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'Under the Gun' Presented in Mclean

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HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

by Stev

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About 100 people attended the "Under the Gun" documentary screening and expert panel sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) at the McLean Community Center.

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Innovate! 2016: A Look Into Personalized Medicine

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November 2-8, 2016

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McLean Connection Editor Kemal Kurspahic 703-778-9414 or mcLean@connectionnewspapers.com

News

Dulles Chamber Presents Innovate! 2016

Local experts and elected officials discuss personalized medicine, data flow, analytics, cyber security and their impact on the regional economy.

> By Andrea Worker The Connection

n 2014, at a Biotech conference in California, then new Governor Terry McAuliffe discovered that the Commonwealth of Virginia ranked 46th on the list of states recognized as best places to do biotech business – as he sat on a stage between the governors who represented the first and second spots on that list. "Never again. We are not going to be beat here in Virginia. No excuses!" declared McAuliffe as he delivered the opening remarks at the fifth annual "Innovate!" Conference on Oct. 28.

The event was presented by the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Northern Virginia Technology Council and held at the new Inova Translational Medicine Institute in Falls Church. Titled "Intersections: Healthcare, Informatics and Personalized Medicine," the event featured many of the key players and experts in medicine, research, informatics, cyber security and academia, from both the public and private sectors.

Dr. Keith Crandall, Director, Computational Biology Institute at the George Washington University and the "Innovate! 2016" Chairman made the introductions of McAuliffe and of Congresswoman Barbara Comstock, who also spoke in the opening section that focused on "Federal and State Intersections" with the other disciplines under discussion.

THE GOVERNOR insisted that cooperation among all the stakeholders is essential for the success of each individually and for the state and its citizens as a whole, and the foundation that had to be tended and improved, he said, was in the arena of education. "We need to teach the skill sets that are needed for today's high-tech jobs," he cautioned, or risk losing out to other areas of the country, or other parts of the world. The Governor said that there were some 36k high tech jobs "starting around \$88k" currently vacant around the state. "I need to fill them, or they'll go away," he warned, "but we need an educated workforce" ready to take on these positions.

McAuliffe also reminded the audience that another round of sequestration could be looming on the horizon. Every effort was required by all to champion this region as *the* Biotech, Cyber Security and Informatics hub. The Governor praised the quality and the numbers of Virginia's high tech companies, schools and universities, and its medical centers, but concluded his remarks by stressing the need for tech-centric educational opportunities and the need for



U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) spoke on the government's obligation to reduce obstacles to innovation at the Innovate! 2016 Conference and echoed the Governor's call to reform Virginia's educational system to prepare students for employment in a hightech environment.



A distinguished panel answered questions and discussed the obstacles to collaboration among the biotech, information technologists, medical, research, education and government personnel. From left: Edward Abrahams, Ph.D., Will Fitzhugh, Praduman Jain, Brig. General (ret.) Klaus Schafer, and moderator Dr. Alex Carlisle.

greater collaboration, and less competition among all parties to achieve the common goals.

Congresswoman Comstock echoed much of the Governor's sentiments. "We need a new structure. We need to move at the speed of innovation." She maintained that researchers spend as much as 40 percent of their time on paperwork and that State and Federal governments should commit to finding ways to reduce the redundancies. After a networking break, a panel took questions from moderator Dr. Alex Carlisle, Senior Scientific Advisor for Northrop Grumman's Health IT unit and from the audience and discussed "Opportunities for Industries Big and Small." The panellists shared the realistic obstacles to collaboration among the various invested parties. Concerns about intellectual property were a major stumbling block when trying to get "competitors" to work together. "Don't put



Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe gave the opening address to the attendees of the 2016 Innovate Conference at the Inova Translational Medicine Institute in Falls Church. Skill-specific education and a commitment to high-tech job preparation are essential ingredients for keeping Virginia on a path of growth and economic and personal success, he asserted.

it under the rug," advised Praduman Jain of Vibrant Health. "Discuss what is the motivation for all parties...who wants what outcome and what piece of the pie." William Fitzhugh of 5AM Solutions noted that today's tracking systems were designed to handle more simple data, but that the actual data flow of today has grown exponentially to millions of data points. Despite the challenges, Fitzhugh is optimistic, saying that the need to handle this new information highway presents great opportunities for companies to develop systems with this increased capability and for others to form and grow by developing complementary technologies and services.

The terms "Data Islands and Formats," and "Silos" were used often by all the panellists. Brigadier General (ret.) Klaus Schafer, Chief Medical Officer for CACI International cited the "serious problems" of differing systems between related agencies and organizations like the Veterans Administration and the Department of Defense. Schafer said it was difficult to collaborate, or even function efficiently, when their data systems differ so widely, even within their own network and between regions, but he remains proud of the region and the work being done here. "We could be the Life Sciences Center if we collaborate. There's a hell of a lot we can do here.

Solving these problems for our future growth and welfare will take sustained investment at all levels and a commitment to re-configure the entire system according to

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VOTE TUESDAY, NOV. 8!

CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA COMSTOCK A LIFETIME OF SERVICE IN THE 10TH DISTRICT

For 35 years, Barbara Comstock has lived, worked, raised a family, started a business and served as both Delegate and Congresswoman in the 10th District. Whether it was her work as a senior Justice Department official, a small businesswoman, a Mom at home, a senior aide and counsel in Congress, a Member of the House of Delegates or now as our Congresswoman, Barbara knows the challenges facing the 10th District because she has lived them with us and fought for us to get results on our priorities.

SHE GETS RESULTS

- Advance breakthroughs in 21st century cures for chronic disease such as cancer, Alzheimer's and diabetes.
- A 5 year Transportation Bill, signed into law, which will help relieve traffic congestion, provide more transportation funds, and make Metro safer and more accountable.
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- Increased defense and cyber funding to protect us from terrorism.
- Human Trafficking legislation, signed into law, that cracks down on this growing crime and protects women and children.
- Started two Heroin Task Forces to battle the heroin scourge in our communities and advancing legislation to increase education, treatment and prevention.
- Started the "10th Congressional District Young Women Leadership Program" for junior high and high school young women.

"I ask for your vote on Tuesday, November 8th.

