

Extreme Politics

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Virginia Delegate Barbara Comstock (R-34) and Fairfax County Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), both of McLean, shared the stage for the first time during a debate-style forum hosted by The Fairfax Chamber of Commerce at Dominion Power in Herndon on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

Full Day Monday Challenges Discussed

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Teen Center Preps for Fall

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Extreme Politics

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Foust, Comstock stake out opposing positions during first debate in hyper-partisan 10th district Congressional race.

Forget first-debate politeness. Republican Barbara Comstock and Democrat John Foust – the candidates vying to replace long-time Congressman Frank Wolf in Virginia’s 10th Congressional district – sustained the hyper-partisan tenor of their campaigns during a debate-style forum hosted by the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce in Herndon last week.

Sharing the stage for the first time since the campaigning began last February, Foust – a Fairfax County Supervisor representing the Dranesville District since 2007 – and Comstock – a Virginia House of Delegates member since 2009 and long-time GOP strategist – tried to paint each other as “extremists” during the 80-minute forum before a roomful of business and political leaders.

BOTH CANDIDATES forcefully staked out their opposing positions on a wide range of issues, including education, job creation, transportation, the national deficit, women’s health and the Obama administration.

“Elections are about choices,” Foust said after his opening remarks. “Voters in the 10th Congressional District will have a very clear choice on November 4th, between my common-sense, problem-solving record, and my opponent’s extreme right wing agenda.”

Foust frequently cited Comstock’s 2012 General Assembly vote backing divisive legislation that would require women to undergo transvaginal ultrasounds before terminating a pregnancy.

“Barbara Comstock has been obsessed with taking away a woman’s right to choose...” Foust said. “If she goes to Washington she will continue to pursue a hyper-partisan agenda and we already have too many in Congress who do that.”

Comstock just as frequently burnished her GOP stripes, repeatedly denouncing President Obama and the “Obama economy.”

“The Obama economy isn’t working,” Comstock said. “... I am the candidate in the race who has always made jobs, innovation, and a healthy economy my top priorities.”

Foust countered with his pro-business record on transportation and education.

Although both candidates said they supported additional attempts to calm traffic congestion in Northern Virginia, Foust noted that he “stood with the Northern Virginia business community” and supported Governor Bob McDonnell’s historic bipartisan transportation bill.

“Barbara Comstock stood with the most extreme Tea Party Republicans in Richmond and opposed it... You can’t want everything and be unwilling to pay for anything.”

COMSTOCK defended her vote against



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Virginia Delegate Barbara Comstock (R-34) and Fairfax County Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), who both represent McLean, shared the stage for the first time during a debate-style forum hosted by The Fairfax Chamber of Commerce at Dominion Power in Herndon on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

Opening Comments

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville)

“You know, I’m often asked why I’m running for Congress... I was born in Johnstown, Pa., born into a working class family. I was the first person in my family to go to college, and the way I was able to do that was by working in the steel mills, working as a laborer on the railroad. When I graduated from college, I wasn’t done. I wanted to get an MBA, I wanted to get a law degree, but I couldn’t afford to go to school some time, so I worked full time for eight years and went to school at night... I learned the value of hard work, and I learned the value of a good education. I’m running for Congress because I want to create opportunities in this country, so more families have the opportunity to live the American Dream the way I have. Unfortunately, the Congress we have now is broken, dysfunctional. Tea Party Republicans in the House are two parties, and they’re not getting the job done. Something has to change. I’ve served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for seven years. We do things differently in Fairfax County. We do them the right way. I’ve been a leader who works with both parties, and the business community, and the residents.

When I go to Congress, my priorities will be to get past the partisanship and work across the aisle, so we can deal with our fiscal challenges and make Washington work again. We need a functioning Congress. We need to create jobs and opportunities by investing in job creators like education and infrastructure, and research and development.”

Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34)

“Today, the real battles we face aren’t about left vs. right. It’s really about the past vs. the future. It’s the status quo vs. moving forward. What I love about the 10th District is the opportunity to work with an incredibly diverse group of talented people in inventing the future. The people who understand that innovation will restore the American Dream that we’ve all lived, lift people out of poverty, ease the burden on the middle class, and get us all on the path to prosperity. These are people that work in our businesses, our government agencies, our hospitals, our law enforcement, our schools, our startups, and more. As your Congresswoman, I will be focused on your future. I will work to break out of this mess in Washington that creates anxiety, uncertainty, and infighting.”

Virginia’s \$6 billion transportation bill, which included \$300 million for the Metro’s Silver Line, saying she opposed the transportation funding package because it was tied to Medicaid expansion.

“If you blow up Medicaid expansion, then we have less money for jobs and roads,” she added.

Foust slammed Comstock on her voting record on education.

“On education, I stand with the Northern Virginia business community and support investments in K-12 education. Barbara Comstock stood with the extreme right-wing Republicans in Richmond and voted to slash \$620 million dollars from support for public education.”

“My opponent dismisses (my) bipartisan bills, and goes so far as to attack me personally, as not having had a real job or knowing about real jobs,” Comstock shot back, referring to a statement Foust made during a speech in Leesburg on Aug. 20 which inflamed Comstock supporters.

Foust’s campaign later clarified the remark, providing a transcript of the full quote from the candidate’s Aug. 20 speech: “She likes to say she’s a job creator ... What she fails to recognize, and I think it’s because - I don’t think she’s ever had a real job – she’s been, in business or any place else, she’s been a partisan operative in Washington for so long.”

