budgets 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center Community Hall, 1234 Ingsdale Drive, McLean. A conversation on Fairfax County and Fairfax County Public Schools 2018 budgets, with speakers including John Foust, Deonsett District Supervisor and Joe Mondon, CFO, Fairfax County. Visit mclean Citizens.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 29
Public Safety Preparedness Program 7 p.m. at American Legion McLean Post 270, 1355 Hills Road, McLean. Public Safety Preparedness Program, co-sponsored by the Greater McLean Chamber, the McLean Citizens Association, the Great Falls Citizens Association and the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. Visit www.mcleanpost270.org for more.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Shepherd’s Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean continues to have an urgent need for volunteers to help area senior citizens get to and from their medical

Welcome Cards
Brownies in Troop 3173 at Waples Mill Elementary School in Oakton and Hunters Woods Elementary School in Reston are making welcome cards for refugees who will be resettled in northern Virginia by Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, one of the local agencies that resettle hundreds of individuals annually. These Brownies invite residents to make welcome cards and send them to LSS/NCVA, 7401 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043.

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BULLETIN BOARD
To have community events listed in the Connection, visit connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline for submissions is noon on Friday.

THURSDAY/SATURDAY MARCH 2-4
Friends of the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library Quarterly Book Sale. Books and media for all interests and ages, Thursday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Adult bag sale $10/bag; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Kids Bag Sale $10/bag. 7700 Legacy Pkwy Falls Church. Tyssmlibraryfriends@gmail.com; 703-338-3307.

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7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Sunday School: preschool - grade 2 Music: grades 3 - 7
10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 6 Music: 4 years to 2nd grade
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

Nursery care provided at 9:00 a.m. service
The Rev. John C. N. Hall, Rector
www.stannes-reston.org
1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston
VA 20190

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

450 ORCHARD STREET, NW
VIENNA, VA 22180
703-938-8252
email: fcboffice@fbcv.org
www.fbcv.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 7:45 AM & 10:00 AM
CHRISTIAN LEARNING ACADEMY (SUN.) 9:00AM-9:45AM
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM

Calendrier

Send announcements to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. Deadline is Friday at noon for the following week’s paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Sculpture Now Through March 4 at McLean Project For the Arts at Chant Bridge, 1446 Chant Bridge Road, McLean. Presented by Washington Sculptors Group & McLean Project for the Arts and juried by Nancy Sauvage, Exhibitions Director of the McLean Project for the Arts. Visit www.mpaaart.org for more.

Treveron on Stage Various times through March 5 at 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. $20, seniors (65+) $27, students and military $15.

Purchase online at www.1stagetaeons.org or 703-854-1856.

Around the World” Arts Through March 6, various time at Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Members’ paintings Free. Visit www.viennaartsociety.org or call 703-319-9771.

Stuff-a-Bus Food Drive: Through April 15, various times at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1686 Bazin’s on Church St, 111 Church St N.W., Vienna. Enjoy brunch accompanied by the soft jazz sounds of Virginia Music Adventure. Visit www.fcva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/

The Freemantle Store & Museum

First Sunday Jazz Brunch 11-2 p.m. Recurring monthly on the 1st Sunday at Bazin’s on Church 111 Church St N.W., Vienna. Enjoy brunch accompanied by the soft jazz sounds of Virginia Music Adventure. Visit www.fcva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/

The Freeman Store & Museum

Wednesday through Sunday noon-4 p.m. 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. The Freeman Store & Museum is

See Calendar. Page 13

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

ENTERTAINMENT

‘Into the Woods’ at The Madeira School

Y ou never know what to expect when journeying into the woods. Perhaps you will cross paths with a wily wolf, or an innocent boy with his cow. However, you would never expect to find the sublime vocals and entrancing performances of The Madeira School’s cast of “Into the Woods.”