As your Congresswoman, I will continue to work tirelessly to strengthen our national security and protect us from terrorism; advance breakthroughs in 21st century cures for chronic diseases such as cancer, Alzheimer's and diabetes; promote a 21st century economy with more opportunity and higher wage jobs; provide transportation funding and solutions; and fight the growing problem of human trafficking and heroin abuse in our community."

bara Comsta

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News

McLean High Named Crown Award Finalist

School receives one of the highest national honors in scholastic journalism.

By Steve Hibbard The Connection

cLean High School's "The High lander" was named a national Crown Award finalist by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) — one of the highest honors in scholastic journalism across the country for overall excellence.

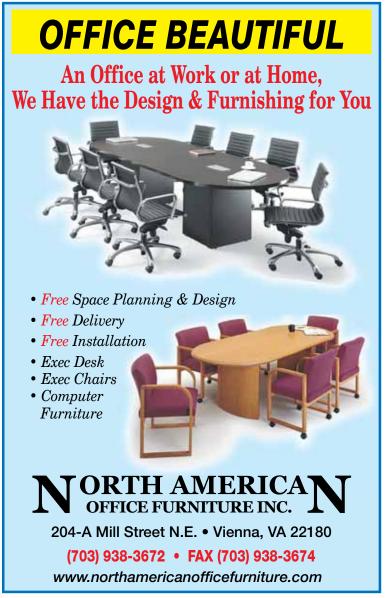
"Members of the newsmagazine staff and I are all very excited about this award," said Lindsay Benedict, who teaches journalism and broadcast journalism at McLean High School. "To be in the running for a Gold or Silver Crown this year shows that my students are continuing to push their limits in terms of design and writing, as well as reporting on issues readers care about."



(Pictured front to back, left to right): Sarah Therriault (holding The Highlander newsmagazine's Gold Crown award), Carlyn Kranking (holding The Clan yearbook's Silver Crown award), Zeerick Malik, Shanzeh Umerani, Young In Seo, Aisha Singh, Caroline Watkins and Graham Gibson show off their awards on the steps of Columbia University's campus on March 17, 2016. Students attended training sessions and workshops led by journalists and advisers on the campus for three days.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT means that "The Highlander" has already been awarded either a Gold or Silver Crown from CSPA and they will find out which one they earned at the CSPA Convention this coming Spring in New York City. The school received Sil

See Crown Finalists, Page 9



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OPINION Vote No Later than Tuesday, Nov. 8

Vote early ("absentee in person") through Saturday, Nov. 5.

ho knows what will happen on Election Day? Voters can avoid the uncertainty of possible traffic gridlock, bad weather or other impediments by voting "absentee-in person." If you work, you qualify to vote absentee because of the possibility you could be commuting and working for 11 hours on Election Day. There are many other reasons voters qualify to vote early in Virginia.

Voters can vote absentee-in person at Fairfax County Government Center, Editorial Conference Room 2/3, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, now through Friday Nov. 4, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Nov. 5 is the last day to absentee vote in-person.

Absentee voting is also available at 10 satellite locations, now through Friday, Nov. 4, 2-8 p.m. and Saturday Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Satellite voting locations:

Providence Community Center - 3001 Vaden Dr., Fairfax

Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria

McLean Governmental Center - 1437 Balls Hill Rd., Community Room, McLean

North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Dr., Community Rooms, Reston

Letters to the Editor

Wolf's Legacy, Record of Her Own

To the Editor:

For nearly 30 years our community benefited from Congressman Frank Wolf's strong representation. Now, we are fortunate to have Congresswoman Barbara Comstock not only carrying on his legacy, but building a strong record of her own. Comstock has proven that she listens to her constituents and protects their interests when she votes.

Comstock is actively engaged in the fight against human trafficking. One of her very first floor speeches in Congress addressed this heinous crime. The cornerstone of that legislative package, The Human Trafficking Prevention, Intervention, and Recovery Act of 2015, passed the House and Senate and was signed by the President.

Congresswoman Comstock is giving voice to those who have no opportunity to speak for themselves. She is compassionate and genuine. We could not have a better leader action on climate. The Sierra Club

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West Springfield Governmental Center -6140 Rolling Road, Springfield

♦ Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale

* Mount Vernon Governmental Center -2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria

Sully Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly

 Lorton Library - 9520 Richmond Hwy., Lorton, Saturdays only.

VOTING ON THE QUESTIONS:

Here are our recommendations: Vote YES for the MEALS TAX. Fairfax County needs to find alternatives to the real estate tax, and in Virginia, there are not many options allowed to localities. This is one of the few alternatives available.

Vote YES for the three Fairfax County Bond Questions: Vote YES for Transportation; vote YES for Parks; Vote Yes for Human Services.

Vote NO on on Question One. This anti-union language is already Virginia law; it doesn't belong in the Virginia Constitution.

For Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, or you face any other challenge to voting at your polling place, don't panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. Ask for a provisional ballot if one is not immediately offered. You will then have until Monday, Nov. 14 to resolve

McLean

the issue and demonstrate your right to vote. After completing the provisional ballot, you

will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of your identification so that your vote can be counted. A voter will have until noon on Monday, Nov. 14, following the election to deliver a copy of identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Monday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted.

Also by noon on Monday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a temporary identification document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.

CORRECTION

Voters who do not present photo ID and vote by provisional ballot have until noon on Monday, Nov. 14 after the election to present their identification. Previous coverage reported that the cutoff was Friday.

> — Mary Kimm KIMM.MARY@GMAIL.COM

Ann-Lewise Shaw Sierra Club Endorses

Bennett

To the Editor:

working for us in Congress.

This election season has seen

very little discussion of climate

change, even though it is an in-

creasingly pressing issue: 2015

was the hottest year in recorded

history worldwide, and 2016 is on

track to be even hotter. Here in

Virginia, we are already experienc-

ing the effects of global warming

in the form of rising sea levels. We

need Congressional action to en-

sure an organized, economical and

equitable transition away from

fossil fuels. Yet the Republican-led

Congress is steeped in denial and

more interested in dismantling the

powers of the Environmental Pro-

tection Agency than in addressing

Comstock has been one of the Re-

publicans standing in the way of

Barbara

climate change.

