McLean Connection

WELLBEING PAGE 11

Actor Doug Wilder received the Robert Prosky Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play from the Helen Hayes Awards for his performance as Francis Henshall, a failed street musician, in 1st Stage Theater's production of "One Man, Two Guvnors" during its 2014-2015 season.

1st Stage Grows with Tysons Community ENTERTAINENT, PAGE 10

Best of Times' in McLean, Great Falls Market REAL ESTATE, PAGE 4

Police Out To Catch Drunken Drivers

News, Page 3

January 4-10, 2017

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

JTED

Рното

VINSON HALL RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Independent Living at Vinson Hall

Vinson Hall Retirement Community is located in idyllic McLean, VA and offers independent residential living for military officers and government employees of equal rank. Our apartment residences offer all the luxurious comforts of home within a vibrant Life Plan community. Come see what's new!

www.VinsonHall.org 703-536-4344

1 and 2 bedroom apartments available, call today!

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

2 * McLean Connection * January 4-10, 2017

News Police Out To Catch Drunken Drivers

Grant funds new DWI **Enforcement Squad.**

By Fallon Forbush The Connection

new squad of police officers has started patrolling the county and they have only one mission: to combat impaired driving.

The new Fairfax County Police Department DWI Enforcement Squad began working on Dec. 1 and are averaging several DWI arrests per night.

You'll know who they are by their cruisers, which are specifically marked with "DWI Enforcement Squad," said 2nd Lt. Dana Ferreira, who runs the squad.

The nine officers who were chosen for the squad have a prowess for catching those who drive while drunk. The officers averaged a total of 241 DWI arrests during the past seven years.

The squad will work from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. in four-day rotations throughout the county eight patrol districts. As a team, the squad will be deployed each night to focus on two districts per shift.

"Our crime analysts will pull problem areas for us," Ferreira said.

The department has wanted to create the team of specialized patrollers for several years, but were unable to find the budget to do so until a federal grant was awarded.

THE SQUAD is operating under the Traffic Division of the department's Operations Support Bureau. However, the equipment and salaries have been paid for by a \$984,785 grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Expenditures that are not covered by the federal grant are the squad's vehicle maintenance and fuel.

"Every year, we have to reauthorize and reapply for the grant if we decide to continue with this program," says Ferreira.

The department has a desire to keep it going, according to Lt. Eli Cory, who is the assistant commander of the FCPD's Traffic Division.

"However we can continue it, we're going to pursue that, whether it's grant or other funds," says Cory.

Without the grant, the squad would be a large financial undertaking.

All the new positions in the new squad were filled by pulling existing officers out of their assigned communities where they patrolled the streets in the department's patrol bureaus or the bike team, according to Ferreira.

But the holes that the new positions left in the street will be filled by new officers, according to Lt. Eli Cory, who is the assistant commander of the FCPD's Traffic Division.

The desire for the squad came from a need in the community, says Cory.



Photo provided by the Fairfax County Police Department You'll know who they are by their cruisers, which are specifically marked with "DWI Enforcement Squad," said 2nd Lt. Dana Ferreira, who runs the squad.

Statistically speaking, DWIs have gone down in the county but the department has seen drug use increase. Last year, there were 522 crashes caused

by impaired driving in the county, accord-

ing to Officer Megan Hawkins, a spokesper-

son for the department. There has been less

this year, with 461 as of Dec. 13. That's a 12 percent decrease.

"Although DWIs are down, we want to address the impaired driving while under the influence of drugs," Cory said.

"Whether it's marijuana, heroin, cocaine or anything that affects your ability to



Flagging Operation on Old Dominion Drive

A flagging operation will take place on Old Dominion Drive (Route 738) between Balls Hill Road and Van Ness Court Wednesday, Jan. 4 through Wednesday, Jan. 11 in order to replace several pipes and reshape a ditch, according to the Vir-

ginia Department of Transportation. The eastbound lane and shoulder area of Old Dominion Drive will be closed during the flagging, which will occur between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day. All work is weather permitting.

clearly operate a motor vehicle, it's something we need to address in the county," said Corv.

The squad will receive special training so they can handle drug-related incidents. Squad members will receive advanced training in DWI detection, drug recognition, and effective testimony to ensure successful prosecution.

"We chose officers for this assignment that not only are effective at enforcement, but also effective in prosecution and conviction," said Ferreira. "We're not only taking people off the street, but we're going to successfully convict them in court."

To ensure they stay that way, they will be regularly working with the Commonwealth's Attorney General's Office to receive trainings so that they are up-todate on case law.

The team will be certified as Drug Recognition Experts through the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program. The training requirements for certification have been established by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"In Virginia, the number of DRE certified officers is in the single digits," said Ferreira. "Our entire team will eventually receive that certification when training comes out."

The DRE training is designed to help officers determine if an individual is under the influence of drugs other than alcohol, or the combined influence of alcohol and other drugs, or suffering from some injury or illness that produces similar signs to alcohol and drug impairment.

While prosecution is paramount to the squad, voluntary compliance is the best way to combat impaired driving.

"Our ultimate goal is not making arrests, but is actually reducing the number of crashes in the county," said Ferreira. "If we had a year where we didn't make a single DWI arrest and didn't have a single impairment accident, I'd call that a success."

ONE OF THE MOST VISIBLE things the department does to deter drivers from disobeying DWI laws is through sobriety checkpoints.

"If you look at statistics from other states that don't employ DWI checkpoints, you can see that their DWI crash rates and fatality rates are much higher than Virginia and other states that utilize DWI checkpoints," Corv said.

Primarily, the squad will be on the street looking for traffic safety issues, including DWIs, speeding, reckless driving and distracted driving.

"I'd far rather call a family member and tell them that their loved one has been arrested than tell them that they've been injured or killed in an accident," Ferreira said. "If it takes me bringing someone to jail and taking their freedom even only temporarily to get them off of the roads so they don't harm themselves or someone else, it's entirely worth it to me."

News



The deadly accident took place at the intersection of Lewinsville Road and Lancia Drive.

Fatal Crash in McLean Area

gating a fatal crash that occurred around 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19. They were called to the intersection of Lewinsville Road and Lancia Drive for a car that hit into a pole with live wires around the vehicle.

An investigation determined a 33-year-old man was driving a 2003 Mazda 6 westbound on

rash Reconstruction detectives are investi- Lewinsville Road when his car left the roadway and struck a utility pole head-on. Chad Cheatham, of McLean, was pronounced dead at the scene. Next of kin have been notified.

It appears that speed was a factor and the investigation is ongoing to determine any other circumstances that may have contributed to this crash - according to FCPD Public Affairs Bureau.



Langley Ice Hockey out on the ice. Langley Hockey Team **Remains Undefeated**

Hockey team remained undefeated with a 7-5 win over Centreville/Fairfax last Friday Dec. 9. Scoring was led by senior Kevin Wang, who scored a hat trick (3 goals) and accounted for 5 total points;

ewspapers.com

he Langley Saxons Ice and junior Thomas Eberhardt, who had a goal and 4 total points.

> Facing a 4-5 deficit at beginning of the third period, Langley scored 3 goals in the final 12 minutes of the game to remain undefeated at 5-0-1.

