

More than 80 Fairfax County residents spoke directly to members of the Fairfax delegation to the General Assembly at a public hearing on Jan. 7 at the Fairfax County Government Center.

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PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

JANUARY 11-17, 2017

ONLINE AT [WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



## NEWS

# Comstock Sworn-In To The 115th Congress

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



**U.S. Rep Barbara Comstock (R-10) being sworn-in to the 115th Congress.**

**C**ongresswoman Barbara Comstock (R-10) issued the following statement on being sworn-in to the 115th Congress. This will mark the start of Comstock's second term representing the people of Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District:

"We live in exciting times for our region, where the innovation economy is constantly evolving and growing. I look forward to working in the new Congress with my colleagues to forge pro-growth policies that will boost the innovation economy even further. The passage of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures

Act in the last Congress has provided a strong foundation for innovation within the medical community as well. Our region is home to accomplished medical research facilities like Inova's Schar Cancer Institute, and I will work with these research facilities as the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act gets implemented, in hopes that exciting new cures are developed right here in Northern Virginia.

"Over the past two years I had the honor of visiting over six hundred local businesses, technology companies, schools, rotaries, charities, and many other different groups in Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and I look forward to visiting with even more of my constituents in the new year. By talking with constituents on a daily basis, I get a better understanding of their issues and how to make Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District an even better place to live.

"As always, constituent service will be one of my top priorities, the same way it was for my predecessor Congressman Frank Wolf. Serving the people of Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District every day in Congress is a privilege, and I look forward to continuing to serve them in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress."

Virginia's 10th Congressional District stretches from McLean down to Manassas and Prince William County and out through Loudoun, Clarke, and Frederick Counties to the West Virginia border. Comstock served on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; the Science, Space, and Technology Committee where she chaired the subcommittee on Research and Technology; and the Committee on House Administration in the 114th Congress. Committee assignments have not yet been announced for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress.

## WEEK IN McLEAN

### 'Arts Night Out' on Jan. 26

The New Dominion Women's Club will be hosting "Arts Night Out" on Thursday, Jan. 26 from 6:30 - 9 p.m. at McLean Project for the Arts (MPA). Come enjoy a night out surrounded by great art and great people. Sip some wine, eat some tasty bites and bid on the silent auction. MPA Exhibitions Director, Nancy Sausser, will guide us through the artwork on exhibit with an insightful Art Talk at 7:45 p.m. All proceeds from this benefit will be donated to local charities. The event will be held at MPA in the McLean Community Center located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. For more information and to order tickets visit [www.ndwc.org](http://www.ndwc.org).



## JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE

Saturday,  
January 21, 2017

2:00pm-4:00pm

700 W Broad St  
Falls Church, VA

## The Kensington promises to love and care for your family as we do our own

### Opening Soon in Falls Church

**O**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.*



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PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

**More than 80 Fairfax County residents spoke directly to members of the Fairfax delegation to the General Assembly at a public hearing on Jan. 7 at the Fairfax County Government Center.**

## Fairfax Lawmakers' Last Call for Input

**More than 80 speak at General Assembly public hearing.**

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**“W**e’re not letting teachers do their jobs,” was the plea from Jo Neuber of Vienna

Co-chair of the organization Class Size Counts. Neuber thanked Del. Jim Lemunyon (R-67) for developing three class size bills for the 2017 session of the Virginia General Assembly, including HB1498. Neuber said she was in favor of putting a cap of 24 students in science labs.

Neuber was one of more than 80 Fairfax County residents who spoke directly to members of the Fairfax delegation to the General Assembly at a public hearing on Jan. 7 at the Fairfax County Government Center.

The General Assembly is set to convene in Richmond at noon on Jan. 11, when they will begin work on new or amended legislation for the Virginia Code.

The public hearing was the last chance local constituents had to voice their hopes or concerns for pending or potential legislation in person without traveling to the state capital, though most lawmakers have already all but finalized their legislative agenda for the session.

Education was once again an important topic for many speakers, beginning with Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova.

“Of the \$21 million in additional state

funding the county was expected to receive in FY2017, \$4.4 of that is already at risk due to the cancellation of funding for raises for teachers and other instructions personnel,” Bulova said. “We must get that funding back and we must make sure that funding for those raises is included in the FY2018 budget.”

Bulova and Fairfax County Public School Board vice chair Jane Strauss said the Virginia Retirement System rates were accelerated by one year last year, which increases the costs for FCPS by more than \$25 million in FY 2017.

“We ask for help in avoiding funding reductions to our local programs and services,” Bulova said, “and opposing restrictions on our local revenues.”

Several education advocates echoed Neuber’s call to reduce class size, and Bulova’s concern for competitive teacher salary levels.

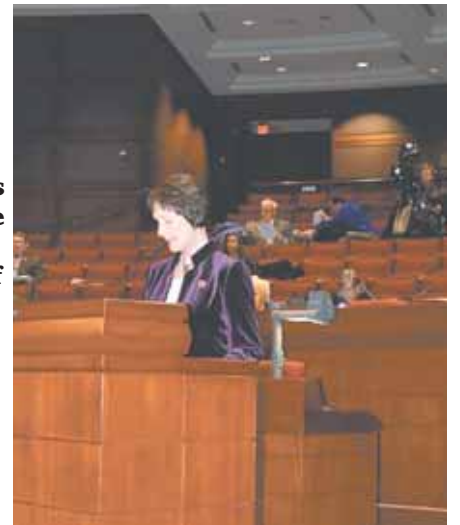
Other topics with numerous speakers included legalization of marijuana for medicinal use; funding for disability services waivers; transportation and congestion reduction; funding for the court system; and the tax on toilet paper, adult diapers and some feminine hygiene products.

Holly Seibold of Vienna is founder and executive director of the group Bringing Resources to Aid Women’s Shelters that provides donated feminine hygiene products to who have insufficient access to them. She urged the delegation to support the “Dignity Act,” introduced by Del. Jennifer Boysko (D-86), that would make toilet paper, adult diapers and some feminine hygiene products tax exempt.

For more information on the General Assembly, to track a bill or find out who your representative to the assembly is, visit [virginiageneralassembly.gov](http://virginiageneralassembly.gov).

