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# McLean CONNECTION

Traffic backs up on the Beltway where the Express Lanes end and cars must merge into fewer lanes. Cut-through traffic, trying to avoid the backup, ends up on McLean's roads, causing a "nightmare," according to some residents.



## Cheering for Traffic Fix?

NEWS, PAGE 3

### Tyson's Transformation Underway

NEWS, PAGE 12

### McLean's DeAnda Overcomes ACL Injury

SPORTS, PAGE 11

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14  
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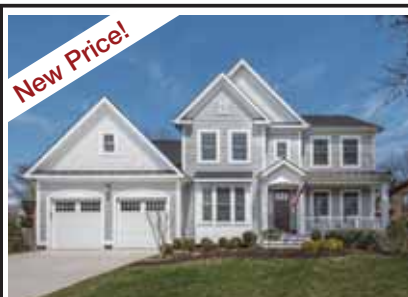
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# NEWS

## About Time or Deja Vu?

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**C**ommuters crossing the river at the American Legion Bridge, both morning and night, try to find any route that saves just a little time. But already clogged McLean intersections, roads and neighborhoods have become even more saturated by drivers, some armed with traffic applications like Waze, who think McLean is the cut through of choice to save a few minutes.

At a community meeting hosted by VDOT last Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at McLean High School, Dranesville Supervisor John Foust told McLean residents that “exciting” developments are on the way.

“There has been some, I think, really wonderful news coming from the Maryland side,” Foust said, in McLean High School cafeteria.

More than 75 people attended the meeting to hear short term, intermediate and long-term plans to break gridlock on McLean’s streets.

“They are really pressing forward,” Foust told the audience about the expansion of lanes on the American Legion Bridge to relieve congestion.

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) announced plans earlier this year to add four new lanes to I-270, the Capital Beltway, and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway by means of a public private partnership. Hogan touted the \$9 billion traffic relief plan as a way to reduce congestion for millions of drivers and significantly improve the traffic conditions on some of Maryland’s most traveled roads.

“The [Maryland] Governor says he wants construction to begin in 2020,” said Foust. “I don’t think that realistic,” but “it’s not my place to say so.”

“I say, ‘Go for it,’” said Foust.

“Let me just say, ‘Yay!’” said Sharon Bulova at the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting on May 1, 2018, when the Supervisors voted to send a letter pushing Maryland to study options to relieve congestion at the Bridge.

“You can see traffic backed up way beyond Tysons trying to get to Maryland in the evenings,” Foust said at the Supervisors meeting.

“Maryland just did a major major commitment to its own Beltway and I-270 and the American Legion Bridge and I thank them so much for that.

“I didn’t think we were ever going to get to this point. I really didn’t,” said Foust.

**THE LETTER** the Board sent to the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration is firm.

“The County believes that the capacity needs across the Potomac River must be addressed to alleviate the existing congestions and to ensure that the region remains economically vibrant,” wrote the Supervisors.



PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION



**About 75 people came to a meeting in McLean last week with concerns about gridlock and cut through traffic, some of it caused by traffic on the Beltway.**



**Captain Alan Hanson of the Fairfax County Police calls for a ‘media blitz’ on ‘don’t block the box’ as McLean officers continue an enforcement campaign at McLean intersections, especially Balls Hill and Georgetown Pike.**

“Approximately 239,000 vehicles use the bridge on an average weekday, resulting in substantial congestion and delay for those residing and working in our localities. Use of the bridge is expected to increase over the next 25 years, further exacerbating the problem. Addressing the capacity of the bridge is essential to the quality of life and economic development for our region.”

Board members expressed enthusiasm as they reviewed the letter at the Board meeting on May 1, 2018.

“This moves us forward to working with Maryland on providing continuity for transportation on the Beltway,” said Bulova. “The

**Traffic backs up on the Beltway where the Express Lanes end and cars must merge. Cut-through traffic trying to avoid the backup on the Beltway backs up on McLean’s roads, causing a “nightmare,” according to some residents.**

may just be talking about just adding roads and toll lanes now, it could be the basis for other sorts of transit for the future.