JAN. 19^{TH} HOME RENOVATION ONTECTION Are You & Your Family Comfortable in Your Home? Newspapers & Online We Hope You Will Join Us! UPCOMING SPECIAL SECTIONS Thursday, Jan. 19th, 2016 - 5pm-8pm Where: Sun Design McLean Office JANUARY 6862 Elm Street, Suite 330, McLean, VA 22101 1/11/2017.....HomeLifeStyle Seminars run from 5pm-6:30pm. Dinner to follow. 1/18/2017......A+ Camps & Schools Please arrive at 4:45pm for check-in. THIS EVENT FILLS UP FAST! 1/25/2017.....Community Guide If you are unable to make this 1/25/2017 Winter Fun, Food, Arts & Seating is limited! date, please give us a call to get **Entertainment; Valentine's Preview** on the schedule for the next event! RSVP: info@sundesigninc.com or call Erin FEBRUARY at 703.425.5588 2/1/2017.....Valentine's Dining & Gifts I 2/1/2017......Wellbeing - National Children's Seminars: **Dental Health Month** 10 Tips When Hiring a Design-Build Firm 2/8/2017.....HomeLifeStyle 2017 Kitchen + Bath Trends 2/8/2017.....Valentine's Dining & Gifts II Valentine's Day is February 14 2/15/2017......A+ Camps & Schools 2/22/2017.....Pet Connection Email SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM for more specials, digital advertising options and pricing. Have The Connection emailed directly to you every week! www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households ONNECTION etta Packet - Fairfax Connection rection - Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Co ton - Great Fails Connection Major Remodels • Additions • Kitchens & Baths • Basements • Outdoor Spaces Dak Hill Vewspapers & Online Arlington Connection Burke Connection Potoma: Almana SUN DESIGN 703.425.5588 | SunDesignInc.com | info@sundesigninc.com Reston Connection 703-778-9431 Centre Vew Chantily Connection McLean Connection Mount Vernoe Gazeth

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN-BUILD FIRM

♦ McLean Connection ♦ January 4-10, 2017

News

Citizens Criticize County's Walkway Plans For the Community

By Fallon Forbush The Connection

he McLean Citizens Association is urging the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to provide greater transparency on walkway improvements in McLean.

At the last MCA Board of Directors meeting on Dec. 7 a "McLean Area Walkways and Trails" resolution was voted on and approved as a response to a prior resolution that the MCA approved in 2013, which asked the county to publish a strategic plan by the end of fiscal year 2015.

Jim Robertson, co-chair of MCA's

School Notes

Send school notes to north@connectionnewspapers.com by noon on Friday.

U.S. Air Force Airman Eric J. Kim graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eightweek program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. He is a 2014 graduate of Langley High School, McLean.

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) student journalists have been recognized by two national student journalism organizations for their outstanding work.

News publications from McLean High School and Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST) have been named Crown Award finalists by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). They are The Highlander (High School News), McLean High School, Lindsay Benedict, adviser; and tjToday andtjtoday.org (High School News Hybrid for print and online), TJHSST, Erinn Harris, adviser. Both publications will receive either a Silver or Gold Crown at the CSPA award ceremony in March 2017. Five FCPS students have been named finalists in individual contests by the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA). These students are among just 10 finalists in their respective categories and were chosen from entries submitted nationwide.

NSPA finalists are:

♦ Sports Story: John Corvari, The Highlander newsmagazine, McLean High School.

 Sports Action Photo: Maggie Laird, The Clan yearbook, McLean High School.
Newspaper Page One Design: Susie Hyland, Jodie Lee, The Hawk Talk, Madison High School.

Illustration: Sam Willett, The Watchdog, Westfield High School.

Emma Leiken, a 2012 Mclean High School graduate, earned Fulbright grant. She graduated from Oberlin College in May 2016.

Brandon Bast, of Great Falls, graduated from The University of Tampa on May 7. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in sport management and a minor in marketing.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Transportation Committee, wrote in an email that the resolution speaks to the need for a strategic plan and to publicize funding required for future sidewalk maintenance and construction in the McLean Area.

Chris Wells, Fairfax County Department of Transportation pedestrian program manager and the staff person supporting the county's Trails and Sidewalks Committee, did not respond to inquiries in time for publication.

Of the county's \$314 million total funding for pedestrian and bike projects approved by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for fiscal year 2002 through fiscal year 2020, \$54.3 million have been used in projects in the McLean Citizens Association's area, Anna Nissinen, a spokesperson for the Fairfax County Department of Transportation, wrote in an email. This represents 17 percent of all of Fairfax County's pedestrian and bike funding.

"We do not take issue with the fact that funds have been allotted to this area in past years," Robertson said in response via email. "The MCA'a main intention is to draw attention to the fact that [future] sidewalks and walkways are not adequately funded." Fairfax County's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services is responsible for the strategic planning of new walkway projects and the maintenance of current walkways, according to Nissinen.

Matthew Kaiser, spokesperson for the department, was not able to respond in time for publication. The MCA is still waiting on a response from the county.

ACT NOW FOR PRE-OPENING BENEFITS Exclusive Charter Club membership & special pricing until Jan 31, 2017 — Save up to \$10,000

The Kensington promises to love and care for your family as we do our own *Opening in Falls Church Early 2017*

ur beautiful assisted living and memory care residence is well on its way toward completion! We can't wait to officially open our doors to welcome residents, their families and friends. To those who have already chosen to entrust us with the care of loved ones, thank you. To those we haven't met yet, we look forward to the time when we do. Our own families make our hearts full, but we have plenty of room for yours. Stop in for a visit, and tell us what you need to help keep the seniors you love safe, secure, well, and most of all, happy. We're eager to deliver on our promise to love and care for them as we do our own.



FALLS CHURCH

Information Center: 1212 W Broad St, Falls Church, VA | 703.992.9868 | www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com

f

OPINION Unsung Heroes of Police Reform

Personal involvement of Culosi, Beltrante key to success of police commission.

he call for reform and transparency in Fairfax County Police began long before the shooting death of John Geer in August 2013. Some members of the Fairfax County Police Practices Review Commission pressed for reform for nearly a decade before the formation of the commission. Their experience also should answer any question about whether reform was really needed.

Anita and Sal Culosi lost their son Dr. Salvatore "Sal" Culosi Jr. when he was killed by a Fairfax County Police officer Jan. 24, 2006

Editorial

outside his Fair Oaks townhouse by a SWAT team member executing a search warrant. Police knew Culosi

was unarmed and did not consider him dangerous. The shooting was ruled an accident and the officer faced no charges.

"My son would still be alive today," Culosi said at the first meeting of the commission in March 2015, "but for 2006 Fairfax County policies to routinely use SWAT and aggressive procedures against citizens certified to be low risk."

Culosi Sr. told members of the commission that David M. Rohrer told him that use of force policy changes had been made since his son's shooting, but that Rohrer declined to give him copies of the changes or tell him exactly what changes were made. Rohrer, now deputy county executive for public safety was Fairfax County police chief when Culosi Jr. was killed.

As the commission began its work, Police Chief Edwin Roessler and Rohrer among others, embraced Sal Culosi Sr.'s involvement, and worked with him on many details of policy

By Barbara Comstock

Member of Congress (R-10)



hoto by Tim Peterson/The Connection Sal Culosi (left) and Nicholas Beltrante (right) attend the first meeting of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc **Police Practices Review Commission** in March 2015

changes ranging from how SWAT teams are deployed to "ready gun position." New policies were developed with his input, are available to the public and mark significant improvements.

NICHOLAS R. BELTRANTE, a retired D.C. homicide detective and Mount Vernon resident, founded Virginia Citizens Coalition for Police Accountability in 2010 in response to the shooting death of unarmed David A. Masters who was shot and killed by a Fairfax County Police officer on Richmond Highway and Fort Hunt Road on Nov. 13, 2009. Masters, a former U.S. Army Green Beret, struggled with mental health issues.

Beltrante decried the secrecy surrounding the Masters and Culosi cases among others, and began advocating for the formation of a civilian review panel.