### Hearing Highlights

**Education was once again an important topic for many speakers at the Jan. 7 public hearing for the Fairfax delegation to the General Assembly, beginning with Board of Supervisors chairman Sharon Bulova.**



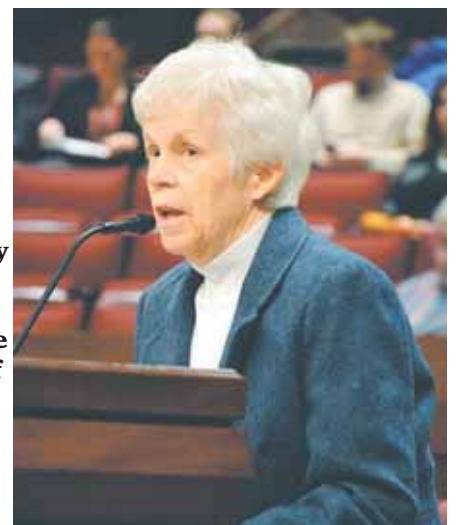
**Sharon Bulova and Fairfax County Public School Board vice chair Jane Strauss (center) said the Virginia Retirement System rates were accelerated by one year last year, which increases the costs for FCPS by more than \$25 million in FY 2017.**



**Louise Epstein of McLean said she’s worried that future FCPS superintendents may use class size as a tool to continue balancing the budget. “Please patron the bill requiring schools to publicize class size data,” she said.**



**Helen Kelly of Herndon is a community leader for the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area. “We join the Board of Supervisors and School Board in asking to fully restore the cost of competing for all teachers,” she said. Kelly also said the League was hoping for the delegation to support reduction of transit congestion.**



SEE MORE, PAGE 4





## Announcing Group Interviews for The Kensington Falls Church

Interview with Us at  
**700 West Broad Street in Falls Church**  
Thursdays from January 19-March 2 at 11am & 4pm  
Saturdays from January 21-March 4 at 11am

**H**ave 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.

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**For immediate consideration or more details,  
email [FallsChurchCareers@KensingtonSL.com](mailto:FallsChurchCareers@KensingtonSL.com)  
or call 703-992-9868.**

## More than 80 speak at General Assembly public hearing.

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION



Joseph Dailey of McLean represented the Fairfax Bar Association on Jan. 7. He said lack of funding for the court system in Fairfax County is putting unnecessary pressure on dockets and causing delays. "It's not justice, it's not access to justice," he said.



Catharine Trauernicht of McLean asked if the delegates would commit to mandating and audit of the Virginia Office of Newcomer Services for refugees and if they would commit to arranging a public forum explaining how the resettling process works. No delegate raised a hand for either, which Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35) said was because that would signify voting for a measure they hadn't had time to fully consider.



Andy Ludwig of Falls Church said there were three groups of people with diseases or physical issues that all share the fact that "marijuana has been shown to provide therapeutic pain relief," yet the drug is still prohibited in the Commonwealth of Virginia. "Ninety percent of Virginians support it," Ludwig said. "There's no public policy we're getting more completely wrong."



Duane Ludwig of Falls Church followed his brother and also spoke to the delegation about legalizing marijuana. He said marijuana-related arrests were breaking up families and a large, unnecessary cost to taxpayers to continue enforcing prohibition laws, and prosecuting and incarcerating offenders.





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- › Military Academy Nominations
- › Applying for Federal Grants

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# OPINION

## About the McLean Connection

**H**appy New Year. We need your help in 2017.

As local, weekly newspapers, the Connection's mission is to deliver news that readers need close to home, to help readers enjoy great local places and events, to advocate for community good, to call attention to unmet needs, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones and events in communities and people's lives.

If you know people or organizations doing important work, something newsworthy or something that might make a good feature story, let us know.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, or accomplished a feat like running a marathon or having an art show.

We publish photos and notes of a variety of personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries. Send a photo and tell us about it in 200 words or less to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com).

We feature events in our weekly calendars. We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. To have the best chance of getting an event included in our calendar ahead of time, email us the details of the event (who, what, where, when, why) three weeks ahead of time. Email to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com).

After your event, email us a photo and a note so we can consider including it in our coverage. Be sure to include the names of all the people who are in a photo, and say when and where the photo was taken.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees, anniversaries are welcome.

Of course we are interested in your news tips and your questions about what is happening in your community.

We are always looking for contributing writers and photographers.

The Connection Newspapers are published by Local Media Connection LLC, an independent, locally owned company. The publications and websites include the Alexandria Gazette Packet, the Mount Vernon Gazette, the Centre View, the Potomac Almanac and individual Connection papers and websites serving McLean, Great Falls, Vienna/Oakton, Oak Hill/Herndon, Reston, Springfield, Burke, Fairfax, Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton, Arlington, Centreville, Chantilly/Fair Oaks, Alexandria and Mount Vernon.

The publications and websites have won hundreds of awards for news and community coverage just in the past few years, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Integrity and Community Service for coverage of efforts to prevent and end homelessness, and Best in Show for information/art for coverage of local parks.

The operation of these community-serving publications is entirely funded by advertising. The papers are delivered free to homes and businesses throughout Northern Virginia, and through free digital subscriptions, with more than 150,000 readers across the region. If you or your organization appreciate the Connection publications, please support them by patronizing our advertisers and by spending a portion of your marketing budget with us.

For information about advertising, see [www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising), contact [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com), or call 703-778-9431.

Visit our website, [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com) and click on "contact us" for quick forms for:

Free digital subscriptions to one or more of our 15 papers: [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe).

Submit a letter to the editor at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter) or email to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com).

We provide educational, unpaid internships all year; apply at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships) or email letter and resume to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com). We welcome students and adults.

Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers](http://www.facebook.com/connectionnewspapers).

Follow us on Twitter at [@followfairfax](http://www.twitter.com/followfairfax) overall, and locally at McLean Connection: [@mcleanconnect](https://twitter.com/mcleanconnect), Great Falls Connection: [@gfconnection](https://twitter.com/gfconnection), Vienna and Oakton Connection: [@viennaconnect](https://twitter.com/viennaconnect), Oak Hill/Herndon Connection: [@herndonconnect](https://twitter.com/herndonconnect), Reston Connection: [@restonconnect](https://twitter.com/restonconnect), Fairfax Connection: [@ffxconnection](https://twitter.com/ffxconnection), Burke Connection: [@burkeconnection](https://twitter.com/burkeconnection), Springfield Connection: [@sprconnect](https://twitter.com/sprconnect), Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection: [@lfsconnection](https://twitter.com/lfsconnection), Centre View: [@centreview](https://twitter.com/centreview), Chantilly Connection: [@chantillyconnec](https://twitter.com/chantillyconnec), Alexandria Gazette Packet: [@alexgazette](https://twitter.com/alexgazette), Mount Vernon Gazette: [@mtvernongazette](https://twitter.com/mtvernongazette), Arlington Connection: [@arlconnection](https://twitter.com/arlconnection), and Potomac Almanac: [@potomacalmanac](https://twitter.com/potomacalmanac).