Representative

has endorsed her challenger, LuAnn Bennett, for Congress as a candidate who understands the threats posed by climate change and is committed to solutions.

The Sierra Club's endorsement decision includes a review of the candidate's environmental platform and answers to the detailed questions we pose. We believe LuAnn Bennett is best qualified to serve the 10th District.

Ivy Main McLean

Meals Tax: A Tool We Have

To the Editor:

As a fiscal conservative, to me it's pretty simple — the meals tax is one of the only tools we have as an alternative to property taxes. It's widely agreed that Virginia counties rely too heavily on property taxes for revenue, forced by state laws barring them from other sources that cities and towns have (such as taxing alcohol or increasing tax on tobacco) and returning to us just 22 cents on every state revenue dollar generated in Fairfax County.

There's a reason why most Virginia counties have adopted a meals tax. It's why the McLean Citizens Association (no shrinking violet on fiscal restraint) and the League of Women Voters are among the many groups that have analyzed it and support it. Every dollar collected this way is better than that dollar coming from real estate taxes.

Adopting it also will show Richmond that we're taking advantage of the one alternative revenue tool already available, bolstering our case in seeking a fairer share of state revenue returned to us.

People should not conflate the meals tax question with spending issues; a "no" vote on this does not promote fiscal restraint, or substitute for citizen vigilance and holding our elected officials accountable on program performance and spending. This referendum is NOT the logical or useful place to register concerns about spending and fiscal restraint. Those matters need to be addressed continually in their own right, via political scrutiny of the budgets and spending and operations.

> William Andrle McLean



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Week in McLean

Buy a Christmas Tree or Wreath and Help Needy Families

McLean Rotary Club and Share, Inc. are partnering on a project to help the needy in the community this holiday season. They are selling freshly-cut Fraser fir trees and wreaths at cost (about half retail price) and they ask that when you pick up your tree and/or wreath, you bring \$35 worth of groceries, grocery gift cards, or a donation for Share. A flyer describing the program and an online order form are at www.foodfortrees.org. Orders must be in by Nov. 15. Tree pickup is Saturday, Dec. 3 from noon to 4 p.m. in the McLean Baptist Church parking lot, 1367 Chain Bridge Road in McLean.

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- Ensuring High-Quality Education by supporting community colleges, reducing student loan debt and expanding universal Pre-K
- Enacting Equal Pay so women get paid the same as men for doing the same work
- Supporting Bipartisan Transportation Solutions to invest in our roads and bridges and improve the safety, management, and oversight of Metro

VOTE FOR LUANN ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH!

Paid for by LuAnn Bennett for Congress

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VOTE NO ON THE MEALS TAX!

It raises the total tax on a wide range of meals, carry-out, and prepared foods to 10%.



IT'S REGRESSIVE AND HURTS THOSE LEAST ABLE TO PAY.

The meals tax hits more than just restaurant meals, it impacts:

Busy families with parents working more than one job.

People on low and fixed incomes.

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It's vague.

It's expensive.

It's written by politicians, for politicians.

On November 8, send the Board of Supervisors a message:

NO to regressive taxes! **NO** to the meals tax!



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Paid for and Authorized by Fairfax Families Against the Food Tax Referendum Committee

News **Crown Finalists**

From Page 5

ver Crowns in 2008 and 2003, and a Gold Crown in March 2016. Some 1,190 publications were entered this year, including yearbooks, newspapers/news magazines and literary magazines. Last year, of the 1,186 publications that were judged, "The Highlander" was one of 76 Gold Crown recipients, and of those, it was one of 16 magazines.

According to the CSPA website: "Crown Awards are the highest recognition given by the CSPA to a student print or digital medium for overall excellence... They consider all aspects of value to the reader or viewer: content, design or presentation, coverage, photography as well as writing and editing."

"My students don't put as much effort as they do into the newsmagazine just for the awards they might win-they do it because they genuinely care about creating a high quality publication that will inform and entertain their readers, said Benedict. "The most rewarding part of the process for the staff is seeing students and teachers throughout the school discussing and enjoying their work when a new issue comes out."

She added: "I am extremely proud of the way my students collaborate to improve each other's work. We consider the journalism staff to be like a family, and like a family, they are always supportive of each other and enthusiastic about working together to

What's your different?

publish the best issue they possibly can every time."

LAST YEAR'S EDITORS-IN-CHIEF were Jake Barnett, Ashwin Dasgupta, Melanie Pincus and Liam Zeya. While three graduated in June, Pincus is continuing on as one of the three editors-in-chief this year. Carlyn Kranking and Ingrid Morse are the other two current editors-in-chief.

John Corvari, who won for his sports story in The Highlander, was one of the sports editors last year. He graduated in June and wrote a story about students who repeat one or more years of high school in order to gain an advantage in sports. Corvari is one of 10 finalists in the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Sports Story of the Year competition—that means he wrote one of the top 10 sports articles in the entire country. His article also received first place in the category of Sports News in the Virginia High School League's Multimedia Contest. Maggie Laird also won for her sports action photo in The Clan yearbook at McLean High.

Last March, several Highlander staff members along with Benedict attended the CSPA spring convention on the Columbia University campus to receive their Crown Award at the closing awards ceremony, as well as to attend scholastic journalism training sessions and workshops. This year, they are planning to attend the NSPA spring convention in Seattle instead, so Benedict is not certain that they will attend the CSPA convention as well.

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McLean Connection & November 2-8, 2016 & 9

News 'Under the Gun' Presented in Mclean

By Steve Hibbard The Connection

bout 100 people attended the "Under the Gun" documentary screening and expert panel sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) on Thursday, Oct. 27, 2016, at the McLean Community Center.

League of Women Voters holds documentary screening and expert panel at McLean Community Center.

The film narrated by Katie Couric examined gun violence prevention in America by focusing on several of the gun tragedies in the U.S., including the mass shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., and the movie

theater in Aurora, Colo., and what co-chair of the League of Women lawmakers are doing to stop the violence. The film was 1 hour, 51 minutes, and debuted at the Sundance Film Festival last summer.