Comstock, a Capitol Hill veteran and former top aide to Congressman Frank Wolf, dismissed the “insider” prod, saying during Wednesday’s debate that “those who know a thing or two about real jobs have looked at both of us and endorsed me.” She then highlighted her business endorsements, which include the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Federation of Independent Businesses and the Virginia Realtors Associations.

Foust has earned support from the Human Rights Campaign, the International Association of Firefighters and leading union groups.

While both candidates sparred on many issues, they agreed on one thing: the necessity to work across party lines and break through partisan gridlock in Washington.

Comstock pointed to several bills that she said demonstrated her ability to work across the aisle.

“We passed the first telework bills, the telework bills that now are providing moms and dads with more work-life flexibility, while keeping more cars off the roads. The research and development tax credit we worked on, first passing it, then re-passing it again this year to extend it... The credit that Governor McAuliffe praised as enhancing Virginia’s business climate,” Comstock said.

She said she was also the candidate who worked on bipartisan efforts to get offshore drilling in Virginia.

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE 5

Full Day Monday Challenges Discussed

School Board wants county help with cost.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

The implementation of “full day Mondays” has been anything but easy for area elementary schools.

The challenges that Fairfax County Public Schools faced to bring more hours to elementary students’ school year was addressed by Superintendent Karen Garza and several board members during Thursday’s school board meeting at Jackson Middle School.

Full day Mondays were approved by the board during their June 2 meeting. “I acknowledged publicly that it was a very aggressive timeline,” said Garza.

“Every single elementary student in FCPS benefited from this decision. Every single one.”

— Superintendent Karen Garza

She said it was her job to acknowledge that implementation has gone less than perfectly.

Mondays were originally cut in the early 1970s to give elementary teachers more planning time. When Monday was chopped in half, student recess was also cut. Students had 10 minute recess breaks to make up for lost time in the classroom. With the implementation, students are given 20 minute recess breaks with the additional instruction time.

Garza previously promised that teachers will still have adequate planning time with the implementation.

Board members agreed that she fulfilled that end of the promise.

“The new schedule seems to be working,” said Dranesville District board member Jane Strauss. “You reassured us that it would work, and I believe you’ve done a good job.”

Garza congratulated FCPS teachers and principals for doing the best they could during the several months they had to prepare for the additional hours.

“I worked with every single principal in the division,” she said. “Every single one.”

AUDIENCE MEMBERS clapped and cheered when she stated that, over the course of a student’s elementary school career, a total of 90 days would be gained with the added hours.

Springfield District board member Elizabeth Schultz said she had fought for implementation for more than two years.

“I know there was a lot of trepidation, especially among teachers,” she said. “They can see how well this plan is going to work and are grateful it is finally rolling out.”

Schultz was in the second grade when her family moved to Fairfax County — resulting in her moving to a FCPS elementary school. At the June 2 meeting, she said she remembers not understanding why she only went to school for half a day on Monday. During her time on the school board, she asked administrators how the elementary schools were meeting accreditation standards with the hours missed and was dissatisfied with their answers. Schultz said that schools



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County School Board addressed the challenges elementary schools faced this year implementing full day Mondays.

throughout the district had been inconsistent with tracking whether students were in class for the amount of time required by the state.

“Dr. Garza’s approach was to have a more unified practice across the board,” she said.

According to Schultz, 54 percent of the total student population comprises elemen-

tary students. Earlier during the meeting, Garza stated that 186,000 students were enrolled in the school system this year, making it the 10th largest school district in the country.

“Every single elementary student in FCPS benefited from this decision,” she said during the meeting. “Every single one.”

She elaborated before the closed session that the additional hours allow students in gifted programs to get more time for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) learning and gives students in remedial programs more time to be helped. Rather than helping only one group of students or a specific grade, she said, it benefited all elementary students.

“That’s why we were so passionate about it,” she said.

THE FINANCIAL BURDEN the school system is facing as a result of the implementation is also a concern for board members.

“It was estimated that it could cost \$7 million to implement full day Mondays,” said Schultz.

She and others, including Braddock District board member Megan McLaughlin said the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors should help shoulder the costs.

“It didn’t fall neatly into our budget,” said McLaughlin. “It came after the fact.”

Because it was approved after the 2014-15 school budget was passed, extra funding was requested.

“We’re increasing our services to our students and our families,” she said.

WEEK IN MCLEAN

MCA Announces Fall Events

The Sept. 3 monthly McLean Citizens Association Meeting consisted of a short update on upcoming fall events, according to board President Sally Horn.

“It was a pretty sleepy meeting,” she said. “We held the meeting at the library because McLean Community Center was closed for maintenance.”

Important upcoming events - all at the MCC - include:

❖ Sept. 17: Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Recovery in McLean. 7 pm.

❖ Oct. 9: Meet and Greet with the 8th and 10th Congressional District Candidates. Time to be announced.

❖ Oct. 14: Fairfax Department of Transportation director Tom Biesiadny’s update on buses, sidewalks, roads and Metro. 7:30 p.m.

❖ Oct. 26: Debate between Congressional Districts Candidates John Foust and Barbara Comstock. 3 p.m.

❖ Nov. 20: MCA Centennial Celebration. 7:30 p.m.

❖ Dec. 1: Conversation with Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza. 7 p.m.

Marshall High to Host Model UN Training Conference

The Model United Nations (Model UN) Club at Marshall High School will host its 11th annual My First Model United Nations Training Conference on Saturday, Oct. 18, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The conference is open to students in grades 6-12.

The conference, whose topic is Addressing Industrial Pollution, will include both workshops and a simulated committee session. During the morning sessions, students

will learn how to research effectively, write well-constructed position papers and resolutions, and use Model UN parliamentary procedure in committees. Afternoon sessions will prepare student delegates to participate at future Model UN conferences by giving them the opportunity to role play in a real-life Model UN competition, presided over by experienced college chairs from the University of Virginia International Relations Organization.