A classic musical by Stephen Sondheim, “Into the Woods” epitomizes the fractured fairy tale. Treasured characters from children’s stories are brought together in one grand spectacle. As the show progresses, their happy endings are forever altered by a maniacal witch and a few old beans.

In a show known for its subplots and distinctive characters, the Madeira cast made sure every story was heard. Cinderella (Keenan Parker) won hearts with her spectacular range and melancholy expressions. She was juxtaposed with her stepfamily, all deliciously evil and remarkably fun to despise. Jack (Zoe Crawley) and Little Red Riding Hood (Katie King) captured the audience’s attention with their youthful and questionable motives in the second act, she discovered a diabolical persona that contrasted perfectly with the elegant post-transformation witch. Although Ngaii maintained her insidious personality and questionable motives in the second act, she developed an entirely new physique as she relished her newfound beauty.

Every member of this cast was female, yet the performances were a fairy tale come true. The breathtaking sets and stellar performances in The Madeira School’s production of “Into The Woods” were a fairy tale come true.

From left are Alex Raposo, Zoe Crawley, and Callie Jacks.
Hunting xylophones ring and sharp shafts of light illuminate a schoolhouse. Though the classroom appears normal, with chalkboard, chalk, blackboards, and chairs, this is not a typical children's story. A young girl kneels holding flowers, and as a disturbing smile contorts her face, an alarming sense of foreboding descends. McLean High School's production of "The Children's Hour." Based on a true story, Lillian Hellman’s "The Children's Hour" is the troubling tale of a girls' boarding school in the 1930s in which one student, Mary Tilford, accuses the heads of school, Karen Wright and Martha Dobie, of inappropriate relations. Mary then deviously spins an elaborate scheme in which to ensnare the two headmistresses, until the rumor ruins their reputations, friendships, and the lives of their loved ones. Premiering at the Maxine Elliot Theatre in New York City on Nov. 20, 1934, "The Children's Hour" received both critical acclaim and disdain because of its controversial material, yet today is a staple in the American drama repertoire. McLean High School's production of this disquieting incident treated such an upsetting tragedy with maturity. Jordan Prather (Martha Dobie) personified the sensible headmistress. Her controlled voice and matured presence treated such an upsetting tragedy with maturity. Jordan Prather (Martha Dobie) personified the sensible headmistress. Her controlled voice and matured presence conveyed the care she had for her students and maintained the overbearing stance, and just as easily to the false, wisdom of age through Lachow’s self-righteous bearing. Joanna Kazmarick’s (Karen Wright) presence accentuated the intensity of the play, comfortable whether she engaged in a heartbreaking exchange with Joey Barth (Dr. Joseph Cardin), who helped ground the show through his rational tone and methodical movements, or a stark moment of silence and penetrating stare that left the audience breathless. Others, such as Emily Lachow (Mrs. Amelia Tilden), Mary’s grandmother, and Julia Luig (Mrs. Lily Mort, Martha’s aunt) accordingly portrayed the alleged wisdom of age through Lachow’s self-righteous bearing and Luig’s dramatic, all-knowing air. In contrast, Rachel Kulp (Mary Tilford) fostered a charged atmosphere through her chilling intensity. Her sulking face fluidly transitioned to low, menacing tones and overbearing stance, and just as easily to the false innocence of a confused child barely able to keep her body and voice from trembling in fear. Amanda Flores (Rosalie Wells) complemented Kulp’s eerie character through her purposefully nervous shuffling and shuddering, while Carenna Slotkoff (Peggy Luig) captured the demeanor of young girls whose enthusiasm turns to horror as their supposed friend backs them into corners and pulls their hair. In fact, the school girls as a whole appeared quite natural as they chattered comfortably and murmured anxiously about upcoming exams and social events. Furthermore, technical aspects were impressive, including dresses of rich fuchsia and a gentle blue juxtaposed with drab brown; crowded bookshelves and neat office space easily changed into an immaculate living room, and then to a barren, jumbled classroom; appropriately period props, from the telephone to the black-and-white portraits; and amber lighting that was both clean and natural. Jarring and distressing, the painful memory of grim expressions and bodies rigid with regret seared into one’s mind by McLean High School’s "The Children's Hour" should serve as a lesson that since words alone can destroy, one should use them wisely.
By KENNETH H. LOURIE