Voters' Firearms Safety Task Force,

the panel discussion after the film

included speakers Matt Bennett,

one of the original founders of

Third Way, a D.C.-based centrist

think tank and advisor to the

Moderated by Ruth Hoffman,



Making Decisions for an Older Adult

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amilies of an aging loved one often reach a point where they know their loved one needs a lifestyle change. Glaring signs of decline-such as poor hygiene, frequent falls or social withdrawal-beg for attention. Memory loss or other dementias can be cause for even greater alarm. Unfortunately, guilt, grief, confusion or overwhelm can leave families feeling stuck when looking for care options, before they ever get started. All the while, the deterioration continues.

Join us for advice, information and reassurance from a housecall physician who specializes in working with homebound older adults and those with complex medical needs; an eldercare industry leader who specializes in helping seniors and their families make ideal

lifestyle decisions; and a colleague who experienced the process with her own family and has helped hundreds of others as they've done the same. You'll learn how to:

- · Understand the main challenges of making transitions
- · Anticipate where transition points are likely to be, and how to incrementally plan for them
- · Realistically assess your resources (including time and money) and seek financial assistance
- · Get "unstuck" when you find yourself immobilized
- · Manage stress effectively and care for the caregiver
- · Identify and implement a "good" decision



Steve Simmons, MD, **DocTalker Family Medicine** Dr. Steve is a physician who makes housecalls to bring medical care to homebound adults.



Jodi Lyons **CEO**, Senior Sherpa Jodi is an eldercare consultant who helps older and special needs adults across the country find care.



Sandy Hook families; and Peter Read, retired U.S. Air Force officer whose daughter Mary Karen Read, age 19, was killed during the Virginia Tech shootings in 2007.

"You hear that this issue is a difficult political issue, but that shouldn't be an excuse for inaction," said Hoffman. "We cannot be complacent...I hope everyone will walk away from this conversation wanting to be part of the conversation. I know there's some middle ground."

AFTER THE FILM SCREEN-ING, questions were presented to

each speaker and some came from audience members. "My daughter Mary was one of 32 students and faculty who were

taken from us in an act of gun violence," said Peter Read. A 2006 graduate of Annandale High School, "Mary was the daughter every father wants to have. She was universally remembered for her smile and she had a special gift for compassion and empathy."

Since the shooting, he said he's gotten to know many of the survivors and victims of gun violence. "Not a day goes by that I don't think of Mary," said Read. "I can't really explain it; it's like there's a hole in the life of our family, in the life of our community that's shaped like her - it never gets filled in."

The mass shooting at Sandy Hook wasn't enough to pass a bill in Congress to change gun legislation, according to Bennett. "There's only been two times in history that major gun legislation has been passed in the United States," he said. (The 1968 Gun Control Act and the 1993 Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act.) "It seems almost impossible to pass federal gun legislation when Democrats aren't in control of Congress."

When asked how people could get more involved in the issue, Read said: "I would say the first step is what I see here — be willing to get involved. Get to know like-minded citizens and learn together what the issue is - how you can impress upon your elected citizens.'

He said since the Virginia Tech tragedy in 2007, he's been visiting with his elected lawmakers across the bridge on Capitol Hill as well as in Richmond.

Bennett added: "If you want to get involved, there's a lot of good groups out there. There's the Brady Group, which had Jim and

> See 'Under the Gun,' Page 11

News



Photos by Steve Hibbard/The Connection The panel discussion included (from left: Peter Read, whose daughter Mary was killed during the Virginia Tech shootings; moderator Ruth Hoffman; and Matt Bennett, co-founder of the Third Way think tank.

'Under the Gun'

From Page 10

Sarah Brady as leaders. (http:// www.bradycampaign.org/) There's the Sandy Hook Promise. (http:// www.sandyhookpromise.org/) All you have to do is sign up online and send an email. It does make a difference."

Bennett said in Washington state, Initiative 594 passed in 2014, which dealt with universal background checks for gun purchases because the state has two Democratic senators and a Democratic governor. And there are only three other states in the U.S. that have ballot initiatives: Maine, Nevada, and California.

To that end, Read added: "Even here in Virginia where we don't have ballot measures, I can't emphasize enough to going to Richmond and making sure our legislators understand that there are people all over the Commonwealth who take this seriously."

"Everywhere you go in Virginia, you will find people concerned with this issue. It's important to not only go to Richmond, but to ask them point blank, 'Do you support universal background checks?" said Read.

A **QUESTION** came from the audience:



Peggy Knight, co-president of League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, said awareness about gun violence has been growing over the past few years.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

"What does it take to allow Virginia to pass legislation to allow gun sellers to sell nothing but smart guns in the state?"

Bennett responded that smart guns make enormous sense. "The guns can only be fired by the person who owns it. There's handprint technology involved," he said. "Some 33 people are murdered with guns every single day in this country."

Read said that he's been laboring in obscurity to get the gun show loophole closed. "There's no checks of any kinds. So we have been pushing hard to mandate that those transactions in a gun show would go through a background check," said Read.

Bennett said that background checks are instant in most cases, and 90 percent of them are conducted in less than two minutes. "So this idea that someone would be inconvenienced is ridiculous," he said.

"Our league is committed to protecting the health and safety of our community by raising awareness of gun violence prevention and discussing and advancing common sense solutions. We strive to promote reasonable and meaningful measures to prevent future gun violence and to save lives," said Peggy Knight, co-president of the Fairfax League.



Ruth Hoffman, co-chair of the League of Women Voters' Firearms Safety Task Force, and panel moderator.



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Speaker: James Simsarian, MD **Neuroloy Center of Fairfax** Location: Mon Ami Gabi 11950 Democracy Drive Reston, VA 20190

Event Code: TR391850 (1346454)

PLEASE RSVP*:

- RelapsingMultipleSclerosisEvents.com
- 1-866-703-6293
- MSRSVP@ahmdirect.com

*Registration is limited to two people per RSVP. Photo ID may be requested at event entrance.

Complimentary parking or valet available. A light meal or snack may be provided.

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McLean Connection * November 2-8, 2016 * 11





Here's What's Happening at MCC

Children's Flea Market Saturday, Nov. 5, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Patron admission is free.