### EDITORIAL

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### THROUGH JAN. 18

##### Community Forums on

**Superintendent Search.** Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA), the firm hired by the FCPS School Board to conduct a search for a new superintendent to replace Karen K. Garza, will be holding ten community forums in January to allow Fairfax County residents to share their ideas and feedback on the characteristics they are seeking in a new superintendent. Meetings in our area include:

% **Wednesday, Jan. 11**, noon, Providence District Office and Community Center, multipurpose room 2, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031.

% **Tuesday, Jan. 17**, 11 a.m., Herndon Council Chambers, 765 Lynn Street, Herndon, VA 20170.

% **Tuesday, Jan. 17**, 7 p.m., Stuart High School Little Theater, 3301 Peace Valley Lane, Falls Church, VA 22044.

% **Tuesday, Jan. 17**, 7 p.m., Chantilly High School Lecture Hall, 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA 20151.

% **Wednesday, Jan. 18**, 7 p.m., Langley High School Auditorium, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101. An online survey will be posted on [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu) on January 9, which will allow community

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](mailto:connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline for submissions is noon on Friday.

members to submit their opinions electronically. Additional information on the superintendent search will be posted online as it becomes available. Interpreters will be available at select locations to be determined.

##### ESL Calendar Announcement for St Mark's Catholic Church Vienna

Classes: On Tuesdays & Thursdays, from January 17 – March 16, 2017. English classes from 8 to 9:30 p.m. Citizenship, Writing, and Conversation from 7 to 7:45 p.m., same days.

Where: Mark Christian Formation Center, 2nd floor.

Cost: English classes: \$25 (for 9 weeks of lessons). Citizenship, Writing, and Conversation: \$10 (for 9 weeks of lessons). Book cost is extra where applicable. Cash and Credit accepted for registration and books.

Questions: Visit our Web page: [www.stmarkesl.org/](http://www.stmarkesl.org/); or call 703-980-9380.

#### SUNDAY/JAN. 15

**A Breakfast Buffet** will be offered from 8 a.m. to noon, at Vienna American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Adults \$9, children 12 and under \$3. Get omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, etc. For more information call 703-938-6580.

#### TUESDAY/JAN. 17

##### Great Falls Senior Center Monthly

**Event** featuring Mary Ann Jung, award-winning actress, Smithsonian scholar, writer and director, performing as Julia Child, American chef, author, and television personality who brought French cuisine to the American public. Jung researches and writes her own scripts and performs in the authentic costumes and accents of the characters' eras. 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The event is sponsored by the Great Falls Area Ministries. Light refreshments will be served and space is limited. Contact Polly Fitzgerald at [pollyfitz1@verizon.net](mailto:pollyfitz1@verizon.net) or 703-759-4345 to RSVP. For more information about the GFSC, visit <http://www.gfseniors.org/>.

#### 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](http://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/carerer-volunteering/>. Questions? Email [lpadgett@prsinc.org](mailto: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](mailto:Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov). Also visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltcombudsman/](http://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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

## McLean CONNECTION

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**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Fallon Forbush**  
Reporter  
[fforbush@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:fforbush@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kyle Kincaid**  
Editorial Assistant  
[mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com)

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

**Trisha Hamilton**  
Display Advertising  
703-624-9201  
[trisha@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:trisha@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Andrea Smith**  
Classified Advertising  
703-778-9411  
[classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Debbie Funk**  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@TheismannMedia](https://twitter.com/TheismannMedia)

**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427**  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)





## NEWS

# Preparing to Prosper in 2017

## Q&A: Supervisor John Foust looks into year ahead.

**Q:** What are you looking forward to in 2017? Do you have any personal New Year's resolutions for yourself, or major milestones you anticipate to reaching?

**A:** My wife and I have already planned a family vacation to Scotland during the board's August recess.

**Q:** What was the biggest lesson you learned in 2016 and how will you use it to your advantage in the future?

**A:** I continue to be impressed by how many people in the Dranesville District are anxious to get involved and contribute to their community. Through appointments to county boards, authorities, commissions and task forces, I will continue to make service opportunities available for our amazing volunteers.

**Q:** What are your 2017 priorities for the district (Great Falls and McLean) and why?

**A:** ♦ Ensure that our excellent schools, parks, libraries, public safety and human services are adequately funded to meet the needs and expectations of the community.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY  
JOHN FOUST

**Supervisor John Foust  
(D-Dranesville)**

♦ Ensure that several important transportation projects that will help reduce congestion and improve pedestrian and bicycle safety, such as Rt. 7 widening, the Jones Branch Connector and numerous sidewalk and trails projects move forward as quickly as possible.

♦ Continue efforts to revitalize downtown McLean and make it safer and more accessible for pedestrians and bikers.

♦ Keep the Lewinsville Center project on schedule to deliver senior housing, a new senior center and three day care centers for our community.

♦ Conclude the negotiations between the National Park Service and the Park Authority so the County can acquire Langley Fork Park and construct several new athletic fields.

♦ Work with the Park Authority to select a person or entity to enter into a long-term lease under the Resident Curator Program for the Turner Farm House.

♦ Work with the Park Authority and several com-

SEE Q & A, PAGE 11



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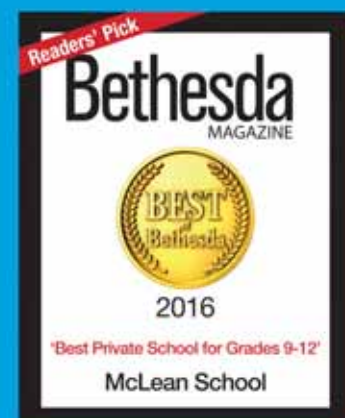
8224 Lochinver Lane Potomac, Maryland 20854 [www.mcleanschool.org](http://www.mcleanschool.org)

## Open House

9:00 am Saturday, January 21

RSVP [admission@mcleanschool.org](mailto:admission@mcleanschool.org)  
 240.395.0698

**McLean School**  
 Transformative.







PHOTOS BY MORGAN HOWARTH

This new home office by Anthony Wilder Design/Build incorporates a custom-designed cord control system.