Registration is limited to 250 students; the cost is \$40 for each participating school, plus a \$30 fee per student. Registration forms are available online.

NEWS

Candidates Stake Out Opposing Views

FROM PAGE 3

FOUST noted his seven years as chairman of the Fairfax Economic Advisory Commission and on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors where he helped pass a balanced budget every year.

"I've balanced seven budgets in tough economic times by setting priorities and cutting wasteful spending," Foust said.

"As Chairman of the Board's Audit Committee, I've saved tax payers millions of dollars by cutting waste and inefficiency. And as Chairman of the Fairfax County Economic Advisory Commission, I've spent seven years working with dozens of businesses, business and community leaders to make Northern Virginia even more attractive to new and expanding businesses."

Comstock promised to be focused on the future in Washington. "I will work to break out of this mess."

Foust said Washington's partisan gridlock is hurting opportunities for the middle class.

"I want other people to have the opportunities that I was so blessed to have," he said.

Virginia's 10th Congressional District – which straggles from portions of Fairfax County through Loudoun County, Manassas, Manassas Park and



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Republican Barbara Comstock and Democrat John Foust during a debate-style forum hosted by the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce in Herndon last week.

past Winchester - is currently ranked "leans Republican" by the Rothenberg Political Report/Roll Call analysis.

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OPINION

Change Is Coming, Right?

Legislators on changing the culture of cash and gifts in Virginia: Crickets.

With former Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife Maureen facing what could be decades in prison after their convictions for corruption, a reasonable person might reasonably expect that members of the General Assembly would be gearing up to make some big changes.

Under Virginia law, there was no barrier to the McDonnells taking tens of thousands of dollars in gifts from a single donor in search of help.

In addition to the gifts, the tens of thousands of dollars in contributions to campaign funds were not part of the corruption trial, but they were certainly part of seeking influence.

Virginia needs real change, but there is silence from members of the General Assembly on any real change.

It turns out that unlimited contributions and gifts is not good for government, not good for the public, especially not good for elected officials as the recent news demonstrates. It would

be better for most businesses to have limits as well so as not to be subject to the expectation of making huge donations.

The National Conference of State Legislatures www.ncsl.org summarizes how the 50 states regulate contributions: "States commonly place limits on contributions to candidates from various sources, and also on contributions to political action committees (PACs) and political parties.

Just four states — Missouri, Oregon, Utah and Virginia — place no limits on contributions at all. Another seven states — Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Mississippi, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Texas — have minimal contribution limits. These states limit or prohibit contributions by corporations and unions to candidates, but leave contributions from all other sources unlimited. In the remaining 39 states, contributions to candidates from individuals, political parties, PACs, corporations and unions are typically limited or, in the case of corporations and unions, prohibited outright."

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'The Wizard' 114 Years Old

To the Editor:

I enjoyed the article on the Claude Moore Farm bookshop very much ("The Bookshop Worth Exploring," McLean Connection, September 3-9, 2014). It's great to hear of bookshops that are still flourishing. As an avid bibliophile, I must point out that the sentence, "The Bookshop also organizes its products into subthemes like "The Wizard of Oz" to celebrate the book's upcoming 75th anniversary," is not correct. The film was released 75 years ago; the book was released in 1900, which makes it 114 years old.

Also, since when is "The Wizard of Oz" a "product" of the Claude More Colonial Farm Bookshop?

We kvetch because we care,

Liz Milner
Annandale

The Donors (Money) Behind Comstock, Foust

To the Editor:

Please find below some interesting facts about our 10th district candidates. I retrieved this information from Opensecrets.org, a

nonprofit website dedicated to adding transparency to the money behind our candidates.

❖ Barbara Comstock: She is a member of the House of Delegates and is listed as Lobbyist for Comstock Corrello. She is referred to as a revolving door as she has worked as a lobbyist then worked in the government then gone back to lobbying.

(https://www.opensecrets.org/revolving/search_result.php?priv=Comstock)

She has voted to allow concealed guns in bars. She has received campaign funds from the NRA. Link follows:

<https://www.opensecrets.org/races/index.php?cycle=2014&id=VA10>

Below are three of her top contributors.

Elliot Management (New York Hedge Fund that pushed Argentina into bankruptcy)

Carried interest lobby Altria, formerly known as Philip Morris, Largest Cigarette Company in the world (tobacco subsidies legislation)

Koch Industries (Bringing fracking to a neighborhood near you)

❖ John Foust- Fairfax Board of Supervisors for 10th district since 2007, Construction Lawyer previous

Below are three of his top contributors.

Data Networks — Local woman owned IT business

Paul Weiss a large New York law firm with operations in D.C.

American Ass. For Justice, formerly ATLA (They lobby against tort reform)

Please see a more complete list below.

<https://www.opensecrets.org/races/contrib.php?cycle=2014&id=VA10&spec=N>

I have made up my mind on who I will vote for based on past voting record, ethics, and who I want pushing my representative around.

Phil Brown
McLean

Programs To Be Proud Of

To the Editor:

In her letter in the ("Opposing Medicaid Expansion," Connection, August 20 – 26, 2014) Elinor Bartlett made it clear that she strongly opposes Medicaid expansion in Virginia. Fine, but while I strongly support her right to hold and express such a view, I cannot accept her use of irrelevant, unsupported, and factually wrong statements about Social Security and Medicare in support of her position.