He wrote to the Connection in 2012: "During the years 2010-2011, the CCPA has

directed a number of letters to Chief David M.

Rohrer regarding these and other citizen allegations of police abuse, misconduct, and negligence. These letters have gone unanswered. As a result the CCPA began in January 2012 mailing letters of complaint to Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova with the understanding they would be forwarded to Supervisor Gerald W. Hyland, the board's Public Safety Committee chairman, for appropriate action. In recent weeks the CCPA has written to Supervisor Hyland in an effort to determine what action, if any, he had taken. To-date, we have not heard from Supervisor Hyland.

"The apparent lack of accountability by various entities of the Fairfax County Government regarding these serious issues has caused many citizens grave concern and some have expressed their frustration by indicating their belief this may constitute a case of malfeasance."

Beltrante noted that no one, including the families of the deceased victims, had been able to obtain a police incident report despite the fact that the four cases were closed.

The establishment of a civilian review panel and an independent police auditor, both approved last year by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, plus changes in policies about use of force, transparency and crisis intervention, among many others, are major accomplishments.

The Culosis and Beltrante began the call for such changes many years before the death of John Geer, Geer's best friend, Jeff Stewart, also served on the Ad Hoc Commission. Stewart was present on the scene when his friend was shot dead. Stewart's voice was also critical on the commission. The personal involvement of these families and individuals in the process, plus the new openness of leadership in the FCPD, made all the difference.

> — Mary Kimm MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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

Published by Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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

NEWS DEPARTMENT: mclean@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic Editor * 703-778-9414 kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Fallon Forbush Reporter fforbush@connectionnewspapers.com

Kyle Kincaid Editorial Assistant mclean@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING: For advertising information sales@connectionnewspapers.com 703-778-9431

Trisha Hamilton Display Advertising 703-624-9201 trisha@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith Classified Advertising 703-778-9411 classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk National Sales 703-778-9444 debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin Marketing Assistant 703-778-9431 dgriffin @ connection new spapers.com

Editor & Publisher Mary Kimm mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com @MaryKimm

Executive Vice President Jerry Vernon 703-549-0004 jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

> **Editor in Chief** Steven Mauren **Managing Editor** Kemal Kurspahic

Art/Design: Laurence Foong, John Heinly, Ali Khaligh Production Manager:

Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher Jeanne Theismann

jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com @TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427 circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



- like cracking down on human trafficking – are often underreported by the press but are important for our region and our communities. My staff and I have met with stakeholders, local elected officials, and advocacy groups and have had hundreds of meetings throughout our District with constituents to find critical solutions to problems that affect us all. In total, I visited over six hundred local businesses, technology companies, schools, ro-



Congresswoman's report to the 10th district residents.

COMMENTARY

Comstock Addresses Top Priority Issues

groups in Virginia's Tenth District over the course of the last two years. ✤ The House just cleared the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act, which included provisions from my Research and Development Efficiency Act. Our region is home to a significant amount of

research professionals and this legislation will limit redundant regulations to allow these researchers to focus on their jobs without being impeded by inefficiencies.

Recently, Congress passed the 21st Century Cures Act, which was just signed into law. This is legislation that will have a real and immediate benefit to families and communities not just in our District, but throughout our nation.

Congress passed the National Defense Au-

notably gave our troops the largest pay raise they have seen in six years. A strong national defense is essential to the safety and freedom of our fellow citizens. This bipartisan legislation contained two of my amendments and will strengthen our national defense at a time when we must defend against the daily threat of terrorism

thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, which

 \clubsuit We have worked across the aisle to end human trafficking and a major step in the fight against this scourge was our passage of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. This ongoing battle is one that must be fought at the local and state level as well as the federal level. We will continue to work against human traffickers who have a reckless disregard for the well-being of our children.

* A priority of mine has been to honor our

See Comstock, Page 15

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

taries, charities, and many other different 6 ♦ McLean Connection ♦ January 4-10, 2017

People

Eleanor Lane of Herndon Competes in All-American Miss Pageant Teen Division

his past summer Eleanor Lane competed in the Virginia State Teen division of the National American Miss Pageant here in Reston. She won multiple awards including: Academic Achievement Award, 2016 Miss Virginia Teen Queen's Court 2nd runner-up, Actress Winner, Spokesmodel 1st runner-up, and 1st runner-up miss personality.

The awards earned her an invite to represent the state of Virginia and compete at the national level in the National All-American Miss Teen Division. In addition to the main competition, she competed in actress, academic achievement, essay, and spokesmodel competitions. As a spokesmodel, she wrote a speech on something she is passionate about, "Raising Awareness for Panic Disorder," and will present it to a large audience and professional judges.

At the competitions she sharpened her presentation skills, interview skills, and planning skills. And she made some new friends.

The National American Miss Pageants are dedicated to celebrating America's greatness and encouraging future leaders. Each year the National American Miss Pageants awards \$1.5 million in cash, scholarships and prizes to recognize and assist the development of young women nationwide.



Eleanor Lane recently competed in the Virginia State Teen division of the National American Miss Pageant and won an array of the awards that earned her an invitation to represent the state of Virginia and compete at the national level in the National All-American Miss teen division.



Do You Know About Tall Oaks?



Nestled in an area that is quiet, yet convenient, is Tall Oaks Assisted Living. Experience the peace of mind that comes when quality care is provided by friendly caregivers that you can trust. As one team member stated, "Tall Oaks is the place that I would choose for my own parents." Call today to schedule your tour of our community!



703.834.9800

12052 N Shore Drive • Reston, VA 20190 www.TallOaksAL.com

🚔 Coordinated Services Management, Inc. Professional Management of Retirement Communities since 1981. 🚇 🔖

UPCOMING EVENTS

You're Invited! Join us for these free events, hosted by Tall Oaks. Space is limited and RSVP is required. Call 703-834-9800.

Alzheimer's Support Group Monday, January 9 • 7 pm

The Basics of Dementia with Diane Vance from the Alzheimer's Assoc. Thursday, January 12 • 6:30 - 8 pm

The Value of Assisted Living

presented by Ellen Dooley, Director of Community Relations, Tall Oaks Saturday, January 21 • 10 am

Wills, Living Trusts, Advanced Directives: What It's All About presented by Attorney Betsy Ann Scott

Monday, January 30 • 7 pm

Tall Oaks is conveniently located just one mile from the Wiehle Avenue Metro Station (Silver Line).

Real Estate 2016: Best Year in Decade for McLean, Great Falls Market

Sellers in McLean and Great Falls experienced the "best of times" market conditions in 2016.

By Karen Briscoe

he year 2016 is going to go down in the history books as the best real estate market for sales in McLean and Great Falls in a decade. The number of transactions was up 10 percent year over year, rising to 1,081. That is the

first time ever over the 1k mark. Furthermore, compared to the 2006 market, it was up over 18 percent . This is outstanding news for the market area as we enter into the new year of 2017 and the inauguration. All segments performed better or remained steady in 2016 over 2015. There were two segments that experienced year over year increase in sales of 20 percent or more.

The price segment that experienced the greatest increase year over year was the \$1.25 to \$2 million range. This market niche comprises mostly in-fill new home builders who tear down existing older homes for the land value. It has been the case that many of the lots have been purchased off market thus potentially skewing the numbers for the lower price ranges. Available land for development in McLean and Great Falls is at a premium, thus it is difficult to predict how long this trend is likely to continue. As long as end-user home purchasers have to compete with builders for lots, there is more demand than supply. When demand continues to outpace supply; it can be a healthy sign of a rising market. However these dynamics make it more challenging for a first or second time home buyer to purchase in the community.