Onstage @ The Alden

The Okee Dokee Brothers

Sunday, Nov. 6 1 and 4 p.m. \$15/\$10 MCC district residents



McLean Antiques Show & Sale

Saturday, Nov. 12, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission: \$10, Admission price is good for both days



Silent Movie with Live Music "Chicago" (1927)

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m. \$12/\$8 MCC district residents

Family Events @ The Old Firehouse **Unruly Theatre Project**

Improv & Comedy Show

Friday, Nov. 18, 7-9 p.m. Free admission

Dallas Children's Theater "Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters" Saturday, Nov. 19, 2 p.m.

\$15/\$10 MCC district residents



12 * McLean Connection * November 2-8, 2016

News Committed to Innovate

From Page 3

panellist Edward Abrahams, Ph.D., president of the Personalized Medicine Coalition.

DEMONSTRATING THE SPIRIT of cooperation that was a key ingredient of the event, Dr. Rebecca Farkas of Medimmune, headquartered in Gaithersburg, made a presentation on how her company is "building a strong local ecosystem. "Our mission is to help this region become a Top 3 Biotech Hub by 2023." Farkas willingly shared Medimmune's blueprint for building this reputation for the area. The company decided not to "wait for someone else or some government agency" to get the ball rolling, and has developed a new logo and regional brand material that they want to "get into the collective conscious." They are "meeting their neighbors in their own backyard" to lead the way to their goal.

For those in the audience who were still awaiting a deeper dive into the "personalized health" topic that was part of the event's title, final speakers James McClain, Acting Chief Technology Officer for the National Institutes of Health Precisions Medicine Initiative, and Dr. John Niederhuber, CEO of host Inova Translational Medicine Institute did not disappoint. McClain went into significant detail on the NIH's "All of Us" Research Program which will grow to capture enormous amounts of data on one million volunteer participants for years to come. The project will not focus on a particular disease, and by allowing easier access to the data, will provide resources for researchers, participants, and citizen-sci-

entists on a variety of conditions. Precision, personalized medicine is the next great frontier according to McClain and his colleagues. "Imprecise medicine costs everyone time, money and health."

Niederhuber spoke to the fact that medicine and the treatment strategies of today generally begin at "acute" – when the patient is already ill. "And we've been treating for the 'average' since we began," while each person is a unique entity. Personalized medicine, based on an individual's DNA, risk factors, environment, behavioural choices and other personspecific factors makes prevention the goal, and customized and more effective treatment the new norm when prevention is not possible.

Neatly tying the topics and the considerations of the day's events into a closing bundle, Niederhuber reiterated that personalized healthcare will require a collaborating team of experts, who were equally expert at being a team. Doctors, patients, researchers, information technology and cyber security experts, engineers, academics, students, and government at all levels will need to contribute to make personalized care a reality and to reap its benefits in our lives and in our region's wellbeing and continued growth.

And as for where the Commonwealth now ranks on biotech matters? Governor McAuliffe says we are making great strides. To prove his assertion, he was pleased to tell the audience that in June of this year, at the 2016 Bio International Convention in California, he received the 2016 Governor of the Year award in recognition of leadership and commitment to strengthening the biosciences industry within Virginia. "And we are just starting to put our foot on the gas."

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Sponsored by the American University School of Education, Teaching and Health For more information, please contact Bekah Atkinson at exceptionalschoolsfair@gmail.com

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

- McLean Farmers Market. 8 a.m.noon. Fridays from May 6-Nov. 18. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The market provides area residents an opportunity to purchase locally grown or produced products. fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ farmersmarkets
- McLean Project for the Arts Exhibition 10 - 5 p.m. Sept. 15 through Nov. 5, 1234 Ingleside Avenue McLean. MPA is opening three new exhibitions open between the above dates. Cost: Free. mpaart.org/exhibitions/ Contact:
- Rachel Ripps rripps@mpaart.org Cheerleaders for Charity Fridays 5:45 - 6:30 p.m. Sept. 16 - Dec. 9 No lesson on 11/11, 11/25 & 12/2. McLean Community Center 1234 Ingleside Avenue. Introduces students to cheers, motion techniques, jumps, and more. Come build flexibility, physical conditioning and self-esteem. Cheerleaders for Charity performs at a charity event each semester. This class requires a cheer uniform fee of \$70. Instructor: Miss Raven, USA Gymnastics
- Certified Instructor. mcleancenter.org **Aerobic Dance Workout Mondays** 9:15 - 10:10 a.m. Sept. 19 through Dec. 12 No lesson on 10/10. McLean Community Center 1234 Ingleside Avenue. Choreographed routines provide heart-healthy benefits, while sculpting and mat work offer strengthening and stretching. Please bring aerobic shoes, light weights, tubing and a mat. Instructor: BodyMoves Fitness, LLC. Cost: \$168/ \$144 MCC district residents. mcleancenter org
- mcleancenter.org **Zumba Mondays** 10 - 11 a.m. Sept. 19 - Dec. 12 No lesson on 10/10 and 10/31. Old Firehouse Teen Center (OFTC), located at 1440 Old Chain Bridge Road. A great cardio workout, set to Latin music, and targets the whole body. Instructor: Joy of Dance Staff. \$172/\$143 MCC district residents. mcleancenter.org
- Weekly Storytime. Wednesday and Saturday. 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.
- Tai Chi Beginners' Practice. Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weekly Tai Chi practice. Group has met for over 20 years. Free. FreeTaiChi.org 703-759-9141.

SATURDAY/NOV. 5

- Stop Hunger Now Meal Packaging Event 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Redeemer Lutheran Church 1545 Chain Bridge Rd McLean. To donate to Stop Hunger Now McLean or to register to volunteer for the November 5th Meal Packing Event go to http:// events.stophungernow.org/ McLeanRotary2016
- Children's Flea Market 11- 1 p.m. McLean Center 1234 Ingleside Avenue. There will be bargain prices at the Children's Flea Market. Children's toys, clothes, games and other items will be sold by those who know them best...the kids. Help support our local youths' entrepreneurial venture. Admission: free. www.mcleancenter.org

SUNDAY/NOV. 6

- The Okee Dokee Brothers at The Alden 1 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Grammy Award-winning Folk & Roots Music for Families. Justin Lansing and Joe Mailander
- www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Santa makes an appearance in McLean's seventh annual WinterFest parade on Dec. 6, 2015. This year's parade will be held on Sunday, Dec. 4 beginning at 2:45 p.m. along the Chain Bridge Road. www.mcleanvfd.org. Registration to be in the parade is open now at www.mcleanwinterfest.org, benefitting Share of McLean.