PHOTO BY ROBERT RADIFERA

Storage solutions such as those in this office by Megan Padilla help make home offices aesthetically appealing.

## Organizing a Home Office

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Whether located in a basement, spare bedroom or kitchen corner, one of the keys to creating a functional home office is organization. Local designers offer suggestions for styling a space that is both practical and aesthetically appealing.

“Start by thinking about how you would like to use your home office and plan accordingly,” said Megan Padilla, senior designer at Aidan Design. “Will it be a desk that easily converts to a homework station or craft area or a dedicated home office for the everyday telecommuter?”

Keeping office equipment out of sight will give the space a home-like feel, says Padilla. This can be accomplished by using storage solutions like printer drawers.

### Design ideas for workspace order.

Practical home office organizational solutions include roll-out trays for computer accessories like printers and a wire management system above and below the desk for power cords and computer cables both on top of the desk, advises Chuck Khiehl, vice president of Fred Home Improvement, a division of Case. “Create a Bluetooth operational office space,” he said.

“Organizing all of the smaller office supplies can be accomplished with a series of coordinated containers for tools such as

pencils, scissors and markers ... or within drawers,” added Padilla. “Consider a mix of drawer heights to allow ample storage for smaller desk supplies as well as your typical file folders.”

Use open shelving to allow for quick access to frequently used items and book storage. “[It] can also make a smaller space feel more expansive,” said Padilla.

If a home office is in a spare bedroom, closets can be repurposed and organized to hide copy and fax machines, says Shannon



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

### Making McLean Homes Tour, MarketPlace a Success

Partial listing of McLean Woman's Club members who contributed their efforts to the 2016 Holiday Homes Tour and MarketPlace.

From left — first row: Club President Joan Morton, Barbara Hartsell, Linda Regan, Daisy Logan, Kay Burnell, Rosalie Donnelly, Peggy Puritano, Helen Bowers, Anne Kanter, Jackie Armstrong. Second row: Carol Danzeisen, Millie Thompson, Carol Scott, Laura Sheridan. Third row: Bea Somovigo, Grace Harkins, Dawn Schulz, Mary Flanagan, Cecilia Glembocki, Emma Lea Moorman, Sally Margolis, Jeanette Calland, Rebecca Horahan.

## Tysons Tower to Be Renovated

Love Funding, one of the nation's leading providers of FHA multifamily, affordable and healthcare financing, announced the closing of a \$19 million loan that will help preserve and refurbish an affordable senior housing community in Vienna.

Tysons Tower was built in 1976 by The Fairfax Education Association Retirement Housing Corporation (FEARHC) to provide affordable housing for senior residents. Part of the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA) affordable housing stock, the property was in need of major facility upgrades and its existing rental assistance contract was set to expire in 2017. FEARHC wished to ensure that the 274 units continue to be reserved for those aged 62 or older and who earn 80 percent or less of the area's median income.

Love Funding Director Ann Bolen was able to secure the new loan through the VHDA, after securing a commitment from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program for a new 20-year Project Based Rental Assistance (PRBA) contract on 100 percent of the units. A large share of the proceeds from the new



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**A \$19 million loan will help preserve and refurbish this affordable senior housing community in Vienna.**

loan will finance a host of property improvements, including a new roof, heating and air-conditioning systems, windows, elevators, and interior unit renovations, among other improvements.

“The closing of this loan signifies a new beginning for Tysons Tower,” said Anne Roper, Senior Portfolio Manager at Polinger Company, which has managed the property for nearly 40 years. “It's a testimony to the dedication Fairfax Education Association Retirement Housing Corporation continues to exhibit in fulfilling its mission of providing quality affordable housing in one of the nation's most expensive real estate markets.”

For more information visit [www.lovefunding.com](http://www.lovefunding.com).





PHOTO BY ROBERT RADIFERA

Organizing small office supplies, like this one by Aidan Design, can be accomplished with a series of coordinated containers for tools such as pencils, scissors and markers.

**“Custom built-ins make a huge difference [because] you can tailor the storage space to individual needs and create more functional spaces.”**

— Shannon Kadwell, Anthony Wilder Design/Build.

Kadwell, interior designer at Anthony Wilder Design/Build.

“Add fabric bulletin boards in prominent locations and in a complementary color for

visual appeal,” she said. “Custom built-ins make a huge difference as you can tailor the storage space to individual needs and create more functional spaces.”