The other price range that was strong for 2016 was the \$750k to \$1 million which saw an increase of 20 percent in sales year over year. This is the best indicator of the potential for price appreciation as buyers no longer are able to find housing that meets their needs in the under \$750k range. The upper bracket price points

above \$2 m continued to be flat for 2016 over 2015 and similar to the 2006 levels. The number of buyers who are qualified to purchase homes in this segment is considerably smaller and remains fairly constant. There are some projections that with the new administration we could experience a greater number of purchasers who can afford a luxury home and thus have a more robust market in this price range in 2017.

Sellers in McLean and Great Falls experienced the "best of times" market conditions in 2016. The number of transactions was up year over year and even greater than 2006, which experts have considered the last peak year for the area. Heading into 2017 there are strong indications that homes in good condition for the market and priced correctly should continue to sell for strong prices. And there are some market segments that could experience price appreciation, provided demand remains strong relative to supply.

Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy and their team HBC Group at Keller Williams are active and experienced Realtors® in the Northern Virginia, suburban Maryland and Washington, D.C. marketplace. Contact via the means most convenient for you: www.HBCRealtyGroup.com, 703-734-0192, Homes@HBCRealtyGroup.com.

McLean & Great Falls Annual Market Analysis of Home Sales (Based on Final Closed Price):

		201	6 compared	to 2015 and 2	006	
			2016 Sa	les: 1,081		
	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k
2016						
22101	14	32	118	80	152	72
22102	6	15	43	30	58	222
22066	3	17	62	43	79	35
	Total: 23	Total: 64	Total: 223	Total: 153	Total: 289	Total: 329
	Combined Total Upper Brackets: 310			Combined Total Lower Brackets: 771		
			2015 S	ales: 982		
Zip Code	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k
22101	10	32	93	72	138	84
22102	- 4	14	39	31	44	213
22066	3	18	46	49	59	33
	Total: 17	Total: 64	Total: 178	Total: 152	Total: 241	Total: 330
	Combined Total Upper Brackets: 259			Combined Total Lower Brackets: 723		
			2006 S	ales: 915		
Zip Code	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k
22101	7	29	68	54	125	120
22102	14	20	33	24	27	209
22066	5	17	66	36	48	13
	Total: 26	Total: 66	Total: 167	Total: 114	Total: 200	Total: 342

Combined Total Lower Brackets: 656

Women's Legislative Roundtable Previews Upcoming 2017 Legislative Session

The League of Women Voters of Virginia (LWVVA) sponsored the Pre-Session of the Women's Legislative Roundtable, (WLRT) on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016, at the State Capitol in Richmond. Presentations were made by 17 representatives of nonprofit organizations and from secretaries of Governor McAuliffe Cabinet. They gave short and informative speeches on their areas of expertise before an audience of about 130 people, including Leaguers and friends. This annual event provides an opportunity for attendees to learn about what other groups will be advocating for and what cabinet members expect will occur during the upcoming General Assembly (GA).

The subjects covered were as diverse as the state budget, women's rights, vot-

ing rights, election laws and voter protection, equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender LGBT Virginians, issues of Latinos, redistricting, transparency, public safety, criminal justice reform, juvenile justice, domestic and sexual violence, mental illness, poverty, decriminalization of marijuana, civil forfeiture, police reform, and conservation of natural resources. The common thread in many of these speeches was the need for justice and fairness.

Ric Brown, the Secretary of Finance, said that a potential \$1.5 billion budget shortfall is being expected due to lower-thanexpected income and sales tax collections. To handle this shortfall, Gov. McAuliffe asked Executive Branch agencies to make budget cuts. These have included delaying grant payments and new positions, eliminating 26 current positions, canceling pay raises, trimming the state's payroll in other ways, and using the rainy day fund. Virginia is an income tax state so it is difficult to project income inflows. Medicaid Extension is not in the budget.

Combined Total Upper Brackets:

259

Secretary of Administration. Nancy Rodrigues, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Kelly Thomasson, and Secretary of Natural Resources Molly Joseph Ward all thanked the League for its nonpartisan efforts for voter rights. The Commissioner of Elections, Edgardo Cortes said a record number of Virginia voters registered online and voted. According to Co-President Lois Page, "We were awed once again by the compassion, determination and dedication of these civic activists, who want what is best for all Virginians."

What does the WLRT do?

This informational forum is where legislators and non-profit organizations' representatives talk about pending legislation and issues of concern. The LWVVA will moderate the WLRT forums, which start at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesdays, after the GA convenes on Jan. 11, 2017. The first WLRT meeting will be held in Richmond on Jan. 18, 2017. You are welcome to attend these meetings.

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues.

To learn more about this organization, visit www.lwv-fairfax.org.

News McLean to Celebrate Dr. King's Legacy

McLean Community Center Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day with Chuck D.

> BY DAVID SIEGEL The Connection

ontinuing its long tradition, the McLean Community Center will celebrate the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. by observing his birthday, a Federal and Commonwealth of Virginia public holiday.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday was established Nov. 3, 1983, when President Ronald Reagan signed a bill establishing the 3rd Monday of every January as the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday, beginning in 1986.

"The principles Dr. King fought for are a foundation for any healthy community, and it's important that we all be reminded of Dr. King's vision and example," said Sarah N. Schallern, director, performing arts, McLean Community Center (MCC).

"McLean can be an example of a community united by its mutual respect and its recommitment to Dr. King's values of the



Photo by Walter Leaphant/Courtesy of McLean Community Center Chuck D's 2017 Martin Luther King Jr. Day address is titled 'Rap, Race and Reality.

power of words and acts of nonviolence to transform ourselves and our world," noted Schallern.

The 2017 MCC event speaker will be Chuck D. He is a working musical artist whose "work addresses social issues in direct, passionate terms." said Schallern. Considered one of the most important performers in rock-and-roll history, Chuck D speaks to all ages and backgrounds.

A founding member of the legendary rap group, "Public Enemy" Chuck D redefined rap music and hip-hop culture using music to address racism with such as "Fight the Power," "Don't Believe the Hype," "911 Is a Joke," "Bring the Noise." He has been vocal

Where and When

McLean Community Center presents "2017 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration with Chuck D" at Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Event on Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017 at 2 p.m. Tickets \$10 (MCC tax resident), \$20 for non-MCC). Call 703-790-0123 or visit www.aldentheatre.org

about the Black Lives Matter movement. He speaks to all ages and backgrounds. He is also a voice and insight on technology, politics, rap and soul music, and race in America.

"Chuck D may not represent the 'typical' McLean-ite or their experiences or opinions," added Schallern. "Audiences should expect to hear what he really thinks, and be prepared to hear things that they may not agree with."

Schallern noted that the audience "can expect to hear strong opinions from a legendary rap artist. And he is approachable. Since he will be attending a meet and greet after his speech, audiences can see for themselves!"

Chuck D's thought-provoking remarks will bring his insights, knowledge and understanding of the intersection of popular culture and politics. His 2017 Martin Luther King Jr. Day address is titled "Rap, Race and Reality."

Inviting residents to the McLean community Martin Luther King Jr. Day event with Chuck D, Schallern noted that "Our McLean community is thoughtful, curious, engaged and well-educated. They care about the world.'





Announcing Group Interviews for The Kensington Falls Church

Interview at our Information Center on any Thursday from December 15 until January 5 + 11am & 4pm 1212 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA

A ve you been searching for an organization with heart? Where you can make a difference in many lives? Where you can grow professionally and personally? Kensington Senior Living has been built upon two key values: a Love for Seniors and a Spirit to Serve. We are looking for individuals who share these values and would like to join our team in Falls Church, where we will love and care for our residents as we do our own families.