Plan Ahead McLean

SUNDAY/NOV. 20

The Washington Symphonic Brass. As a Thanksgiving appetizer, the area's premier brass ensemble offers a cornucopia of music from the cultures that created America. 4 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, Tickets are

\$30 and may be purchased at the door or online at http:// www.amadeusconcerts.com. Students 17 and under and active military are admitted free of charge. A pre-concert lecture by Music Director A. Scott Wood will begin at 3:15 p.m., 45 minutes prior to the start of the concert. A reception will follow the concert, a twhich attendees may meet and chat with the performers and fellow music lovers.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 25-27 Thanksgiving Art and Craft

Show presented by The Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild (NVHG) at the recently renovated Spring Hill RECenter, 1239 Spring Hill Rd., McLean. The show will feature the original handmade craft and artwork of approximately 80 juried artists and artisans offering original jewelry, woodworking, photography, painting, fiber art, pottery, fused and stained glass, and much more. Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults (free for children 12 and under) and includes free return and free

have been exploring the outdoors together since they were kids, and have translated these adventures into song. Cost: \$15/\$10 MCC tax district

- residents. mcleancenter.org All Saints Sunday at 5:30 p.m. St. John's Episcopal Church located one mile east of Beltway Exit 44, at 6715 Georgetown Pike. Requiem in D Minor will be offered at St. John's Episcopal Church The St. John's Choir will be joined by choristers from St. Dunstan's Church and will be accompanied by three trombones, a french horn, and an organ. 703-356-4902
- www.stjohnsmclean.org. **3rd annual McLean Interfaith Choral Concert** 7 p.m. at Temple Rodef Shalom 2100 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church. The concert will feature choirs from local faith

parking. For more information, visit www.nvhg.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/ DEC. 2-4 McLean Holiday Crafts Show. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. This highly regarded, juried show features fiber arts, wood, ceramics, pottery, jewelry, glass, holiday decor, fashion, items for children, gourmet foods, paper art, photography, sculpture, paintings and more. Cost: Adults \$5, children free. Visit http://

ss, children free. visit http:// www.mcleancenter.org/.

McLean WinterFest parade & celebration 2016 Begins at 2:45 p.m. on Old Chain Bridge Road The star of the parade, Santa, will be riding on top of the McLean Volunteer Fire Department's antique fire engine. www.mcleanvfd.org REGISTRATION for WinterFest OPEN

REGISTRATION for WinterFest OPEN NOW. www.mcleanwinterfest.org

SUNDAY/DEC. 18

McLean Symphony Family Holiday Concert. 3 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. Features Antonio Vivaldi's Winter from "The Seasons" and highlights from Gian-Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Admission: \$25/adults, \$20/ seniors, \$15/students.

communities. Admission: free. Just bring Thanksgiving food items for the food pantry.

TUESDAY/NOV. 8, 2016

Election Day. General election. sbe.virginia.gov/ and fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/ upcoming.htm

FRIDAY/NOV. 11

Everything Christmas Sale Preview Sale: 4 - 7 p.m. Main Sale is 9 a.m.noon on Saturday. At The First Baptist Church of Herndon 681 Elden St. There will be holiday decorations and a variety of gift options. The proceeds benefit The Closet of the

See Calendar, Page 14





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ADDITIONS | BATHS | CONDOS | INTERIORS | KITCHENS



CALENDAR

From Page 13

Greater Herndon Area, which supports the Herndon-Reston community through grants to local nonprofits and college scholarships to local students.

SATURDAY/NOV. 12

- Everything Christmas Sale 9 a.m.noon At The First Baptist Church of Herndon 681 Elden St. There will be holiday decorations and a variety of gift options. The proceeds benefit The Closet of the Greater Herndon Area, which supports the Herndon-Reston community through grants to local nonprofits and college scholarships to local students. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department
- Fall Bazaar and Craft Show 10 -4 p.m. held in the Flame Room at the fire department, located at 400 Center Street, South. The craft show features crafts and home based businesses. Admission: Free. Proceeds from the rental of the table spaces and raffles benefit the fire department in their effort to raise funds for lifesaving fire and
- rescue equipment. To reserve a space call Carol at 703-309-3468 or email Dancers1023@aol.com
- Model Trains and Thomas Open House. 1-5 p.m. Historic Vienna Train Station, 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends. layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. Free. nvmr.org. 703-938-5157

Ellen B. Braaten, PhD Processing Speed, Learning and the Brain

Director, Learning and Emotional Assistance Program at Massachusetts General Hospital

Daniel S. Pine, MD

Anxiety and the Impact on Learning Chief, Emotion and Development Branch Chief, Section on Development and Affective Neuroscience National Institute of Mental Health Intramural Research Program

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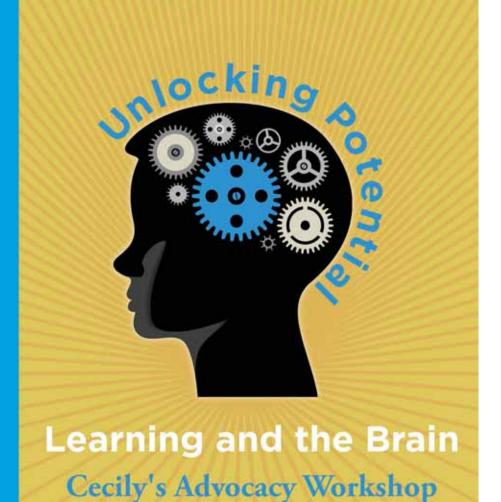
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Wellbeing

Managing Holiday Weight Gain

Advanced planning is key to keeping off pounds.

By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

oliday weight gain between Halloween and New Year's Eve is not only common, a new study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found the issue to be global. Researchers tracked the weight of nearly 3,000 people in the United States, Germany and Japan, and found that every single person studied gained weight during the period of time from October to January.

"Some people ... just give up on [weight management] during the holiday season. With Halloween candy, Thanksgiving and then Christmas, I think some people say, 'I'm just going to deal with it in the New Year," said Domenica M. Rubino, M.D., of the Washington Center for Weight Management and Research in Arlington. "It's easy to get derailed that way. It's better to say, 'How am I going to manage it?