As one who has followed Social

In Maryland, individuals can give \$4,000 to any one candidate and \$10,000 total, cumulatively to all candidates in a four-year election cycle. (These limits increase to \$6,000 and \$24,000 in 2015.) In Maryland, corporations and CEOs are not giving \$100,000 and more in an election cycle.

Do we really want to be a state where the rules are so lax, that what barely raises an eyebrow here can send a former governor and his wife to prison for a long time?

The silence is bipartisan. The silence unites NoVa (Northern Virginia) and RoVa (the rest of Virginia). Every incumbent in Virginia thinks they are benefiting from the ability to collect so much cash. They all know that they would not engage in the kind unseemly behavior that was recently on display in the McDonnell trial. They seem to think that the McDonnells were just an aberration.

Having our legislative process, locally and at the state level, awash in cash and gifts from people with business before the legislative bodies is not good for any of us.

It's time for some real limits and some disclosure requirements with teeth.

— MARY KIMM,

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Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION

July, 2014 Top Sales in Great Falls and McLean



1 8109 Spring Hill Farm Drive, McLean — \$3,022,000



2 1068 Silent Ridge Court, McLean — \$2,750,000



4 8429 Brook Road, McLean — \$2,390,000



7 1328 Balls Hill Road, McLean — \$2,175,000



8 608 Utterback Store Road, Great Falls — \$2,135,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 8109 SPRING HILL FARM DR	5	5	3	22102	MCLEAN	\$3,022,000	Detached	0.94	22102	SPRING HILL FARM	07/15/14
2 1068 SILENT RIDGE CT	6	6	2	22102	MCLEAN	\$2,750,000	Detached	1.27	22102	THE RESERVE	07/22/14
3 959 DOMINION RESERVE DR	6	6	3	22102	MCLEAN	\$2,630,000	Detached	0.83	22102	THE RESERVE	07/07/14
4 8429 BROOK RD	6	6	3	22102	MCLEAN	\$2,390,000	Detached	1.04	22102	WOODHAVEN	07/17/14
5 1286 BALLANTRAE FARM DR	6	7	1	22101	MCLEAN	\$2,300,000	Detached	0.92	22101	BALLANTRAE FARMS	07/11/14
6 1023 MILLWOOD RD	5	4	2	22066	GREAT FALLS	\$2,200,000	Detached	2.96	22066	TAYLOR SPENCER	07/30/14
7 1328 BALLS HILL RD	4	3	0	22101	MCLEAN	\$2,175,000	Detached	2.09	22101	ELMWOOD ESTATES	07/02/14
8 608 UTTERBACK STORE RD	6	5	1	22066	GREAT FALLS	\$2,135,000	Detached	2.21	22066	RUNNING BROOK ESTATES	07/07/14
9 7215 FARM MEADOW CT	5	5	1	22101	MCLEAN	\$2,062,500	Detached	0.13	22101	EVANS FARM	07/25/14
10 2108 ROCKINGHAM ST	6	5	1	22101	MCLEAN	\$2,025,000	Detached	0.28	22101	FRANKLIN PARK	07/11/14

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NEWS

Panelists (from left) at the 2014 NVAR Economic Summit: Mitchel Kider, Dr. Michael Frantoni, James Dinegar and David Versal.



PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

‘Recession Ripple Persists’ at Realtors’ Summit

Private sector job growth key to strengthening regional economy, housing demand.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

“There’s no question the primary economic driver of this region has always been Uncle Sam,” said David Versal, senior research associate at the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis. “That said, we’re not Detroit.”

That was a year ago, when Versal addressed members of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors at their economic summit held in George Mason University’s Mason Inn.

At this year’s summit, his past remarks came back to haunt him, if not the whole room. “In 2013, job growth ground to a halt,” he said at the event last Thursday. “July [2013] to July [2014], net was about 20,000 jobs in our region. Who do we come closest to?”

The stunned conference hall full of Realtors, seeing his slide, answered in unison: “Detroit.”

Versal was back again for 2014, along with discussion moderator Kenneth Harney, author of the syndicated column “The Nation’s Housing.”

New panelists included: James Dinegar, president and CEO for the Greater Washington Board of Trade; Dr. Michael Frantoni, chief economist and senior vice president of research and industry technology for the Mortgage Bankers Association, and Mitchel Kider, chairman and managing partner for Weiner Brodsky Kider PC.

THE THEME of this year’s summit was “Housing Hangover: Recession Ripple Persists in 2014: Jobs, Confidence, Mortgages (+ Aspirin) Fuel Recovery.”

Each panelist brought a different perspective to the central concept that no, the recession is not over, growth is slow and home sales are flat; but yes, the recovery is on and as long as home buyers, sellers and Realtors alike keep in front of the economic and regulatory changes taking place, things are looking up. We’re all still here.

Versal echoed his callout from last year, that since 2010 government spending cuts have decimated the Washington D.C. metro area. “We lost over \$11 billion in federal procurement,” he said, referencing the

massive contracting industry, “just in 3 years; \$11 billion that was in our economy in 2010 that is no longer. This is on top of the 20,000 jobs we’ve removed.”

One true gainer in jobs over the same period, he said, has been hospitality — specifically restaurant jobs. However even though those jobs help pad the not-Detroit figure, they don’t exactly help a housing market that’s light on top-end inventory and lacking any semblance of a middle.

“Ask yourselves as Realtors: Are people buying \$6-7-800,000 houses in this region people who work in restaurants? Unless they own the restaurant probably not,” said Versal.

According to Versal, Northern Virginia isn’t creating enough jobs paying in the \$40- to \$70,000 range to stimulate growth in the market’s midsection.