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# JAN. 19<sup>TH</sup>

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# Local REAL ESTATE

## November, 2016 Top Sales in Great Falls and McLean



**2** 701 Gouldman Lane, Great Falls — \$2,360,000



**8** 1059 Great Passage Boulevard, Great Falls — \$1,690,000



**4** 904 Douglass Drive, McLean — \$1,990,000



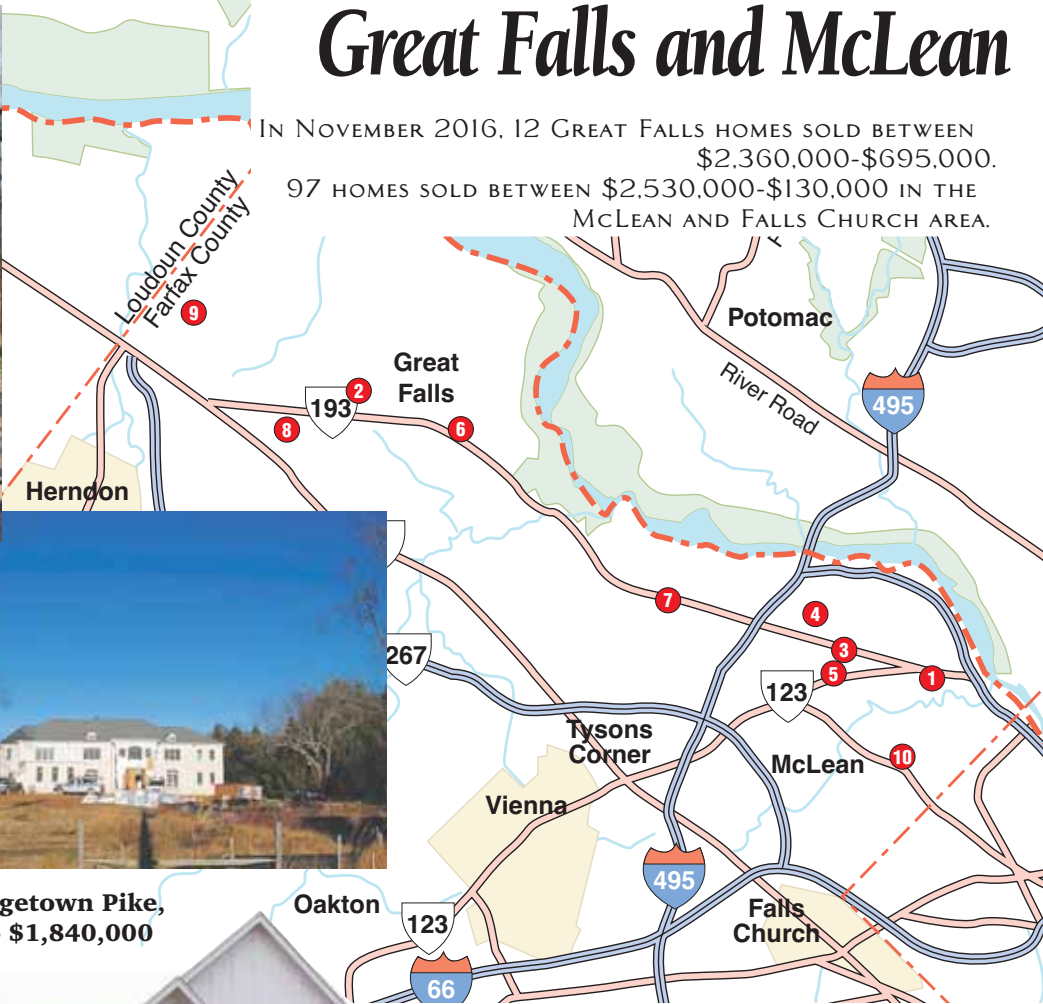
**5** 1203 Buchanan Street, McLean — \$1,870,000



**6** 9624 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls — \$1,840,000



**1** 1227 Somerset Drive, McLean — \$2,530,000



Address .....	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City	...	Sold Price	...	Type	...	Lot AC	PostalCode	.....	Subdivision	.....	Date Sold		
<b>1</b> 1227 SOMERSET DR .....	6	..	6	..	1	.....	MCLEAN	.....	\$2,530,000	.....	Detached	....	0.51	.....	22101	.....	CLEARVIEW MANOR	.....	11/29/16
<b>2</b> 701 GOULDMAN LN .....	5	..	7	..	2	...	GREAT FALLS	..	\$2,360,000	.....	Detached	....	5.39	.....	22066	.....	GOULDMAN ACRES	.....	11/23/16
<b>3</b> 6539 GEORGETOWN PIKE .....	5	..	4	..	1	.....	MCLEAN	.....	\$2,250,000	.....	Detached	....	1.08	.....	22101	.....	LANGLEY	.....	11/17/16
<b>4</b> 904 DOUGLASS DR .....	5	..	6	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	.....	\$1,990,000	.....	Detached	....	0.58	.....	22101	.....	LANGLEY FOREST	.....	11/15/16
<b>5</b> 1203 BUCHANAN ST .....	6	..	6	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	.....	\$1,870,000	.....	Detached	....	0.17	.....	22101	.....	WALTER HEIGHTS	.....	11/30/16
<b>6</b> 9624 GEORGETOWN PIKE .....	6	..	6	..	3	...	GREAT FALLS	..	\$1,840,000	.....	Detached	....	2.95	.....	22066	.....	GEORGETOWN PIKE	.....	11/29/16
<b>7</b> 854 CENTRILLION DR .....	6	..	6	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	.....	\$1,800,000	.....	Detached	....	0.93	.....	22102	.....	THE RESERVE	.....	11/08/16
<b>8</b> 1059 GREAT PASSAGE BLVD .....	6	..	5	..	1	...	GREAT FALLS	..	\$1,690,000	.....	Detached	....	0.90	.....	22066	.....	ESTATES AT LONGWOOD	.....	11/02/16
<b>9</b> 612 KENTLAND DR .....	6	..	7	..	2	...	GREAT FALLS	..	\$1,672,000	.....	Detached	....	2.10	.....	22066	.....	KENTLAND POND	.....	11/30/16
<b>10</b> 6350 CROSS ST .....	6	..	5	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	.....	\$1,447,000	.....	Detached	....	0.41	.....	22101	.....	LANES CHESTERBROOK	.....	11/16/16

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## Q & A

# Preparing to Prosper in 2017

FROM PAGE 7

munity groups in Great Falls to transfer the management of the Grange and Old School House from the Park Authority to a nonprofit group, to give the community more control and better access to the buildings.

❖ Continue to use my position as Chairman of the Board's Transportation Committee and member of several regional commissions to advocate expansion of the American Legion Bridge as a regional transportation priority.

Q: What challenges will the district face and how will you work to get the communities through these challenges?

A: The Budget: The challenge is to adopt a budget that provides adequate funding for essential services including education, public safety and human services while controlling the tax burden on homeowners. As we struggle to maintain an acceptable level of services, we also face the need for substantial investment and re-investment in public facilities such as schools, stormwater management, parks and trails and sidewalks. Budgets should reflect a community's priorities. As in past budget cycles, I will work with the community to determine how best to make that happen.

Tyson's Development: The mixed-use transit-oriented development in Tysons is essential to the economic success of the county. However, it is important that we mitigate the impact of growth in Tysons on surrounding communities, like McLean and Vienna. I will continue to work to make sure the infrastructure, including roads, public buildings, parks and athletic fields are built in Tysons to serve Tysons.

In-fill Development: While reinvestment in our older neighborhoods is essential, infill development, in many cases, can have a negative effect on the character of the community. I will continue to work to ensure that the adverse impacts of infill development, like tree loss and storm water issues, are mitigated to the extent permitted under state law.

On all these issues, as well as other challenges that arise, I will continue to inform and solicit the feedback and help of Dranesville residents. This is a team effort.

Q: What opportunities lie ahead for the district and how will you help the communities seize these opportunities?

A: The successful completion of a number of the aforementioned projects are significant opportuni-

ties for our community: the revitalization of downtown McLean, Langley Fork, Lewinsville Center, Turner Farm House and the Grange/Old Schoolhouse will expand the number of athletic, social and economic opportunities for Dranesville residents. Construction of Phase II of the Silver Line is also resulting in opportunities to re-plan and redevelop the Dulles Rail Corridor into a vibrant, mixed-use, transit-oriented community.