What different ways can I celebrate?"

In fact, Rubino advises patients to consider starting a weight-management program before the holiday season. "It gives them a little extra

structure during the holidays," she said.

There are a few, simple ways to combat those holiday pounds today. "From a nutrition perspective, start thinking about it now," said Dietician Lauren Trocchio. "Know that you'll be at a party or a dinner and there will be a lot of food accessible to you and have a plan."

Avoid arriving at a party on an empty stomach. "Keep up with a routine so you're not too hungry," said Psychotherapist Raquel Willerman. You will have a better chance of making a wise food choice if you're not starving."

Also, be aware of what food traditions may be most important or memorable. "For some people, it doesn't feel like it's the holidays if we don't have sweet potatoes with marshmallows on top or mashed potatoes with gravy, even if those food choices are a detriment to their health," said Rubino.

Therefore, watching alcohol consumption and practicing portion control rather than forgoing



Photo by Marilyn Campbell Develop a plan now to combat holiday weight gain.

"Some people ... just give up on [weight management] during the holiday season. ... Some people say, 'I'm just going to deal with it in the New Year.' It's easy to get derailed that way."

tempting foods altogether are among Trocchio's recommendations.

"If you're going to have holiday cocktails, your

inhibitions might be lower, so you can try limiting your cocktails and alternating them with seltzer," said Trocchio. "Rather than substituting fat free versions of food that you want, practice portion control."

Caring for one's emotional well-being can mitigate the risk of over eating as well. "Know ahead of time that a lot of things will be overwhelming," said Willerman. "There will be an increased number of family members in close proximity, there could be traveling, the amount of food, there are a lot of overwhelming things happening at once."

Such mindfulness practices can help people avoid emotional eating traps. "Going home can be stressful during the holidays," said Rubino. "It can be a trigger to use food to help calm and cope."

To manage feelings of anxiety or stress in such situations, Willerman recommends diaphragmatic breathing — also known as belly breathing or deep breathing. "Take 10 breaths and push your stomach out like a balloon, she said. "It forces a kind

— Domenica M. Rubino, M.D.

of relaxation response to help you not feel overwhelmed. When people get overwhelmed, you become more of an emotional thinker and it's more difficult to think through and activate the plan."

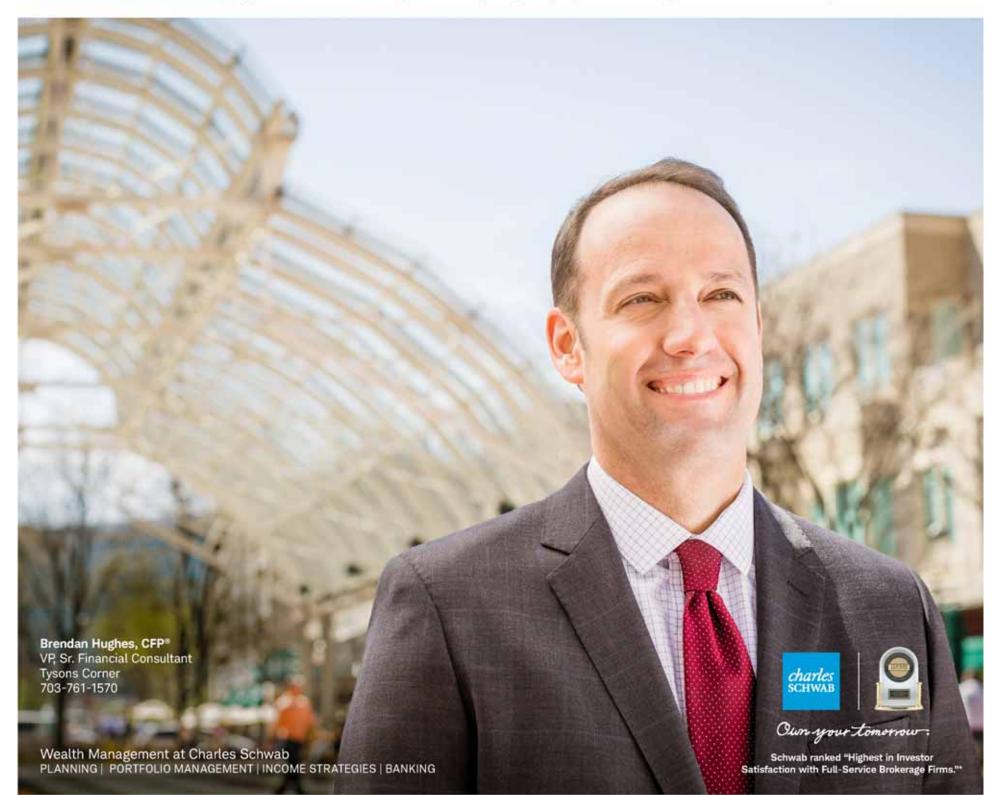
In addition to a dietary plan, an exercise plan is critical, too. "Ask yourself, 'What am I going to do when the weather gets colder?' said Rubino. "Planning is most important going into the season. You need winter transition exercises."

Among the activities that Rubino recommends is walking at an indoor location like a museum or shopping mall. "It is harder when it gets colder and darker, but the idea is to get people moving in a way that builds it into their day-to-day life, like taking the stairs," she said. "It should be a sustainable change like brushing your teeth, so that it feels really weird if you don't do it.

"You can get the whole family involved with an activity like dancing with a Wii. You can start some kind of tradition with an activity that gets people outside." Looking for a Financial Consultant who's into accountability?

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Not a Week In the Knees

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

This is an easy week. No 24-hour urine collection on Tuesday. No pre-chemotherapy lab work on Wednesday. No stress on Thursday waiting for the lab results (to determine if I go in for chemotherapy on Friday). No chemotherapy infusion on Friday. No subsequent side effects: fatigue, general discomfort, eating challenges, etc., for the following Saturday to 10days-later-Monday. No CT Scan. No P.E.T. Scan. No M.R.I. of the brain and/or liver. No anxiety concerning the results, and no follow-up appointment with the oncologist to assess the damage/discuss the results from all of the above. And most importantly, no strategy session (with my oncologist) to consider the treatment options because things have changed for the worse, which at least for this quarterly moment in time, they have not! For a cancer patient undergoing treatment for an incurable disease, this week is as good as it gets.