But that’s not all: Another factor — and a continuation from 2013’s remarks — keeping the market from balancing out is the lack of adequate housing construction.

Or rather, construction of homes for purchase. Versal said half of what’s being built is rental property, which doesn’t produce sales and doesn’t help the sagging middle.

But the regional analyst did point out a few bright spots, looking forward. In the next three to four years, Versal predicts, the D.C. metro region will be creating 50-60,000 jobs again, like it was 10 years ago — which should drive demand for housing. However this growth, he stressed, will be borne by the private sector, not the federal government.

James Dinegar of the Greater Washington Board of Trade took that optimism and ran with it, giving a speech that hyped the many “cool factors” of the D.C. metro region.

He cited Forbes magazine recently voting that area “America’s Coolest City.”

He cited things like Bao Bao the infant panda at the National Zoo, Robert Griffin III, Maryland joining the Big Ten major college football conference (and more importantly the Big Ten Network) and capital bike-sharing program that leads the nation in users per capita.

He cited things like numerous top tier universities, the juggernaut of cyber job-creating — NSA at Fort Meade — and being the hospitality capital of the world.

Things that, presumably, should be drawing young, family-oriented and financially stable professionals to the area, or keeping them here.

“You have to get your head around the Big Ten,” Dinegar gave an example. “The BTN reaches 52

SEE PANELISTS, PAGE 13

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Teen Center Preps for Fall

State Fair, King's Dominion trips planned for students.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

Disco lights and music have taken over an abandoned fire station in town.

The McLean Teen Center held their Back-to-School Night on Friday to gear students up for fall - and a host of fall activities.

According to assistant facilitator Aaron Martin, the teen center directors meet with a teen council comprising students from Langley and McLean high schools to come up with new ideas.

"It's a way to give back to the community," said McLean High School sophomore Ashley Reynolds. "I enjoy coming to the firehouse and planning dances and the McLean Block Party."

This year, the dances are opening up to fifth and sixth grade students.

"That should get it a little more crowded in here," said Martin.

For Back-to-School Night, students could either play air hockey,



From left, Erin Schlegel, 12, and Sophie Tedesco, 12, play air hockey at McLean Teen Center's Back-to-School night.

pool or video games in the game room or boogie on the dance floor.

Ashley Reynolds said the council is thinking of hosting a taco or spaghetti night, lock-ins and a Halloween haunted house.

"We're planning new events here, and trying to get things started," she said.

According to Martin, the mem-

bership per teen is \$150 annually, a price he said is less than other after school programs. The program picks students up from Cooper Middle School and Langley High School. They also accept requests for pickups at McLean High School.

Students will head to King's Dominion on Oct. 13 for a Hallow-



Students at the McLean Teen Center dance during the center's Back-to-School night.

PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/ CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

een-based trip and go to the state fair on Oct. 26.

In addition to the out of town trips, however, the teen center also hosts regularly scheduled weekly events.

Monday: Free tutoring services through Georgetown Learning Center, cooking club, art club.

Tuesday: Community Service.

Wednesday: Photography club.

Thursday: Fitness club, Pet Therapy.

Friday: Out-of-town trips.

"We also have zumba classes, yoga and pilates mixed with boxing," said Martin.

Meah Cook, a seventh grade student at Longfellow Middle School, has been in the after school program for two years now. She also participated in the teen center's summer camp.

"I like the counselors," she said. "They're a lot of fun. We go to tons of great places like Hershey Park and King's Dominion."

She said she enjoys learning how to bake and making crafts when she's not going on one of the scheduled trips.

"My sister came here before, too," she said. "She went to the dances. They're pretty fun."

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THE CONNECTION
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CALENDAR

Send announcements to north@connectionnewspapers.com.
Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 11

Great Falls Writer's Group. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The GFWG convenes at the Great Falls Library to explore and discuss the joys and challenges of writing. Free admissions. Call 703-757-8560 for more info.

Fall for the Book Science Talk.

7:30 p.m. The Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Come hear Carl Zimmer and Sam Kean. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

Great Falls Rotary Club. 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road, Great Falls. Weekly meeting and speaker series. If interested in joining, visit <http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org>.

Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30 a.m.-10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists get together for weekly coffee. Drop in!

9/11 Ceremony. 7-8:30 p.m. Great Falls Freedom Memorial (behind Great Falls Library), 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Ceremony to especially remember the six citizens who died on Flight 77. Ceremony open to all.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 12

Old Firehouse Teen Center Friday Field Trips. 3:30-10 p.m. Trip will depart from OFTC, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Double Feature at AMC Tysons. Prices vary based on activity. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

Lynne Cheney presents "James Madison: A Life Reconsidered." 7:30 p.m. The Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

Drop-in Chess. 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Weekly drop-in chess games in the library meeting room. All ages welcome.

Look at the Stars! Open Observatory. 7:30-10:30 pm. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, Great Falls. Friday night viewings of the sky at the observatory park. Visit <http://www.analemma.org> for more information.

Playdate Cafe. 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Toys and play space for children, coffee and conversation for grown-ups.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Silver Line Music and Food Truck Festival. 12-10 p.m. 1800 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Listen to performances from renowned local and national acts and find displays of fine arts and a variety of refreshments to benefit the Spirit of Hope Children's Foundation. Visit <http://tysonspartnership.org/event-calendar/tysons-world-music-festival/>.

McLean Fall Community Flea Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 1420 Beverly Road, McLean (behind the Giant Shopping Center). Almost 60 sellers! www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

Cars & Coffee. 7-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Every Saturday come find an assortment of antique, custom, exotic, sports cars and more! With coffee!