Now hiring qualified full-time (starting at 30 hours/week) and part-time team members (Health and dental insurances, life insurance, paid time off and

paid holidays for full-time positions. One free meal per day. 401k plan for team members who wish to contribute.)

Care Managers (CNAs) Care Supervisors (CNAs) Licensed Professional Nurses (LPNs) Wellness Nurses (LPNs and RNs) Activities Coordinators Concierges Dining Coordinators Cooks Prep Cooks Utility Staff Servers Maintenance Assistant Housekeepers Porters Drivers Laundry Attendants



THE KENSINGTON An Assisted Living Community

FALLS CHURCH 703.992.9868 www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com Information Center: 1212 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046

For immediate consideration or more details, email FallsChurchCareers@KensingtonSL.com or call 703-992-9868.

10 & McLean Connection & January 4-10, 2017

Entertainment



Teresa Castracane and Andy Brownstein in "Broadway Bound" at 1st Stage. The show ran through Dec. 18, 2016.

1st Stage Grows with Tysons Community

By Fallon Forbush The Connection

hen you think of Tysons you may think of retail and shopping, but that's not the only ticket in town.

Tucked into the Spring Hill Business Center just north of Tysons Galleria and Tysons Corner Center is an award-winning, professional theater company: 1st Stage.

The company has been growing along with the Tysons community for the last nine years since it was founded in 2008 by Mark Krikstan, a retired drama teacher at Marshall High School in Falls Church.

During Krikstan's time teaching, many of his students became professional actors who went on to perform in Washington, D.C., and throughout the Northeast, says Alex

Levy, Krikstan's successor and 1st Stage's artistic director.

"There was no professional theater in Fairfax County at all," Levy said. "Mark started this place with the idea of being a place that would be a first opportunity for professional actors and professional artists."

Not only is 1st Stage providing actors with a venue to perform work in their hometown, but Krikstan's dream of creating a professional company has been realized.

"There was a great want and a great need ... a community starved of the arts," Levy said.

While 1st Stage claims to be the county's first professional company, it is now one of three that have recently formed in the area.

See Tysons, Page 12



Scott Ward Abernethy in "Broadway Bound" at 1st Stage. The show ran through Dec. 18, 2016.

WELLBEING Keeping Resolutions

Realistic goals and specific plans among keys to success.

By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

very January for the last five years Faye Ripke has resolved to lose weight and lead a healthier lifestyle. However, the only thing she has to show for it, she says, is a trail of unused gym memberships and a wardrobe of clothes that have increased in size.

"Both of my parents died from heart attacks," says Ripke, 57 of Fairfax Station. "My doctor keeps telling me that I need to do more aerobic exercise to get my heart rate up every day and drop about 75 pounds."

Losing weight, getting organized, achieving physical fitness and improving one's finances are the most frequently made resolutions, often the guilt-induced responses to holiday indulgence. According to a study published last month in the Journal of Clinical Psychology, only eight percent of people who make New Year's resolutions keep them and achieve success.

"One reason that many people fail to achieve their goals is that they might not be ready to make the change, even if they would benefit from doing so," said Joel Bitman, a Bethesda-based psychotherapist. "Another reason is that people often set unrealistic goals or don't have a plan to achieve their goals."

Actually wanting to make the change that the resolution would bring about is the first step followed by developing

strategies to achieve it. "When you set a goal, say quitting smoking for example, ask yourself whether it's something that you really want to do or something that you think you should do," said Bitman. "If you're doing it because you think you should or because society is telling you that you should, but the reality is that you really enjoy smoking, it will be much harder, if not impossible, to quit."

While it is easy and often tempting to look at pictures of ultra thin models and resolve to transform one's body by the end of the year, setting unrealistic expectations can sabotage a set of goals, says Alicia Brand, a Falls Church personal trainer.

"Trying to lose 60 pounds in time for a beach vacation during spring break isn't going to happen," he said. "But losing 10 pounds by April is absolutely achievable for most people."

A key to that achievement is creating a set of concrete goals that are realistic, specific, measurable and include a timetable, says Bittman. "You actually have to make mindset changes and behavioral changes in order to successfully reach a goal, and changes in behaviors are often quite difficult," he said. "But if you are able to make small changes and reach small weekly, daily or even hourly goals, you're more likely to gain confidence to keep going. It's easy to become discouraged and give up."

"If you want to become more fit, but you haven't exercised in years, you might begin by committing to walking 30 minutes a day, three days a week," said Brand. "That is much more realistic than sign-

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Photo by Marilyn Campbell/The Connection Losing weight and getting in shape are two popular resolutions that people make at the beginning of a new year.

> "One reason that many people fail to achieve their goals is that they might not be ready to make the change, even if they would benefit from doing so."

— Joel Bitman

ing up for a gym membership and planning to spend an hour there every day until you've whittled your body down to a size two."

Failing to recognize small accomplishments and rewarding oneself for reaching milestones is one reason that Bittman believes many resolutions made in January fizzle into a pipedream by February. "If you commit to skipping morning coffee at your favorite coffee shop each day for a week, and saving the money that you would have spent, you can celebrate by allowing yourself to have a small latté on Sunday morning."

Avoiding high-risk environments that can sabotage even the best-laid plans is a suggestion that Brand gives to her clients. "It's like if you're an alcoholic you should stay out of bars," she said. "If you're trying to lose weight surround yourself with people who have healthy eating and fitness habits."



MORE NORTHERN VIRGINIA HOMEOWNERS CHOOSE CASE THAN ANY OTHER LOCAL REMODELER.

This New Year, reimagine your home. . . And let our low cost, proprietary CaseStudy[™] planning process help. We'll collaborate on ideas, document every inch of your space, develop three unique design options - provided in 3D virtual renderings - and include budgeting information and timelines. It's all of the details you need to make informed decisions. And if you don't like what you see, you get your money back - your CaseStudy is 100% guaranteed. Visit casedesign.com or call 703-803-2273 to explore the possibilities.

ADDITIONS | BATHS | CONDOS | EXTERIORS | KITCHENS



DESIGN STUDIOS IN VA | DC | MD

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known



Helping Animals Find Their Way Since 2001

Volunteers needed for adoption events, fostering, transportation, adoption center caretaking and more.

Adopt/Donate/Volunteer www.lostdogandcatrescue.org

ENTERTAINMENT Tysons: The Newest Ticket for **Professional Theater**

From Page 10

IN 2015, the burgeoning theater company received a \$10,000 National Theatre Company Grant from the American Theatre Wing, the organization that created the Tony Awards.

The competitive grant program invests in "cutting edge theatre companies" to help the "industrychanging companies" enhance resources, build infrastructure and create new initiatives.

"It was an exciting validation for us," said Levy. "Great theater is happening here in Tysons and is making an impact not just in our own community but around the country."

Levy was living in Los Angeles when he was offered the job to lead 1st Stage in 2014 and has enjoyed helping the company realize its goals.

"It's such an interesting time to be here," he said. "Tysons is going through this major change and to be a part of that conversIon was a really exciting opportunity."

While McLean has several opportunities for community theater, he loves being a part of Tysons' story as a hub for professional artists.

The artists performing at 1st Stage are the same artists that audiences can expect to see in the region's leading theater companies — the District's Kennedy Center, Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater and the Studio Theater, as well as Arlington's Signature Theater — but with one difference that Levy boasts as a differentiating factor: a 110-seat theater.

"You're really right there, connected to them," he said.

"As Tysons changes and grows,



Teresa Castracane and Noah Schaefer in "Broadway Bound" at 1st Stage. The show ran through Dec. 18, 2016.

so is 1st Stage," Levy said. "The two are very connected and we want to be a place for this community to come together."