It’s not as if I haven’t written about this date: 2/27, (before my last week, Ken), but as I sit at my desk and stare at the calendar hanging on the wall to my right hand, the date jumps out at me. Not that I approach it with any fear or trepidation, but I do approach it for days, weeks and even months, calculating my past and contemplating my future. Cancer has a way of marking time, and leaving marks — figuratively, and literally.

Mostly I have weathered the cancer storm, eight years and counting/hoping. And as much as I don’t want to define myself as a cancer patient/survivor and live my life waiting for the other shoe to drop, and your feet are so swollen from years of chemotherapy that you’re now forced to wear your sneakers without laces. What I lose in support, I gain in comfort. Shoes I can’t wear any more. The leather soles don’t cushion my feet enough to not fatigue my legs. The shoe can’t drop if I’m not wearing it, right? Hardly. It can drop at any time. Certainly it can drop after my quarterly scans, hearing that tumor and/or fluid growth has recurred or anytime in between when new symptoms appear and persist (for two to three weeks, my oncologist has advised).

The trick is, heck, there is no trick. And as much as I’d like to live this date as any other, the date on which one is diagnosed with non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, and given a “11-month to two-year” prognosis by an oncologist, is a date that cannot be lived normally. February 27, 2009 is a date, to invoke Franklin Delano Roosevelt, that will live in my infamy. February 27, 2009 was a Friday. We had scheduled a mid-morning appointment. My brother, Richard (my one surviving immediate family member), met my wife, Dina and I (I’ve become accustomed to calling us) in the lobby of the HMO and together we took the elevator up to the third floor (can you say somber?) where we were to meet an oncologist — a man whom I had never met or heard of before, to learn exactly what the previous week’s biopsy was malignant, meant.

After the awkward introductions, the oncologist spent the next 10 minutes or so examining me in an adjacent room. Upon completing the physical examination, we all reassembled in the doctor’s office where he proceeded to review/read the results/assessment of the physical examination and the associated diagnostic procedures completed: X-Rays, CT Scan, P.E.T. Scan, and of course, the biopsy. The medical opinions stated it was bad and got worse: stage IV, non small cell lung cancer, a “terminal” disease. In listening to the reports, there seemed to be little doubt as to the diagnosis. And so it was clear to my oncologist how to proceed: chemotherapy infusions to begin as soon as possible; to occur every three weeks for six cycles with face-to-face appointments and CT Scans to follow. And though it wasn’t, and it can’t say it’s been fun, but the more I can laugh and find humor in my less-than-ideal circumstances, the more positive I can be about the negative. A perspective which has already done enough damage on its own.

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

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**Calendar**

Saturday/March 11

Spring Bazaar 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 104 Center St., South, Vienna. The Auxiliary to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department will hold their Spring Bazaar and Craft Show. Free. Call 703-309-3546 or email Dancers1023@aol.com for more.

Essential Oils for Spring, 1 p.m. at the Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Learn about the benefits of essential oils and the many reasons to use them. Adults. Call 703-356-0770 for more.

Effective Communication Workshop 1-3 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Tom Pfeifer, the author of “Write it, Speak it: Writing a Speech They’ll APPLAUD!” presents tools for a more effective communicator and leader. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-938-8405 for more.

Japan Tea Tras 1-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Taste a varied selection of teas and take home a Cherry Blossom Blend tea sampler. $15. Call 703-759-2771 for more.