“There are lots of possibilities with this in the future. We just need to get something constructed,” she said.

According to Herrity: “It’s finally good that we’ve got a governor in Maryland that’s serious about improving congestion on both their side and our side.

“Hopefully we keep the pressure on them for a second crossing,” said Herrity, who described the congested path down I-270, to I-495, to the Dulles Toll Road that Marylanders take to work.

Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay says congestion is impacting the entire county, including the southeastern area.

“The Maryland traffic in Virginia is stifling to our communities. It has gotten so bad, I think more than half of the people at Fort Belvoir have Maryland tags now and they have inundated our roadways to a point where schools can’t get busses out on Telegraph Road, Mount Vernon Highway is backed up for miles, the GW Parkway is a raceway,” said McKay. “We certainly want to be a region, but the impacts of the huge influx of Maryland folks coming into Virginia and the southeastern end of the county most specifically Fort Belvoir has had a tremendous effect on our infrastructure.”

**NOT ALL** were convinced, including Hunter Mill Supervisor Catherine Hudgins.

“I will tell you that my excitement is not quite at the level of others because I have been riding the Beltway since early 70s. It was crowded then, it is crowded now. And I’m subject to believe that it’s going to be crowded,” said Hudgins.

“I’m skeptical,” she said. “My optimism isn’t there.”

Maryland’s Montgomery County Council has historically opposed the possibility of a second crossing through Montgomery County, since past studies didn’t prove a second crossing or widening of the American Legion Bridge would be effective.

The environmental impact would be massive, since Potomac, Md., like Great Falls, has been zoned a low density area to protect the health of the Potomac River and the region’s drinking water. Montgomery County has created a 93,000-acre agricultural reserve in the outer part of the county which is not hospitable to a so-called techway.

In its letter, the Board of Supervisors said the Park Authority needs to determine “any anticipated impacts to the Scotts Run Nature Preserve.”

**SOME McLEAN RESIDENTS** at last week’s meeting say the Express Lanes built on the Virginia side have caused a choke point at Georgetown Pike, because the lanes



**Dranesville Supervisor John Foust says: “There has been some, I think, really wonderful news coming from the Maryland side.”**

cooperation and coordination with Maryland really is critical.”

Braddock Supervisor John Cook calls it “common-sensical.”

“The fact that it’s taken such a push is quite amazing,” he said. The letter, he said, serves “as a way of sharing our positive experience [with the Express Lanes], to the extent that people in Maryland can’t look at the obvious and understand it, maybe we can help prod them that way a little bit.”

Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth and Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity envisioned the future with transit and a second crossing over the Potomac River.

“We have certainly been pushing our colleagues in Maryland to come up with a proposal to work on this as part of our planning for the region,” said Smyth. “While we

SEE BRIDGE, PAGE 14



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## NEWS

**MOD Pizza presents a ceremonial check to Officer Ashley Block. (From left) are her dad, Kerry Block; stepmom, Tammy Block; boyfriend, PFC Sharif Issa of the McLean District Station; Block; her mom, Janet Winner; Greenbriar MOD General Manager Dean Ladson; store trainee Jenny Bye; and MOD District Manager Dirk Huber.**



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

## 'It Restores Your Faith in Humanity'

### Injured police officer receives money raised for her.

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

One minute, McLean Police Officer Ashley Block was helping out during the March 2 windstorm; and the next, she was pinned to the ground by a tree that crashed down on her. She sustained severe injuries; and when a Sully District police officer mentioned her accident to the general manager of a Chantilly pizza place, it spurred a fundraiser for her.

It was held March 20 at MOD Pizza, and police and firefighters from throughout Fairfax County, plus area residents, braved freezing temperatures, sleet and ice to get there. A month later, on April 26 – although still on crutches – Block was able to be at the restaurant, herself, to receive a check for the \$3,000 raised in her name.