There are plans to expand in the future, but "intimacy is something that we are fiercely protective of," he said.

In January 2015, the theater company took over the storefront next door to add rehearsal space and is currently in the process of adding more bathrooms and space to build sets for productions.

As Tysons continues to redevelop and grow, the theater is looking for opportunities to move to a new permanent home, but some things will not change.

"Within the changes that will happen in the future, we are committed to maintaining the intimacy

of our venue," Levy said. "That won't change, the things that people have come to love at 1st Stage; being that close to the performance will continue."

Mainstream theater will also be avoided now that the company has an established and loyal audience that can appreciate a diverse performance lineup.

THE COMPANY'S MISSION to

create great art is something that attracted local actor Doug Wilder to participate in the company.

"Even the idea of having a 100seat theater in Tysons is a risk," said Wilder. "You can fill a 200-seat theater if all you do is audiencepleasing, easy work."

Wilder will be playing the lead role in the company's next play, "Tevor," that will debut in February. The unconventional show is about an erratic, 200-pound chimpanzee.

"There's a physical challenge of convincing an audience that he is not human, while still speaking English," Wilder says.

He and the human characters in the play speak English, so the audience will understand what is taking place, but there will be times that the characters will not understand the chimpanzee.

"There are these misunderstandings, but neither the humans nor the chimpanzee understand across species," he said.

Dark comedy is fueled by these muddled conversations, he says. While he is excited for the role, he is also terrified.

"The role is a gift, but I'm terrified because I have to be good

enough to be worthy of it," he said. His professional acting peers think he has the talent to pull it off.



Last year's favorite, Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids will perform again this year at McLean Chocolate Festival on Jan. 29.

Chocolate Festival Returns to McLean Community Center

hosting its sixth annual McLean Chocolate Festival at the McLean Community Center on Sunday, Jan. 29, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Chocolate vendors include: Seasons 52, Dave's Candy Kitchen, Fair Trade Winds, Fluffy Thoughts, Sweetbites Café, and more. Buy treats to eat on site or stock up for Valentine's Day. There will be plenty of free parking. The admission fee is \$2; children age 6 and under are admitted free. There will also be a children's game room with

The Rotary Club of McLean is chocolate-themed activities and games. Featured on the Festival Stage will be performances by Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids at 1:30 pm, and bluegrass music by Mike Mitchell and the Wildman's at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Ongoing demonstrations of colonial American chocolate-making will be presented by American Heritage, a Mars company. All proceeds go to fund local charitable organizations through the McLean Rotary Foundation. For more information, see www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org.

Wilder, who is also the director of education for the National Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in D.C., received the Robert Prosky Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play from the Helen Hayes Award, which honors excellence in professional theater throughout the Washington region. He received the award for his performance as Francis Henshall, a failed street musician, in 1st Stage Theater's production of "One Man, Two Guvnors" during its 2014-2015 season.

In addition to finishing its remaining shows in its 2016-2017 season, 1st Stage will also host its first national festival this year.

Through funding from the Arts Council of Fairfax County and the Reva & David Logan Foundation, 1st Stage will be hosting the Logan Festival of Solo Performance July 6-16.

"It's going to bring some of the nation's great solo performers from around the country into Tysons," Levy said. "We're just thrilled about that."





♦ McLean Connection ♦ January 4-10, 2017

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

- Winter Walk of Lights at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens open every day beginning on Friday,
- Nov. 18, 2016, through Jan. 8, 2017. Open Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's, too. The walk of lights runs daily from 5:30 - 10 p.m. Last tickets sold at 9:30 p.m. This familyfriendly six-week winter wonderland of spectacle is only a few years old but has garnered a loyal following from throughout the Northern Virginia area, particularly Vienna and its environs. To buy timed tickets online: https://www.novaparks.com/ events/winter-walk-of-lights
- 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.

FRIDAY/JAN. 6

- The Old Firehouse "Unruly Theater Project" 7 - 9 p.m. Free for all ages
- 1440 Chain Bridge Rd. The Unruly Theatre Project (UTP) is an improvbased theatre company composed of professional young adults. UTP uses improv in unconventional ways, to foster creativity, counteract stress and enrich audiences. In this free performance, the area's hottest professional teen improv company will provide an entertaining and hilarious night of comedy.
- **"Ensemble" at the New Katibeh Art Center** 5 - 7:30 p.m. 2070 Chain Bridge Rd., Suite 180, Vienna.

SATURDAY/JAN. 7

- Grand Opening Party 10 2 p.m. Venue: Bach to Rock McLean, McLean Square, 6649-A Old Dominion Drive. Bach to Rock, McLean is relocating. The Grand Opening of their new location is taking place. Come out and meet the teachers, check out the recording studio, enjoy a free toddler "Mommy and Me" class, schedule a free music lesson, enter into prize drawings and giveaways. Cost: Free. https:// mclean.bachtorock.com
- Michael Clem Band at Jammin Java Showtime 7:30pm 227 Maple Ave E., Vienna. Tickets: \$15GA/ \$18Premier. 877-987-6487 www.jamminjava.com
- The Capitol Steps at The Alden 8 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. To recover from this off-thewall election cycle, remain calm and walk, do not run, to The Alden and shelter-in-place with these master political satirists. \$50/\$35 MCC tax district residents.Visit: www.aldentheatre.org.

SUNDAY/JAN. 8

- Art Show and Reception 1 3 p.m. at Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Reception for the Vienna Arts Society show at the Horticulture Center and Historic House from December 20-February 19. Free. 703-642-5173
- Young Soloist Recital 3 p.m. at The Alden 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Free admission; tickets are not required. The Premier Showcase for Great Chamber Music in Northern Virginia. This free classical music series, now in its 41st season,



Chuck D will be the featured speaker at the McLean Community Center's (MCC) annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration. The celebration takes place Sunday Jan. 15 at 2 p.m. Best known as leader and cofounder of the legendary rap group, Public Enemy, Chuck D redefined rap music and hip hop culture with the release of Public Enemy's explosive debut album, "Yo Bum Rush The Show," in 1987. Speaker subject to change. Cost: \$20/\$10 MCC tax district residents. Visit: www.aldentheatre.org

features professional musicians who have won international recognition for their artistry. The series also includes Young Soloists Recitals that showcase the talents of local schoolage musicians. Cosponsored by the Music Friends of the Fairfax County Public Library and The Alden.

Concert: Opera Celebration 4 - 6 p.m. Saint Francis Episcopal Church 9220 Georgetown Pike Great Falls VA 22066. The new year is the traditional time to revel in the beauty of the voice. Beloved Amadeus pianist-in-residence Frank Conlon brings together spectacular talent in solos and ensembles, as well as his incomparable storytelling. Cost: Season pass \$150 or \$30 at the door. Visit: http://amadeusconcerts.com/

TUESDAY/JAN. 10

- All Traffic Solutions Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 10 a.m. 12950 Worldgate Drive, Suite 310, Herndon. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held to celebrate our new Herndon headquarters in Worldgate—the heart of the Virginia Tech Corridor. Herndon Mayor Lisa
- Merkel will lead the festivities. **Source Studio New Year's Ribbon Cutting Party & Free Pilates Class** 6 - 7 p.m. Socializing and Ribbon Cutting (ribbon is cut at 6:30 pm) 7 p.m.Celebratory Free Pilates Class. 144 Church St NW #102 Vienna entrance on right side of building. Organic Tea served. It's a time of new beginnings and fresh starts. Between 6 pm and 6:25 pm at the party, you can enter a raffle to win a free month of classes at the studio. sourcecorestudio.com
- 50th Anniversary Kickoff Community Dinner at The Church of the Good Shepherd (United Methodist) in Vienna. The free spaghetti dinner will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the church, located at 2351 Hunter Mill Road in Vienna, Pastor Eric Song. "We know our lives are busy during the week so to kick things off we are offering a free home-cooked meal for our community families to enjoy." Reservations are not required, but helpful 703-281-3987. Takeout also will be available.In the case of snow, the dinner will be held Jan, 17,

www.GoodShepherdVA.com

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 11 Open House FB Meekins

Coperative Preschool 12:45pm -1:45pm 900 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Yellows (2s), Blues (older 3s/4s), Reds (Pre-K).