Great Falls Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Great Falls Village, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Bring your recyclable bag and participate in the local movement. Farmers from around the area sell their vegetables,



Check out Vienna's Train Show this Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Vienna Firehouse where trains will be on display and for sale. You can also have your old trains repaired.



Find hidden treasures at McLean Community's fall flea market on Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking garage at 1420 Beverly Road (behind the Giant Shopping Center).

fruits, crepes, drinks and more.

Dance for Everyone. 6:30-11:30 p.m. Colvin Run Community hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Hosted by Ed Cottrell. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, EdCottrell@MACP.org.

The Grandsons. 5-7 p.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Outdoor mixed rock music. Free. 703-288-9505.

McLean Fall Community Flea Market. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. 1420 Beverly Road, McLean. More than 50 sellers participate in the sale, which includes commercial vendors and flea market vendors as well as individuals.

Vienna Train Show. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Vienna Firehouse, 400 Center Street S, Vienna. The show features an operating layout with three engines running simultaneously. Plus, 58 tables of trains for sale. Admission: \$5. Free for children under 12, Scouts in uniform, Military with proper identification.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 14

Concerts at The Alden. 3 p.m. The Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Co-sponsored by The Alden and the Music Friends of the Fairfax County Public Library. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

MONDAY/SEPT. 15

Learn to Draw Cartoons! 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Learn to draw cartoons with artist, Bud Little. Ages 6 and up. Please register for this program.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 16

Colvin Run's Dance for Everyone. 6:30-10 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in weekly dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, EdCottrell@MACP.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 17

Jammin' Juniors Rolie Polie Guacamole. 12:30 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean. Free admission. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

McLean Newcomers Club Kick-Off Luncheon. Maggiano's, 2001 International Drive, McLean. McLean Newcomers Club is a social club to create new friendships, to provide opportunities for socializing and to acquaint members with the community. For more information and a reservation, visit www.McLeanNewcomers.com or call 571-306-0010.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 19

McLean American Association of University Women 45th Annual Used Book Sale. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Open to the public. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

FRIDAY/SEPT 19-SATURDAY/SEPT 20

St. John the Beloved Annual Fall Festival. Friday: 6-10 p.m. Saturday: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. St. John the Beloved, 6420 Linway Terrace, McLean. Enjoy a family-fun day of music, food and movies. Tickets: \$20-\$85. www.stjohn101.org.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**McLean Community Center
Governing Board**

Public Hearing on FY 2016 Budget

(July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016)

**Follows the Finance Committee
Meeting of the Whole**

Monday, Sept. 15, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center

Residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers' list. Copies of the draft budget proposal will be available during the committee meeting and public hearing.

Written comments may be delivered to the Center's address (shown below,) marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to feedback@mcleancenter.org. Written comments must be received prior to the Governing Board's regular September meeting, on Wednesday, September 24 at 7:30 p.m.



The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
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Langley Volleyball Coach Shifflett Reaches 300 Wins

Andrejev's 17 kills lead Saxons over South Lakes.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Susan Shifflett, who founded the Langley volleyball program in 1998, says she reached her ultimate goal when the Saxons won their first state championship in 2013.

While the Langley head coach reached the pinnacle of VHSL volleyball last season, the confidence her players gained from the accomplishment likely carried over to Monday, helping Shifflett reach a career milestone.

Shifflett earned her 300th victory as Langley head coach on Sept. 8, when the Saxons won a home match against South Lakes, 3-1 (26-24, 25-23, 17-25, 25-17). Langley overcame multiple early deficits to take control of the match. South Lakes reached set point in the opener, but Langley responded with five straight points, including a trio of kills by Rachel Andrejev, to pull out a 26-24 win. The Seahawks scored the first six points of the second set and led 18-17, but the Saxons found a way to win.

"I think that's one thing that winning a championship does," Shifflett said. "I think they know they can win, so they don't quit. They don't stop and I'm so proud of them for doing that."

Shifflett's path to 300 victories included trips to the state tournament in 2007, 2009 and 2012, as well.

"It wasn't ever a goal for me," Shifflett said of reaching 300 wins. "Just winning is a goal. We just want to win. Last year was the ultimate for me: winning states."

Then the Langley head coach went into a little more depth and her voice started to crack with emotion.

"It's cool, it's neat and it makes you think back," she said. "I can get emotional about all the kids that got [me] here, and the coaches. I wouldn't be here without the kids and the coaches."

On Monday, Andrejev was one of the "kids" primarily responsible for getting Shifflett win No. 300. The senior outside hitter totaled 17 kills against South Lakes, including the match-winner. With all-state outside hitter Jessica Donaldson suffering a season-ending knee injury against Atlee on Aug. 30, Andrejev is the team's go-to offensive player.

How does Shifflett describe Andrejev?

"Money," the coach said. "Especially with Jess down, she's got to carry the load. She's really stepped up."

Andrejev said she was pleased to help her coach reach a career milestone.