"I'm lucky to be alive," she said. "I came close to being paralyzed. I just took my first steps today."

When the windstorm struck, Block was a new patrol officer. Trees were down everywhere and, while one officer cut them up, she cleared away the debris. But the wind was so strong that the top of a tree broke off and fell on her, knocking her onto the ground and impaling her left leg. She broke her femur, shoulder, elbow, four ribs and some vertebrae.

"I'm scared of trees now," she admitted. "When it happened, I heard a crack and started running – and all of a sudden, I was down and blacked out. The other officer called for help; then Dispatch called me, and I answered so they'd know I was alert and could respond. The next day, in the hospital, the ladies of Dispatch came to see me and brought me flowers. They said, 'We're so glad you responded; we didn't know if you were conscious.'"

Block spent five days in the hospital and was then in a rehabilitation hospital for two-and-a-half weeks. Meanwhile, her mom, Janet Winner, packed up and

moved here from Michigan to take care of her daughter while she convalesced.

She now undergoes physical therapy, five days a week, both at the Police Academy and with a private physical therapist. "I want to get back to where I need to be," she said. "But it'll be four to six months until I'm back at work on full duty."

On April 26, Block and her family and boyfriend, PFC Sharif Issa, also of the McLean District Station, were treated to a pizza-and-salad dinner by Dean Ladson, general manager of MOD Pizza in the Greenbriar Town Center. Then Ladson and MOD District Manager Dirk Huber presented her with the check.

They wanted to raise money for her, explained Ladson, because "MOD believes in community giving, and we knew it was the right thing to do." But his restaurant went above and beyond what most events of this type attempt.

Instead of donating just 10 or 20 percent of their proceeds during a few-hours' time period, MOD gave Block 50 percent. It also made it an all-day fundraiser that applied to every customer that day. Topping it off, the wait staff donated 100 percent of their tips – which accounted for \$700 of the total \$3,000 raised.

"Police officers give everything for us, so we wanted to do something for her," said Huber.

Before the check presentation, Ladson told Winner how happy they were to hold the fundraiser for her daughter, and she replied, "Thanks for taking care of my baby; I think it's awesome."

Block said she became a police officer because "I always had a passion to serve the community; I just had a calling for it. I hope to work federally someday, but I wanted to see what law enforcement was like on the streets, first. This accident is a hurdle, but it could have been a lot worse."

As for the pizza fundraiser, she said, "It was amazing; I'm very grateful. Not many communities come together like that for an officer."

But, said Ladson, "It's always important that people know there are others outside [of their immediate circle] who care. It restores your faith in humanity."

**"I'm lucky to be alive. I came close to being paralyzed."**  
— Police Officer Ashley Block



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### WEEK IN McLEAN

## Used Book Collection for Scholarships for Women

McLean Branch American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold Used Book Collection on Saturday, June 2, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Used books, CDs, DVDs, software, children's books, records, and recent books will be accepted. No encyclopedias, VHS tapes or audiotapes. The

Book Sale will be held on Aug. 31-Sept. 2 at the Spring Hill Recreation Center. Sale proceeds benefit scholarships for women. Questions: aauwbookfair@gmail.com or 703-527-4206. There will also be book collections on June 23 and July 14 at the same time and place.

# **10th Congressional Campaign Forum in McLean**

## **May 23, Wednesday, 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.**

### **Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in McLean**

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**Key issues:** Virginia Economic Equality Caucus (EEC) nonpartisan forum for 10th District Candidates on economic progress and equality, jobs at good wages, infrastructure, health care, and opportunity for women and minorities, Wednesday evening, May 23, 5 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