Given my chemotherapy infusion intervals: alternating between four and five weeks; my CT Scan intervals: occurring quarterly; my P.E.T. Scan and M.R.I. intervals: every six months and not every infusion/scan is on a similar day/date schedule, I probably experience the kind of relative calm I described in the opening paragraph, one to two weeks out of every four or five weeks (depending on my infusion schedule) per quarter. Every third month, this 'relative calm' is interrupted by my recurring scans and M.R.I.s. To try and summarize, I would say there's probably three to five of these one-totwo-week intervals over the course of six months when I can semi inhale and breathe normally (lung cancer-related issues notwithstanding). Hey, I'm not complaining; it's a living and one I'm incredibly lucky to still have, nearly eight years post diagnosis. I'm just saying. And though I'm generally not in the

And though I'm generally not in the chicken-counting business (nor am I in the collecting my eggs-in-one-basket business, either), I am happy take my life one day at a time, and count myself fortunate to do so, never presuming any facts not in evidence. Nor do I expect any guarantees or clarification concerning my present/future treatment and/or any side effects, challenges, compromises, relating to yours truly having cancer. As Linda Hunt as Stella, a k a "The Midnight Star" (she "always shines at night") said to Kevin Kline — as Paden, in a bar scene from the movie "Si-Iverado:" "The world is what you make of it friend. If it doesn't fit, you make alterations."

As a cancer patient, 'alterations' is exactly what you make. Every day. Every night. Every lab. Every infusion. Every scan. Every appointment with your oncologist. Change, as has often been said, is the one constant. To expect consistency or predictability — or dare I say, normalcy — in your cancer life, is out of the question and beyond the realm of possibility. Thinking otherwise is creating additional stress regarding an outcome/eventuality which not only is beyond your control, but totally unrealistic, too.

Cancer is like a roller coaster, but one without any tracks; and one that rarely returns to the station to allow you to get off and get your bearings. For cancer patients, the trip is nonstop, with few opportunities to change direction. All you can do is buckle up and enjoy the ride, sort of. Much easier said than done, I admit.

Nevertheless, viewing one's circumstances without any hope or humor is hardly the positive attitude worth embracing. There's good, as this column seeks to highlight; and more than enough bad, as any cancer patient/others impacted by this terrible disease knows, to go around. As much as I wish it had gone around somewhere else, the reality is, it hasn't and it looks as if it's here to stay; just like me (from my pen to God's eyes).

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



♦ McLean Connection ♦ November 2-8, 2016

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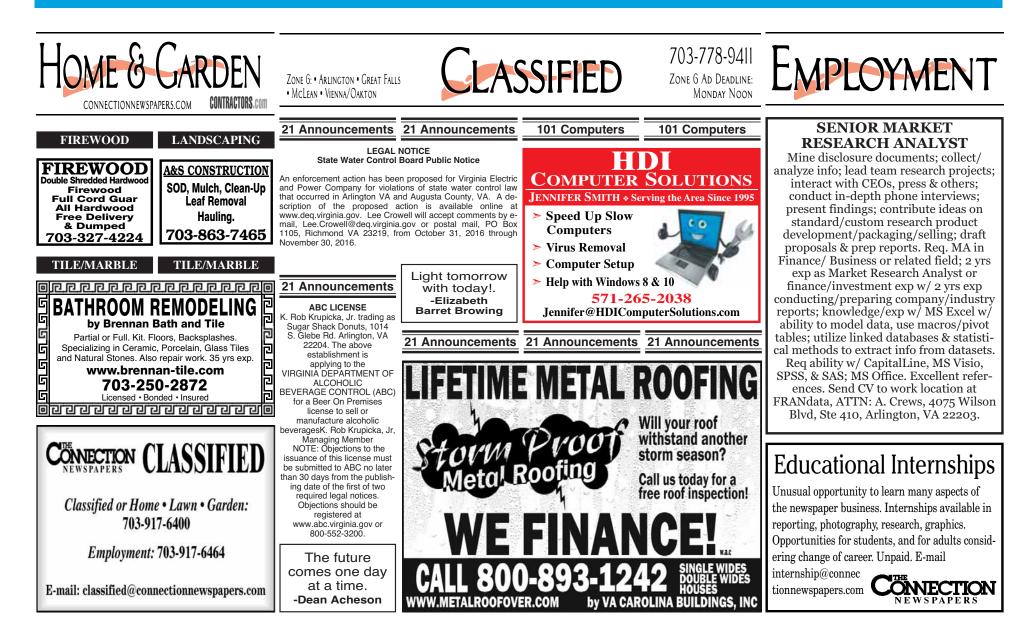
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eat-in dining space, walkout to the patio. Huge fenced-in yard. The home is filled with bright, natural daylight from the fabulous floor-to-ceiling windows. Owner's suite includes a spacious room size, balcony overlooking the yard and an updated luxury bath.

1821 Westmoreland St., McLean \$1,299,000 Magnificent Stanley Martin Arts & Crafts custom home featuring 5BR/4.5BA on a lovely lot. Quality finishes throughout with an open and flowing floorplan. Gourmet kitchen with island space, bar seating, eat-in dining area and separate formal dining room. Family room with perfect ambience and walkout to slate patio and huge backyard. Master suite with sitting area and luxury spa bath. 4 BR on upper level. Kent Gardens, Longfellow and McLean schools!

Fulton Ave., Falls Church City \$1,010,000 Perfection within this 5BR/3BA home in Falls Church City! Updated kitchen with granite counters, upgraded appliances, plenty of counter and cabinet space. Huge eat-in dining space + separate formal dining room. Screened-in porch is the entertaining focal point of the home! Built in 2012, features gorgeous skylights and overlooking the huge level yard and pool area. Main level bedroom or office/den. Upper level features 2 bedrooms; LL huge rec room and 2 beds + attached 1 car garage and storage space





704 Live Oak Drive McLean 22101 \$1,495,000



1605 Maddux Lane McLean 22101 \$1,599,000



20 & McLean Connection & November 2-8, 2016