Q: With the county budgeting process scheduled to be debated by the Board of Supervisors in the coming months, what is your strategy to ensure the district has the resources it needs, especially given that the meals tax referendum failed in the 2016 general election? How will public transit/schools be impacted?

A: The County must work deliberately to pursue economic opportunities and revitalization opportunities and to support and encourage a healthy partnership with the business community. As chairman of the county's Economic Advisory Commission, I will continue to work with county staff, the Economic Development Authority, businesses and nonprofit groups to implement the numerous recommendations of the Strategic Plan to facilitate the economic success of Fairfax County.

The county is also undergoing a multi-year review of its Lines of Business (LOBs). Phase I, which was collecting feedback from residents on county services, was completed last year. Phase 2 will soon begin and will focus on the programs and services to be reviewed for improved efficiency and effectiveness. This will lead to the board's approval of a sustainable financial plan to invest in the county's future success. I intend to form a Citizens Advisory Committee to evaluate and make recommendations on the LOBs and to hold public meetings to hear from residents on their priorities and cost-savings ideas.

Q: Is there anything else you want your constituents to know about the year ahead?

A: First, I hope everyone has a happy and healthy New Year. Second, I encourage everyone to find a way to get involved to make our community better. There are many ways to help, from coaching a youth sports team, to serving on the board of a homeowners' association, to delivering meals on wheels. Government cannot do it alone. We all need to pitch in to help keep Dranesville an excellent place for people to live, work and play.

—FALLON FORBUSH



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Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 AM  
1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy

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# CALENDAR

Send announcements to  
[connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/).  
Deadline is Friday at noon for the  
following week's paper. Photos/artwork  
encouraged.

## THURSDAY/JAN. 12

### 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

### MPA Opening Exhibition

**Reception 7 - 9 p.m.** 1234 Ingleside  
Avenue, McLean. There will be new  
exhibitions Opening January 12  
Exhibits feature 3 local artists;  
showcase construction work, sculptures  
and monoprints. The exhibits will be in  
the Emerson, Atrium, and Ramp  
Galleries. [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org)

**“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.

## 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.

**“The Giver” Barter Theatre 4 p.m.**  
1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. \$15/  
\$10 MCC tax district residents. For  
ages 9+. Jonas' world is under  
control and safe. There is no war or  
fear or pain. There are also no  
choices. Every person is assigned a  
role in the community. But when  
Jonas turns 12, he is chosen for  
special training from The Giver—to  
receive and keep the memories of the  
community. Now Jonas will learn the  
truth about life—and the hypocrisy of  
his safe world. Through this  
astonishing and moving adaptation,  
discover what it means to grow up, to  
grow wise; and to take control of  
your own destiny.

## SUNDAY/JAN. 15

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
Celebration at The Alden  
Center: Chuck D 2 p.m.** 1234  
Ingleside Ave. McLean. Best known  
as leader and co-founder 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](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

## TUESDAY/JAN. 17

**Auditions “The Stinky Cheese Man**



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCC

**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 co-  
founder 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](http://www.aldentheatre.org)**

### and Other Fairly Stupid Tales”

7 - 8:30 p.m. Students ages 10-16  
who reside within the MCC tax  
district (Small District 1A-  
Dranesville) are invited to audition  
for this musical, based on the book  
by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith. To  
reserve an audition time, contact  
Alden Youth Programs Director  
Danielle Van Hook at  
[danielle.vanhook@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:danielle.vanhook@fairfaxcounty.gov).

1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean.  
When long-distance love tangles the  
heartstrings of the play's title  
characters, it takes two clever  
women, a pair of devoted servants  
and a dog to make things right.  
Shakespeare tries out some of his  
most popular ideas for the first time  
in this early comedy. \$35/\$25 MCC  
tax district residents.

### Shakespeare's “Romeo and Juliet”

7:30 p.m. The Alden 1234 Ingleside  
Avenue, McLean. With its ravishing  
language and uproarious comedy,  
“Romeo and Juliet” celebrates love's  
triumph and its trivialities. Verona's  
walls embrace the volatility of youth  
as well as the wisdom and restraint  
that often escape young and old  
alike. Admission: \$35/\$25 MCC tax  
district residents.

## WEDNESDAY/JAN. 18

### McLean Newcomers and

### Neighbors Monthly Luncheon

11:30 a.m. Duangrat's Thai, 5878  
Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA.  
Patrick Lucas of the Fairfax County.  
Police Crime Prevention Unit will  
speak. Cost of the luncheon: \$22. To  
R.S.V.P. for the luncheon, e-mail  
Gloria Cohan,  
[gloriacohan@gmail.com](mailto:gloriacohan@gmail.com) by January  
12. Prospective members are invited.  
[www.McLeanNewcomers.org](http://www.McLeanNewcomers.org)

## THURSDAY/JAN. 19

**“All For Aleppo” A Comedy Show  
To Benefit Those Suffering in  
Syria** Doors open 7 p.m. 8 - 10 p.m.  
Jammin Java 27 Maple Ave E,  
Vienna. Do you like to laugh and be a  
good person? Then this show is for  
you. Get a babysitter. Come be part  
of a wonderful cause. You won't  
regret it. 2016 has been a tough year,  
especially for the people of Syria.  
Thousands of people have been  
injured in the fighting. Thankfully,  
Doctors Without Borders have been  
there to provide aid and medicine to  
those in need. Please help us in  
supporting their efforts by joining us  
for a night of laughter and good will.  
100% of the net profits from this  
show will go directly to Doctors  
Without Borders. Cost: \$15  
[benctfd@gmail.com](mailto:benctfd@gmail.com) 571-230-9177

## FRIDAY/JAN. 20

**Closing Notice Inauguration Day  
MCC and The Old Firehouse** will  
be closed on Friday, Jan. 20, for  
Inauguration Day. The centers will  
reopen at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan.  
21.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 21

**Shakespeare's “The Two  
Gentlemen of Verona” 2 p.m.;**  
Live music at 1:30 p.m. The Alden

## SUNDAY/JAN. 22

**Thornton Wilder's “Our Town” 2**  
p.m.; Live music at 1:30 p.m. The  
Alden 1234 Ingleside Avenue,  
McLean. A moving look at life in the  
small town of Grover's Corners, “Our  
Town” examines what it means to  
grow up. Through three acts: “Daily  
Life,” “Love and Marriage” and  
“Death and Eternity,” Thornton  
Wilder studies the deeply personal  
yet remarkably universal lives of the  
Webb and Gibbs families. This  
poignant American tale explores  
friendship, love and death, but most  
importantly, what it truly means to  
live. Admission: \$35/\$25 MCC tax  
district residents. ASC Ticket  
Package: Purchase tickets to all three  
plays and a pre-performance seminar,  
“Brush Up Your Shakespeare” on  
Thursday, Jan. 12, at 7:30 p.m. for  
\$88/\$60 MCC tax district residents.