"It feels great, especially after playing with her for four years, to give her that accomplishment," Andrejev said. "I know that she works so hard for us and comes in every day and is always there for us. It's just

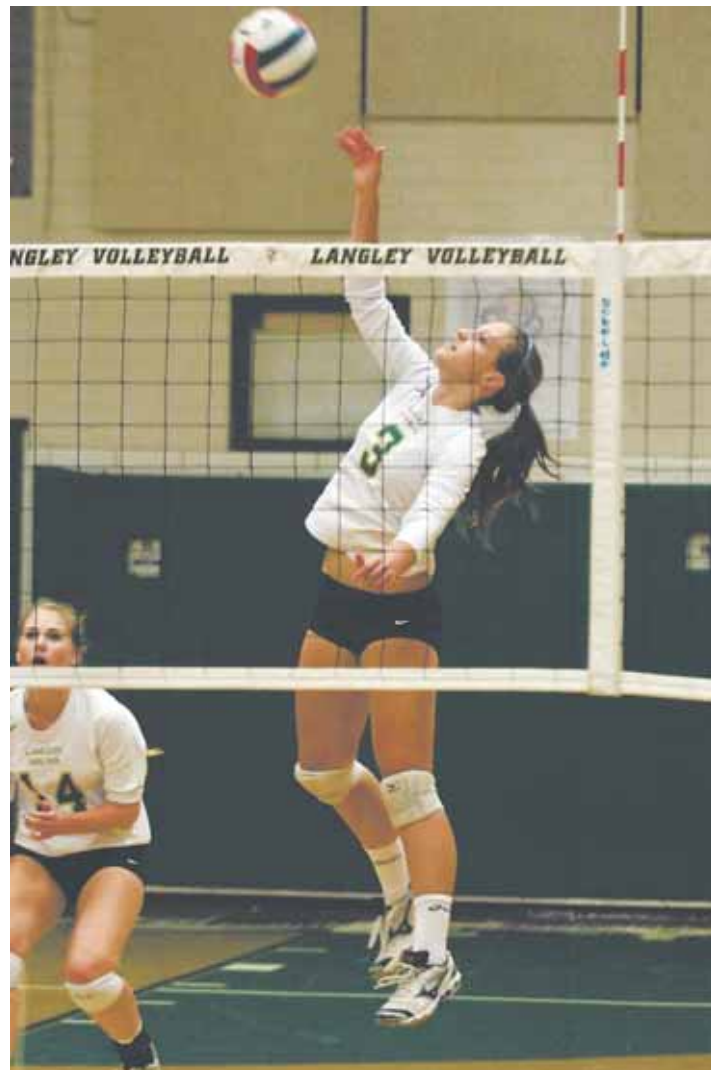


PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Langley volleyball coach Susan Shifflett reached 300 career victories with a 3-1 win against South Lakes on Monday, Sept. 8.

"It wasn't ever a goal for me. Just winning is a goal. We just want to win. Last year was the ultimate for me: winning states."

— Langley volleyball coach Susan Shifflett



Langley outside hitter Rachel Andrejev had 17 kills against South Lakes on Monday.



Langley setter Elena Shklyar tips the ball against South Lakes on Monday.

great to give her that win. She's more of, like, a mom to us. She keeps us really close, makes sure we're doing the right things, just a great coach all-around."

Donaldson, who cheered for her teammates from the bench with a large brace on her left leg, shares similar feelings about Shifflett.

"She's an awesome coach," Donaldson

said. "She's like a mom to us. She loves us like her own kids and she wants us to do well. It's really good being a player under her because she really cares about you and it's not just an aspect of volleyball."

Cheri Hostetler, who is in her eighth season as South Lakes head coach, also shares admiration for Shifflett.

"She's always the coach you want to beat,"

Hostetler said. "She's a great coach. I really look up to her a lot."

Langley improved its 2014 record to 7-1 with Monday's victory. Katie Sissler finished with six kills against South Lakes, and Raya Mufti, Carly Herbert and Elena Shklyar each had five.

The Saxons will travel to face Thomas Jefferson at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 10.

NEWS

From left: Woman's Club President Mildred Thompson; Wounded Warrior program representatives Fred Johnson, Kathleen Martin and Paula Manczuk; Heather Bodin, Operations Director at Claude Moore Colonial Farm; and Jade Leedham, representing Alternative House. A representative of the McLean Volunteer Fire Department was not present.



PHOTO BY LAURA SHERIDAN/WOMAN'S CLUB

McLean Woman's Club Donates \$5,500 to Local Nonprofits

At its monthly meeting on Sept. 2, the Woman's Club of McLean donated a total of \$5,500 to four local nonprofits: \$2,000 to the Wounded Warrior Transitional Housing program at Vinson Hall, \$1,500 to Claude Moore Colonial Farm, and \$1,000 each to Alternative House and the McLean Volunteer Fire Department.

The donations were part of the club's ongoing mission of supporting a variety of local nonprofits and charities with the proceeds of its annual Holiday Homes Tour and other fundraisers.

— LAURA SHERIDAN

Panelists Hopeful, Patient for Housing Market Improvements

FROM PAGE 9

million households. We're not exposed to the Midwest the way we have been in the ACC. We're on radar screens now we haven't ever been on."

According to Dr. Michael Frantoni of the Mortgage Bankers Association, having a greater overall pull would be helpful to attract fresh capital to the nation's capital. The national trend, he said, is decreased mobility: Recent census data shows that aside from family-related moves, people are staying put more than they used to.

"Moving to a better neighborhood? If anything, people are moving to save money. But they're not aspirational movers," he said.

Or maybe they are aspirational movers, but are saving money by living with their parents. That group would be the mercurial, hard to put a finger on, mid-20s to mid-30s bracket referred to as "millennials." And they're a key group, being well

situated with academic and professional experience to fill the \$40-\$70,000 a year private sector jobs Versal said should be driving the regional economy going forward.

However, said Frantoni, "They're different in all kinds of ways. They get married later, have children later, come home later. Everything is later. We don't know why."

A MILLENNIA'S HESITANCY to buy property probably doesn't have much to do with the projected rise in interest rates from 4.3 percent for a 30-year fixed mortgage rate in 2013 up to 5 percent in 2015. But it may have something to do with the fact that student loan debt has ballooned in the last decade from \$200 billion to over \$1 trillion, according to Frantoni.