Gospel Concert 3 p.m. at Historic Pleasant Grove, 8641 Lewispyle Road, McLean. Free. This community event features Voices of Worship community choir singing traditional gospel music and uplifting spirituals in a quaint 1895 church setting, open to all ages. Visit www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org for more.

Sunday/March 12

McLean Newcomers Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. at Nostos, 8100 Boone Blvd., Vienna. Cecilia Clembo, Executive Director of Virginia Egg Council will speak about her 35 years of organizing the White House Egg Roll. To R.S.V.P. for the luncheon, call Gloria Cohan, gloriaohan@gmail.com by March 10. Visit www.mcleannewcomers.org for more.

Winter Traditional Celtic Concerts Shows at 4 and 6 p.m. at The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Celtic musicians performing in a listening room by the fireside. $18/42 children. Visit oldbrogue.com or call 703-759-3309 for more.

Monday/March 13

Lunch N’ Life: Noon at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. Shepherd’s Center of Oakton/Vienna’s Lunch N’ Life event of the year, with “Scandals in the City” Alice Roosevelt Longworth as portrayed by Boundary Line and J.E.B. Stuart’s Most Difficult Event of the Year, with “Scandals in the City” Alice Roosevelt Longworth as portrayed by Chris Lawrence, News Anchor with News4 at 4, NBC4, will act as emcee. Registration is available online. Entry is $125 for a single ticket, or $1,250 for a table of 10. Email r.bohnhardt@i-360.com for more.

Lecture on Italy: 5 p.m. at Dunn’s Riptane, 1148 Walker Road, Great Falls. A discussion on experiences in Italy. Dinner plus $5 per person or $10 per couple to cover Dr. Cicali’s transportation. Call 703-759-4010, for more.

Civil War Historian: 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1204 Old Oakton Rd., McLean. The program will feature noted Civil War historian Jim Lewis who will discuss “The Evolution of the Fairfax/Loudoun County Boundary Line and J.E.B. Stuart’s Most Difficult Achievement During the American Civil War.” The program is free and open to the public. Contact Carole Herrick at 703-356-8223.
Work Group to Examine Predatory Lending

Panel to investigate internet loans, car-title loans and open-end lines of credit.

By Michael Lee Pope  The Connection

The growing chorus of criticism about predatory lending in Virginia may not have prompted lawmakers to start passing laws to crack down on the industry. But it has accomplished one thing, formation of a work group.

“In this town, if you are in the minority party in a chamber that’s two-thirds Republican, you take victories where you can,” said Del. Mark Keam (D-35). “I’d like to think something good can come out of this if we can bring stakeholders together.”

Lawmakers are concerned about several aspects of high-interest loans. One is the bait-and-switch nature of many of the businesses, where customers walk into a car-title business but walk out with an open-end line of credit instead. Another issue is the completely unregulated nature of open-end lines of credit, originally created for department stores but now used by car-title lenders and internet lenders. Regulators don’t track them, and lenders don’t need a license to offer them. Recent years have seen online lenders from around the world offer them with interest rates of up to 5,000 percent.

“If the work group doesn’t deal with the open-end loans, it’ll be a waste of time. You can make rules about the Consumer Finance Act, and then all the internet lenders will just switch to open-end loans and it’ll all just be a waste of time.”

— Jay Speer, executive director, Virginia Poverty Law Center.

Working Groups are a common way for lawmakers to punt, essentially putting off making decisions and outsourcing solutions to a panel that makes recommendations. Sometimes the groups end up making recommendations that are adopted by the General Assembly. Recent years have seen successful working groups that made significant changes to energy policy and worker’s compensation. Many lawmakers view them as an ideal way to consider difficult issues outside of the frenzied pace of the General Assembly sessions.

“There are what I believe to be plus sides to being a part-time legislature, and there are downsides to being a part-time legislature. One of the downsides is you can’t keep working during one session in a short session,” said Del. Peter Farrell (R-56). “Sometimes it takes a year.”