## ONGOING

**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](http://FreeTaiChi.org).  
703-759-9141.

**“Thrifty Thursdays” Basic  
Budgeting Classes** in Annandale,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



## News

# 'Hungry Hearts Tour' Comes To McLean

## American Shakespeare Center to present three plays at Alden Theater.

By DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

**A**n Alden Theatre audience favorite, Virginia's American Shakespeare Center (ASC) is returning.

"Our patrons ask us to bring the ASC back again-and-again," said Sarah Schallern, performing arts director, McLean Community Center. What is so special about ASC performances; "they hark back to when Shakespeare's plays were first performed."

ASC's "Hungry Hearts Tour" will be coming to the Alden for weekend of three different plays; Thornton Wilder's "Our Town," The Bard's "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" and "Romeo and Juliet." These plays "speak to everyone; the messages never get old as we focus on the language and its beauty," said ASC tour manager Thomas Coppola.

For those less familiar with the three ASC productions; "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" is a delicious tale about a long-distance love that takes two clever women, several devoted servants and a dog to make things right. There are jealous lovers, a cross-dressing heroine, even a daring escape.

The bittersweet "Romeo and Juliet" has star-crossed lovers, ravishing language and a searing finale. The play has words of wisdom aplenty along with comic wit. Wilder's "Our Town" is a poignant look at life in small town America as its citizens grow, marry and pass away. The show examines how life flows for individuals and the community.

"We have a unique performance style designed to be seen, heard and felt," said Thomas Coppola, ASC tour manager. "Not only will twelve actors be performing the many characters in the plays, but some audience members can be seated on the stage close to the actors and the action."

Coppola also noted that In Shakespeare's times his plays were performed under the sun or using candles.



PHOTO BY MICHAEL BAILEY/COURTESY OF MCC

### Romeo and Juliet in American Shakespeare Center's production of 'Romeo and Juliet.'

## Where and When

American Shakespeare Center's "Hungry Hearts Tour" performing William Shakespeare's "Two Gentlemen of Verona," "Romeo and Juliet" and Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Performances are Jan. 21 & 22, 2017. "Romeo and Juliet," on Saturday, Jan. 21, 8 p.m., "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2 p.m. and "Our Town" on Sunday, Jan. 22, 2 p.m. For each performance the doors open and pre-show music starts 30 minutes before the performance. Tickets \$35/\$25MCC tax district residents. Tickets: visit: [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org) or call 703-790-0123.

At the Alden there was no special theatrical lighting used for the productions; ASC will use only the regular Alden venue lights.

A distinct feature for this year's ASC tour deserves mention. ASC will help place a homeless dog with a family. Working with the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, the Alden and the ASC will "audition and then cast a canine actor for a role in 'Two Gentlemen of Verona,'" said Schallern. "The dog will then become available for adoption."

"The core idea of the acting troupe is to directly engage the audience to create an actor/audience bond," said performer JC Long. "We aim to create a living, breathing performance not just an academic reading. Our aim is to enthrall audiences."

your spouse is not as much like you as you thought. But figuring them out is more than just an equation. Marriage is more than a science; it's an art. And like any art form, requires an investment of time, focused study and the right tools. If you need to soften some of the edges in your relationship, or want to brighten the landscape of your marriage, The Art of Marriage is for you. \$60 Early Registration by January 12. [viennapres.org/strengthen-your-marriage](http://viennapres.org/strengthen-your-marriage)

### SUNDAY/JAN. 29

**The Sixth Annual McLean Chocolate Festival**, 1 a.m. to 5 p.m. The McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The admission fee is \$2 per person. Children age six and under are admitted free. Buy treats to eat on site or stock up for Valentine's Day. Featured on the Festival Stage will be performances by Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids at 1:30 p.m., 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. There will

be plenty of free parking. [www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org](http://www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org)

### FRIDAYS-SUNDAYS/FEB. 3-19

**McLean Community Players "Company."** 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. A 1970 musical comedy based on a book by George Furth with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The original production was nominated for a record-setting fourteen Tony Awards and won seven. \$25/\$23 MCC tax district residents. Visit <http://www.mcleanplayers.org/>.

### SUNDAY/FEB. 19

**Concert: The Daraja Ensemble** 4 - 6 p.m. at Saint Francis Episcopal Church 9220 Georgetown Pike Great Falls, VA 22066. This fellowship woodwind quintet from the University of Maryland takes its name from the Swahili word for "bridge." Coming together from around the country and abroad, their wide-ranging performances include ongoing outreach to Tanzania. Cost: Season pass \$150 or \$30 at the door. Visit: <http://amadeusconcerts.com/>

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

Chantilly and Alexandria 7-9 p.m. Heritage Building 7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing 1st Floor Conference Room D Annandale. Thursday, January 19, 2017 & Thursday, April 20, 2017.

South County Government Center 7-9 p.m. 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Thursday, February 16, 2017 (Room 220) & Thursday, May 18, 2017 (Room 220) Chantilly High School 7-9 p.m. 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Thursday, March 16, 2017 (Room 253) & Thursday, June 15, 2017 (Room 253)

For All Sessions, RSVP to: Carole Rogers at [crogers@britepaths.org](mailto:crogers@britepaths.org) or 703-273-8829

## Plan Ahead McLean

### FRIDAY & SATURDAY/JAN. 27 & 28

**The Art of Marriage Friday** 6:45 - 9 p.m. Saturday 9 - 3 p.m.

When you were standing at the altar reciting your marriage vows, did you have any idea that marriage would be so complex? It probably didn't take you long to understand that

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## UPCOMING SPECIAL SECTIONS

### JANUARY

1/11/2017.....HomeLifeStyle  
1/18/2017.....A+ Camps & Schools  
1/25/2017.....Community Guide  
1/25/2017.....Winter Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment; Valentine's Preview

### FEBRUARY

2/1/2017.....Valentine's Dining & Gifts I  
2/1/2017.....Wellbeing - National Children's Dental Health Month  
2/8/2017.....HomeLifeStyle  
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

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## Call for Candidates

### McLean Community Center 2017 Governing Board Election

#### Qualification:

Must be a resident of Small Tax District 1A-Dranesville.