THURSDAY/JAN. 12

- "Brush Up Your Shakespeare" 7:30 p.m. \$5/\$3 MCC tax district residents.
- Experts from the Shakespeare Theatre, American Shakespeare Center and the Folger Shakespeare Library are back to give you a guided tour of the world of Shakespeare in preparation for American Shakespeare Center on Tour's Shakespeare Weekend at The Alden.
- SCOV Open House/Registration Day 10 - noon Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton. There will be an open house for Seniors at the Winter semester of Adventures in Learning. The eight week session will begin January 19th and run through March 16th from 9AM to 2PM. Light refreshments will be provided. If you are unable to attend the open house, you may view the schedule of interesting classes and registration form at http:// www.scov.org/ail-open-house and mail the form to us at any time during the term. There is a \$40 registration fee for the semester, take as many or as few classes as you wish. 703-281-0538

SATURDAY/JAN. 14,

Barter Theatre "The Ugly Duckling" 1 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. \$15/\$10 MCC tax district residents. For ages 4+. It's hard being different. When a strange egg shows up in Mama Duck's nest and hatches, a very ugly duckling is born. After many failed attempts to "fit in," the ugly duckling sets out on a journey to find his true place in the world. He soon realizes that he must learn to love himself before he can discover who he really is. There will be a duck petting zoo before the show.



McLean Connection & January 4-10, 2017 & 13

1234 Ingleside Ave.,

McLean, VA 22101

703-790-0123, TTY: 711

I Digress, Yet Again

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I went to my local Giant supermarket the other day, a trip I make regularly, so regularly that I deserve a close-in, employee-of-themonth-type parking space. Unlikely as that may be, I do get to park in a special close-in L.E.V., ("low emitting vehicle") space when I drive the Honda which is a 'low emitting vehicle.' (This Giant was built with special "Green" amenities.) Not that I couldn't use the exercise if I were to park further away and actually walk a little bit. Nevertheless, between the chemotherapy-induced neuropathy in my feet and the associated fluid build-up in my legs and feet as well, walking, even short distances, is hardly a comfortable stroll. Nor is it a walk in the park.

Once inside the store though, I am less inhibited by my condition - or merely just focused on the shopping task at hand, particularly so when I find myself sauntering down and perusing the candy/cookie aisle, where my presence is a fairly familiar sight. In fact, if the candy/cookie aisle could talk, "You again" would be what it say upon seeing me taking inventory. And as I was doing my due diligence this day: checking availability, price and variety — and taking my time doing so, an employee working in the same aisle who must have noticed my deliberation asked guite innocently and sincerely if I needed any help. Realizing that I was the only customer in the aisle and that the employee must have been talking to me, I started snickering and laughing to myself and did not immediately respond to his offer of assistance. Soon enough though, I turned around, smiled and said: "No. I don't need any help. If there's one place in the supermarket where I don't need any help, it's this one. Every other aisle, not so much. But candy and cookies, I can handle. Thanks anyway though.

I ended up buying two medium-sized bags of mint M&Ms which were on sale, the purchase of which were made more enticing after I noticed a coupon dispenser nearby distributing an additional \$1.50 off-two coupons. That was all the inducement I needed. Not that I'm necessarily driven by sales and coupons but, given my tendencies — and cash flow, the only self-control I can successfully impose on myself, is price. I won't buy the item unless it's on sale and then I can't stop myself from buying it. Moreover, if I have a coupon as well and the item is on sale, well, it's "Katie bar the door." The only question is: how many coupons do I have? However, if the item is not on sale and I also don't have a cou pon, then unless I'm desperate - which occasionally I am, I can withstand the temptation and not buy the item, usually. Such is life in the chocoholic lane.

Unfortunately, the chocolate problem continues once I get home, that is if it hasn't already reared its ugly head in the car while sitting in the parking lot after I've finished my shopping. (And what's worse, my drive home is barely five minutes. Yet sometimes, it's too long to wait.) Once inside the house, not immediately though, I'll probably start getting urges. I rationalize these urges by insisting that I need to eat the candy/cookies so I won't have the candy/cookies in the house, thereby eliminating said temptation. However, the problem isn't exactly solved; it's just recreated, so to speak. Once I've eaten all the candy/cookies in the house, and there are no more candy/cookies in the house, I need to go out and get some because - there are no candy/cookies in the house. Ergo, my regu lar visits to the Giant. It's not pretty, but it is

I wouldn't say I'm a man on a mission, but I am a man on sugar. And though I certainly realize that cancer and sugar are bad together, Kenny without sugar — and with cancer, might actually be worse.

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



14 & McLean Connection & January 4-10, 2017

OPINION

LASSIFIED Comstock Report



establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Combined Mixed Beverage Restaurant/Mixed Beverage Caterer license to sell or man ufacture alcoholic beverages David Wizenberg, Member NOTE: Objections to the issu ance 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. Ob jections should be registered

www.abc.virginia.gov

800-552-3200

DEADLINES Zones 1, 5, 6Mon @ noon Zones 2, 3, 4Tues @ noon E-mail ad with zone choices to: classified@connection newspapers.com or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411 **EMPLOYMENT** Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon E-mail ad with zone choices to: classified@connection newspapers.com or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411 ZONES The Reston Connection The Oak Hill/ Herndon Connection Zone 2: The Springfield Connection The Burke Connection The Fairfax Connection The Fairfax Station/Cliftor Lorton Connection The Alexandria Gazette Packet The Mount Vernon Gaze Zone 4: Centre View North Centre View South one 5: The Potomac Almana Zone 6: The Arlington Connection The Vienna/Oakton nection The McLean Connection

The Great Falls Connection

101 Computers 101 Computers

0



21 Announcements 21 Announcements





Omni Resorts the homestead 540-839-1766 • OmniHotels.com/TheHomestead

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg

From Page 6

veterans for their many sacrifices and improve their daily lives. One such piece of legislation is H.R. 203, the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act. It must be incumbent upon us to ensure our veterans are taken care of after they serve our nation and we worked in a bipartisan manner to pass this legislation, which was signed into law.

 Opioid addiction was recently declared a Public Health Emergency in our Commonwealth and we must utilize every resource available to fight against this disease. I have worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle as a member of the Bipartisan Taskforce to Combat the Heroin Epidemic and we came together to pass the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, landmark legislation that will considerably improve our treatment and prevention services and help those tragically addicted. I also joined with local elected officials and regional representatives in Loudoun and Fairfax Counties to form a Heroin Operations Team that employs a comprehensive approach to battling this epidemic that hits so close to home.

✤ I voted for over \$600 billion in tax re-

Bulletin Board

FEBRUARY

Free public service seminars -Decluttering: Feb. 2, McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Rd., McLean.

- -Aging in Place: Feb. 8, Falls Church H.S., 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church.
- Downsizing: Feb. 14, Marshall H.S. 7731 Leesburg Pk., Falls Church. -Retirement Communities Feb. 22, Madison H.S.,
- 2500 James Madison Dr., Vienna.
- For more information and seminar registration go to RetireeRealEstate.org, or call 703-772-3033.