For critics of predatory lending, the chief goal of the working group will be to regulate open-end lines of credit. These have become the tool of choice for car-title lenders and internet lenders to offer unlimited amounts of interest. And lawmakers don’t know the scale of the problem because state regulators don’t track them. That’s a problem that critics say has an easy fix — require a license to offer open-end lines of credit, and make them abide by the same rules as car-title lenders or payday lenders.

“I hope that we see a path forward for all lenders to be licensed,” said Dana Wiggins, who answers the Predatory Lending Hotline at the Virginia Poverty Law Center. “If they’re operating in the state of Virginia, they should all be licensed and they should all have to follow the same rules.”

The Shadowy World of Internet Lending is also in the crosshairs of the work group. Some companies offer loans at interest rates from 600 percent to 5,000 percent. Some of these companies try to get around laws designed to protect consumers by claiming to have affiliations with Indian tribes, allowing them to take advantage of uncertainty surrounding a law from 1918 — long before the World Wide Web revolutionized modern American finance. Last month, Attorney General Mark Herring helped secure a $15 million settlement against a California-based company that was using a fraudulent relationship to a North Dakota tribe to evade Virginia lending laws.

“In the absence of action, the internet becomes a lawless place that plays by different rules than traditional commerce,” said Kevin Mauer, associate director of the Virginia Catholic Conference. “Without protective regulation, the commonwealth’s vulnerable consumers may fall prey to more and more opportunistic lenders.”

No More Psych Beds

Robert Johnson of Woodbridge understands the mental health crisis from a personal perspective. Back in 2011, he was struggling with a serious bout of depression and ended up handcuffed to an emergency room bed for nine hours. That’s because no psychiatric beds were available in Prince William County. So he had to wait for one to be available in Fairfax.

“Think of a horse-drawn carriage, and the nearest hospital is 20 miles away and you’re riding over speed bumps. That’s what I’m going through emotionally. That’s the kind of pain that I’m feeling handcuffed to that bed.”

Johnson presented his story to lawmakers last week and asked them to support a bill introduced by Republican Del. Peter Farrell (R-56). But lobbyists for hospitals opposed the bill because they don’t want lawmakers to change laws requiring hospitals to have certificates of public need, known as COPN. Farrell says he’s frustrated people in need won’t get help because hospitals are concerned about their bottom line.

“I don’t think it has anything to do with psych beds. I don’t think they want anything at all having to do with COPN reform period,” said Farrell. “I don’t think they want anything to do anywhere because they don’t want things to change. They enjoy having their cake and eating it too.”

One silver lining, Farrell says, is that the issue will go to the Deeds Commission, which was set up after Democratic Sen. Creigh Deeds (D-25) was attacked by his son because a psychiatric bed was not available.

Ethics Reform or New Loopholes?

Should lawmakers be allowed to receive unlimited steak dinners from lobbyists at Ruth’s Chris Steakhouse if they are at a meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures? What about a three-martini lunch paid for by coal executives at a meeting of the American Legislative Exchange Council? All of that would be legal under ethics reform adopted by lawmakers this year.

“The bill says that any meal provided for attendance at such a meeting is not reportable,” said state Sen. Adam Ebbin (D-30), the only senator to vote against the ethics package. “I don’t see why we need more loopholes.”

Some say that lawmakers are standing up for ethics reform, literally. One provision in the ethics package would allow lawmakers to receive unlimited and unrepeatable food — if it’s eaten standing up. That’s a provision pushed by Del. Todd Gilbert (R-15), who recounted a personal experience to justify the legislation. A few years ago, he said, he went to a lavish reception where he ate some finger food and drank some soda. Several months later, he got notification that the event was valued at several hundred dollars.

“This just is trying to clean up that whole process so that people don’t get caught in unwary traps while they are standing around eating finger good and having a glass of cola or something.”

The bill also allows the state to redact the home addresses of General Assembly members.

— Michael Lee Pope