#### Petition to Become A Candidate:

- Candidate must pick up own petition packet at the Center, and return own petition.
- Adult candidate must have ten (10) signatures of adult tax district residents on petition.
- Teen candidate must be 15-17 years old as of McLean Day (May 20) and have ten (10) signatures of teens also 15-17 years old who live in the tax district and in the candidate's high school boundary area.

#### Positions:

- Three (3) Adult Seats - Three-year terms.
- Two (2) Youth Seats - One-year terms. One (1) each for the Langley and McLean High School boundary areas.

#### Key Petition Dates:

- January 23:** Petition Packets are available at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA.
- March 17:** Completed Petitions are due at the Center by 5 p.m.

For more information visit the Center at:  
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101  
call: 703-790-0123, TTY: 411  
email: [elections@mcleancenter.org](mailto:elections@mcleancenter.org)  
or visit: [www.mcleancenter.org/about/candidates](http://www.mcleancenter.org/about/candidates)





## Slippery Hope



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

When you're diagnosed with a terminal form of cancer, you spend a lot of time talking to yourself, not aloud; well, mostly not aloud, trying to convince yourself of a million and one things that don't lead to that inescapable conclusion: premature death (I know, any death is premature). And when you get sick, as I am now and have been for the past 10 days; not getting worse, just not getting better; it is, at least for me, not only next to impossible, but impossible as well, not to think that perhaps this is the time when you have crossed the Rubicon.

Though what I am referring to are merely/mostly cold symptoms: sneezing, coughing, runny nose, nasal congestion, watery eyes, occasional headache; no temperature or sore throat, no vomiting, no nausea; it's easy to rationalize that I am simply experiencing a severe seasonal reaction to some strain of something which is, if what I hear from friends and family is true, something which is definitely going around. However, that assessment would presume I'm a relatively normal person, 'normal' meaning not a person diagnosed with stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer. Ergo, the conversations me, myself and I are constantly having with ourselves.

And though the answers rarely change (always minimizing, never reinforcing a negative, accentuating the positive), I have to admit the longer I live through these blips on the radar, the less conviction I am able to sustain in my ongoing attempts to talk myself into or out of, whatever the case may be, the challenges emotionally and/or physically, that characterize one's life living with cancer. And believe me, 'living with cancer' is all it's cracked up to be, and I'm one of the lucky ones, a survivor, nearly eight years in fact, post my Feb. 27, 2009 face-to-face appointment with an oncologist; my new best friend, who lowered the diagnostic boom to Team Lourie that day.

I think I can say with some certainty that the one constant in my life these past eight years has been the many conversations I've had with myself. Trying to maintain an even keel; heck, any keel that would keep me emotionally afloat. Obviously, encouraging and supportive words from others have filled many gaps, but there are way more gaps when I'm alone that need to be filled. Reading, writing, 'rithmetic, radio, television and the Internet, fill some and provide distraction for others, but still there are many more times when you're left alone with your thoughts; when the rubber really hits the road and somehow you must get through the night or the post-chemo weak or the before, during and after "scanxiety" and navigate the slings and arrows of the outrageous misfortune which has befallen you.

Mostly I have been successful. Occasionally though I have been depressed. Occasionally I have felt lonely. Occasionally I have felt out of control. And more than occasionally, I have just plain worried. Like now, when I'm sick and tired and wondering if persistent cold symptoms portend the beginning of something worse. After all, I do have lung cancer so any breathing-related and/or coughing problems could indicate an exacerbation of my underlying condition, or so I would guess.

Ah yes, guessing. That's perhaps the real problem. How do you stop yourself from going down that rabbit hole, especially when you've already quadrupled the back end of the number of years: two, offered up by your oncologist eight years ago? I don't suppose I could experience a normal life expectancy after being given a terminal diagnosis. Could I? I guess it's possible. Probable? I wouldn't know. However, there's no harm thinking about it. Except if you're thinking about it all the time.

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

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**Mary Walker: Exploring dualities of gesture and geometry.**

## McLean Project for the Arts to Open Three New Exhibitions

**M**cLean Project for the Arts (MPA) is opening three new exhibitions on Jan. 12, 2017 in the Emerson, Atrium, and Ramp Galleries, located at MPA@MCC (1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean). These exhibitions will remain on display from Jan. 12 through March 4, 2017. The Opening Exhibition Reception will be held on Thursday, Jan. 12 in the MPA galleries from 7 until 9 p.m.

graphic design to bear on her work in printmaking, creating images that are poetic, carefully balanced and multilayered. The monoprint process allows her to construct a piece much as you would an object—building layer upon layer with images and atmosphere emerging from the space beyond.

### RAMP GALLERY: POWER POLES

Deeply influenced by his international travel experiences, Alonzo Davis makes freestanding, wall-oriented and suspended sculpture. These works combine bamboo, wood, paper, paint and LED lights to invoke the imagery and energies of the American Southwest, Brazil, Haiti, West Africa and the Pacific Rim.

MPA, in residence at the McLean Community Center (MCC) for more than 25 years, must relocate temporarily while the MCC undergoes a major renovation in spring 2017. MPA's existing galleries and DuVal Studio in the MCC (MPA@MCC) will remain open and active through the close of this final exhibition—March 4, 2017. Once the renovation begins, MPA's second location, MPA@ChainBridge, will serve as MPA's primary gallery, classroom and office space for about two years. MPA@ChainBridge is located in the Chain Bridge Corner Shopping Center in the space between CVS and Kazan Restaurant.

For more information, visit [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org).

## Eagle Court of Honor for Six McLean Scouts

**Boy Scout Troop 652 of McLean celebrated receipt by six scouts of the Eagle Scout award on Jan. 8. The Eagle recipients are, from left, Alexander Horenstein, Torin Lee Dunn, Alexander Jules Brunner, Jacob Walker Wadle, all seniors at McLean High School, William Powell "Liam" Clark, a senior at St. Andrews Episcopal School, and Gabor Francis Luis Turnage, a senior at McLean High School. The court of honor was held at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Rd, McLean, which sponsors Troop 652.**



**Clark, a senior at St. Andrews Episcopal School, and Gabor Francis Luis Turnage, a senior at McLean High School. The court of honor was held at St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Rd, McLean, which sponsors Troop 652.**

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### 21 Announcements

**ABC NOTICE**  
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