ONGOING

- Volunteers Needed. PRS is looking for empathetic and caring volunteers to make phone calls to older adults who may be feeling socially isolated. The commitment is one 3-hour shift per week for one year. Located in Arlington. Ages 21 & up. Intensive training provided. Learn more and apply: https://prsinc.org/carering-volunteering. Questions? Email lpadgett@prsinc.org.
- The Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ ltcombudsman/.
- Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older** adults to medical appointments and wellness programs. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.
- Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.
- The Lewinsville Senior Center in McLean needs a Certified Arthritis Exercise Instructor. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or

lief to fuel our economy and our local businesses and to give our hardworking families the much-needed help they deserve. The House passed the PATH Act, which makes the Research and Development Tax Credit permanent and will help unleash innovation and economic growth in the Commonwealth.

✤ My legislation, the INSPIRE Women Act, passed the House earlier this year. We continue to focus on educating our next generation in the new, 21st century skillsets necessary to succeed as our economy increasingly relies on innovative new technologies to advance and grow. The INSPIRE Women Act will encourage young women to pursue skilled STEM careers as we build the next generation of technological entrepreneurship. Unfortunately, the Senate did not take up this bill, but we have high hopes it will be passed by both chambers and signed into law in the 115th Congress.

During the past two summers, we held annual 10th Congressional District Young Women Leadership programs. Over 800 young women participated and learned from successful entrepreneurs, businesswomen, scientists, and other women in a wide range of fields.

Congress passed the FAST Act, legisla-

. The deadline for submissions is noon on Friday.

- visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.
- The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area seniors to medical appointments and other activities. Opportunities to volunteer for other services are also available. No long-term commitment and hours are flexible to fit your schedule.Visit www.scov.org or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email volunteer@scov.org.
- Vienna Toastmasters. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 7:30-9 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center on the 2nd floor room opposite the elevator, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. A friendly place to get comfortable with public speaking and impromptu speaking for new and experienced speakers. Open to the public.
- Run With the Doctor. Every other Saturday at 7 a.m. 8230 Boone Blvd., Tysons Corner. The Center for Orthopedics and Sports Medicine offers its services in a convenient format to runners at this running event. Free facebook.com/runwiththedoctor.
- Virginia Sheriffs' Institute Scholarship Program. Those enrolled in a Virginia college or university who are pursuing a degree in the field of criminal justice are eligible for the Virginia Sheriff's Institute Scholarship Program; recommendation letter needed. 703-246-3251, shf-pio@fairfaxcounty.gov or http:// vasheriffsinstitute.org/scholarship/.
- Volunteers for Change. A program for adults which offers more than 50 weekend and evening volunteer opportunities per month. www.volunteerfairfax.org
- Haven of Northern Virginia Support Group. 703-941-7000, www.havenofnova.org or havenofnova@verizon.net
- Brinker Toastmasters, 2nd and 4th Saturday, 9:30 a.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Brinker.wordpress.com
- Pauline Shirley Toastmasters Club Meeting. 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave.,

tion that gives assurance to our state and local governments and advances our infrastructure solutions throughout the nation. I was named as a conferee by Speaker Paul Ryan for the House-Senate negotiations and worked with my colleagues across the aisle to include some of my important provisions in this legislation, including Metro reforms, a 5-year strategic plan for transportation R&D, a major traffic congestion study, and more. The FAST Act was signed into law.

In all, 17 of my legislative initiatives were signed into law during the 114th Congressmost of which originated with the meetings we took with constituents. During the next two years, I will continue to focus on direct interaction with constituents and businesses in Virginia's Tenth, as that is the best way to represent you in Congress.

It is a privilege to serve you in the Tenth District. I may be contacted at my Sterling office at 703-404-6903, or my Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-5136. By visiting http://comstock.house.gov, you can sign up to receive my email newsletters and follow my efforts to serve you. You can also follow me on Facebook and Twitter for real-time updates on my activities in Congress and in the District. If I may ever be of service, please do not hesitate to contact me.

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/

McLean. Develop better speaking and presentation skills, learn to think quickly and clearly on your feet. 703-893-5506 or paulineshirley.freetoasthost.info.

- Virginia Chronic Pain Support Group Meets from 1:30 - 3 p.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Kaplan Center for Integrative Medicine, 6829 Elm St., Suite 300, McLean. Group leader, Jodi Brayton, LCSW. 703-532-4892
- Northern Virginia Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association Holds Business Meetings. The Chapter meets the third Thursday each month from 11:30 - 1:30 p.m. Tickets via Eventbrite are \$25 in advance and \$30 cash at the door. Seating is limited. Open to businesspersons working or living in and around Fairfax and Prince William counties. Guests and prospective members welcome. The Northern Virginia Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association embraces positive, energetic and supportive women willing to help themselves and other women succeed both professionally and personally. To register, use https:// www.eventbrite.com/e/abwa-nvcc-welcomessherron-washington-from-the-p3-solutiontickets-25778817136.
- Fire Prevention Week Oct. 9-15, 2016 How often do smoke alarms need to be replaced? A national survey shows most Americans don't know. Fire Prevention Week promotes the importance of replacing smoke alarms every 10 years. NFPA is promoting this year's campaign theme, "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years," to better educate the public about this potentially lifesaving message. Visit: www.nfpa.org
- Krops Crops a long time business in Great Falls open Monday - Friday 10 to 6pm. Saturday and Sunday 10 to 5pm. We've cleaned up the barn in two separate areas which are now filled with shabby chic, refinished furniture. Vintage and antique items. Store is located at the corner of Georgetown Pike and Utterback Store Road in Great Falls VA. The antique center just opened on September 1st. There are currently 5 vendors: we're looking for a few more. Contact Wendy Hunter 703-973-8772

McLean Connection & January 4-10, 2017 & 15









JD CALLANDER Direct: (703) 606-7901 #1 Agent Companywide

Office: (703) 821-1025 jd@newNOVAhome.com www.newNOVAhome.com #1 Agent Companywide Top 1% Realtors Nationwide Top 10 Realtors in Virginia NVAR 80+ Million Dollar Sales Club

WISHING YOU A VERY BLESSED AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

6212 Loch Raven Drive, McLean \$825,000 BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED 4BR/3 full bath home located on over a 1/4 acre in sought-after POTOMAC HILLS! Open concept floorplan; updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite and island with breakfast bar seating; elegant living room & formal dining room; sunroom/office; all new bathrooms (2016); LL with rec room, BR and bath. Huge

level yard with patio. 1 stoplight to DC!

1560 McLean Commons Ct. NOW....\$839,000 GORGEOUS END-UNIT luxury home with brand new stainless steel appliances in the kitchen, plus granite counters, travertine backsplash and tile floors! Flowing open-concept floorplan; inviting family room with fireplace; elegant living and formal dining rooms; expansive owner's suite with luxury bath; 1-car garage; convenient and sought-after McLean location!

1821 Westmoreland St, McLean \$1,299,000 SPECTACULAR 5BR/4.5 BA craftsman home with incredible custom designs throughout! Easy, open floorplan; gorgeous kitchen with stainless steel, granite island, breakfast bar seating plus nice eat-in space. Separate formal dining room; inviting family room with walkout to slate patio and huge fenced-in yard; owner's suite with sitting area plus luxury spa bath; huge lower level rec room!





436 Sherrow Avenue Falls Church City 22046 \$624,900



6420 Divine Street McLean 22101 \$1,499,000



16 * McLean Connection * January 4-10, 2017