None of the panelists expects dramatic changes in the next several years. We're off the roller coaster, they all concurred. We're still here.

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Time Sensitive

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



As much as I don't want to be cognizant of date, time and place, relative to February 27, 2009 when Team Lourie first received the stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer diagnosis on yours truly, I am (a terminal diagnosis will do that to you). Moreover, as often as I write about the need to live forward, rather than die backward (if you know what I mean), I still struggle with the application. Not that I want to be preoccupied with it, but every day, every date presents opportunities, shall we say: anniversaries, birthdays, ages I thought I'd never be, appointments, scans, pills; constant reminders I am not in Kansas any more (in fact, I'm in Indiana as I write this column). Unfortunately, out of town doesn't put cancer out of mind. Though it may obfuscate its effect a little bit, I kind of feel like Al Pacino – as Michael Corleone in "Godfather III" (1990) – when frustrated by his attempts to legitimize the family business, he said: "Just when I thought I was out...they pull me back in again." And it's not as if I'm ever very far from my cancer reality anyway. The prospect of getting out (finding a cure) is probably less likely than the Corleone family going legit. Nevertheless, as I'm fond of admitting: it sure beats the alternative. So far, so good. Five and a half years and still counting.

Thankfully, life goes on and still I hope. And beholden to that hope is the recognition of the underlying facts: stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer is, as my oncologist said, "a terminal disease;" he could "treat me but he couldn't cure me." Meaning, at least to me, at that time: that a normal life expectancy had just left the building, especially since the prognosis I received from him was "13 months to two years." Now let me ask you this: how does one bury that statement of presumptive medical fact and go about your business/life as if everything is hunky dory? You don't, and as often and as consistently as I have attempted to bury that lead, the reality is, there are circumstances at nearly every turn, backwards and forwards, up and down, which make it nearly impossible to live as if I'm cancer-free. As much as I'd like to forget and live life as if the world were my oyster and that I had everything to gain and nothing to lose, the truth is, it's much easier said and written than actually done. And just like "Gold Hat" (portrayed by Alfonso Bedoya) didn't "need no stinkin' badges" in the 1948 film "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre," neither do I need any reminders, "stinkin'" or otherwise, that I have cancer.

Most of the time, I can overcome them. Sometimes I can't, though. No one said this cancer experience was going to be easy; in fact a close friend and fellow cancer survivor told me quite the opposite: that this would be the hardest thing I've ever done, and of course, she was 100-percent correct; and I'm reminded of that reality every single day, whether I want to be or not.

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

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
C2 LLC trading as Highline R&R, 2010 Crystal Drive, Suite A and A-1, Arlington, VA 22202-3799. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On; Mixed Beverage (seating capacity 151 seats or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Geoffrey O. Dawson, member NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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ZONES

Zone 1: The Reston Connection
The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection

Zone 2: The Springfield Connection
The Burke Connection
The Fairfax Connection
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection

Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette

Zone 4: Centre View North
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21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

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To have community events listed in the Connection, send to north@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication.

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Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South
Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
Zone 6: The Arlington Connection
The Vienna/Oakton Connection
The McLean Connection
The Great Falls Connection

FRIDAY/ SEPT. 12

English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Practice your English conversation skills in a group. Adults.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Historic Flint Hill Cemetery Tour. 10 a.m. Flint Hill Cemetery at the corner of Chain Bridge Road (Route 123) and Courthouse Road, next to the Church of the Brethren. Local historian Jim Lewis will lead a tour of historic Flint Hill Cemetery in Oakton. He will share interesting aspects of the cemetery, including stories of prominent Vienna residents and some of the 27 Civil War era military veterans, four of them Mosby's Rangers, who are interred there. Sponsored by Historic Vienna, Inc., free and open to the public, no reservations required. For information call 703-938-5187.

Blood Pressure Testing by Vienna Vol. Fire Department. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Fire department staff will use the entry arcade area to offer free blood pressure screenings.

MONDAY/SEPT. 15

MCC Governing Board Work Session and Public Hearing on FY 2016 Budget. 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Open to the public. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

Senior Meet-Up Group. 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls Senior Center morning coffee social.

Spanish Conversation Group. 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Practice Spanish as a foreign language in this casual conversation group.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 16

DivorceCare. 7-9 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St, NE, Vienna. If you are experiencing the pain of separation or divorce, Vienna Presbyterian Church invites you to attend Passages, a 15-week program. Admissions: \$20; scholarships available. Call 703-938-9050, visit <http://www.viennapres.org/> or email Passages@ViennaPres.org for more info.

Improve Your English Skills. 11 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Event is open to adults. Improve your reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. For more information contact the library branch at 703-356-0770.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 11 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Work with a volunteer tutor to learn about using the Internet, setting up an e-mail account, and using basic software. Adults.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 17

English Conversation Group. 1 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Event is open to adults. Practice your English in a conversational setting. For more information contact the library branch at 703-356-0770.

ESL Conversation Group. 2 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Practice English in this casual conversation group.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 2 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Work with a volunteer tutor to learn about using the Internet, setting up an e-mail account, and using basic software. Adults.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

Chapter Meeting Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 227. 7:30 p.m. Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Vienna. Vietnam War veteran, journalist, and author Marc Leepson will discuss latest book, "What So Proudly We Hailed: Francis Scott Key, A Life." Free. Call Len Ignatowski, 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

Community Shredding Event. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. 133 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Gain peace of mind by bringing your outdated personal documents to the on-site shredding service. Hosted by Ameriprise Financial.

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