**Candidates' forum is 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.**

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- Dan Helmer, Democrat, US Army combat veteran, private businessman
- Shak Hill, Republican, combat veteran, small business owner
- Paul Pelletier, Democrat, attorney, former prosecutor in US Dept. of Justice
- Lindsey Davis Stover, Democrat, small business owner, Obama admin. alum, former Chief of Staff
- Julia Biggins, Democrat, infectious disease scientist
- Sen. Jennifer Wexton, Democrat, represents a Northern VA. State Senate District (invited)
- US Rep. Barbara Comstock, Republican, incumbent in the 10th District (invited)

**Agenda: Reception, 5 p.m. to 5: 15 p.m.**

**5:15 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.--Non-political section for nonprofits and local leaders** to discuss their beneficial work in the local area, including:

--Lutheran Church of the Redeemer Social Concerns Committee; Phillips Programs for Children and Families; Share, Inc., nonprofit in McLean/Tyson's; and the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia.

**5:50 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.—Forum for 10th Congressional candidates from both parties**

The Virginia EEC committee is a nonpartisan coalition of nonprofits, faith-based entities and grassroots leaders in Virginia. There is an optional suggestion for a donation to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer Social Concerns committee to help the needy.



# OPINION

## Decision Slows Transportation Progress

BY JEFFREY C. MCKAY  
LEE DISTRICT SUPERVISOR



### COMMENTARY

**F**rustrating. Exasperating. Maddening. Irritating. Anyone who regularly drives in Northern Virginia is familiar with these feelings, because we all spend time sitting in traffic, staring at miles of brake lights in front of us.

One way we overcome these congestion problems is through funding from the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVT), a state agency that has awarded \$990 million to transportation projects all over the region.

After years of underfunding by the Commonwealth led to crippling traffic and insufficient maintenance, the 2013 Virginia General Assembly and then Governor McDonnell thankfully reached an agreement to significantly

increase funding for transportation, particularly in Northern Virginia, through this new pot of funds. It has been tremendously successful.

This year, attention was focused on the needs of Metro — a vital component in our transportation network and the Commonwealth's economy. While the Commonwealth provides significant aid, it is important to note that the local jurisdictions in Virginia that have been responsible for funding Metro since its inception — over half a billion dollars has been provided through local and regional revenue sources in the last five years alone.

Unfortunately, Speaker Kirk Cox and Del. Tim Hugo blocked Gov. Ralph Northam's plan

to provide new revenues for Metro (through small increases in taxes on hotel stays and property sales), which resulted

from discussions with a bipartisan coalition of businesses, local governments, transportation advocates, and legislators — instead, they forced the adoption a plan that diverts more than \$100 million per year from existing road and transit projects funded by the transportation revenues enacted in 2013.

Our region's transportation needs are still sizable, as evidenced by the fact that NVT received \$2.5 billion in project requests over the next six years, though it only has approximately \$1.25 billion available to

distribute. As a result, many projects that would alleviate congestion and improve mobility will likely be delayed, deferred, or never built — a regrettable outcome that could have been avoided. We should not be addressing one transportation need at the expense of others.

## The Quest for Education

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM  
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



### COMMENTARY

**I** can remember the conversation almost word for word even though it occurred decades ago. The counselor in my high school asked me to come to her office, and there she told me it was time for me to start preparing applications to go to college. I was about to fall out of my chair. I explained to her that no one in my family had ever been to college, and there was no way that I could go. Most of my family had never finished high school. She told me that lots of people are the first in their families to go to college and that I could be such a person. I did not know what to answer; it was such a new idea that she proposed to me.

Secretly inside she had set ablaze in me a fire that would never go out. The excitement of the idea that I could go to college and learn about so many new things of which I had been curious was more than I could contain. I was

skeptical, however, and I did not go to college the first year out of high school. The next year with lots of fear and trepidation I did start my education at a higher level, and I never have stopped. From my Bachelor of Arts at Old Dominion College, now University, to my master's in education at the University of Virginia to a thirty-year career with Fairfax County Public Schools, to the Plum Center for Lifelong Learning being named in my honor, to my teaching at George Mason University's Osher Lifelong Institute, education both formal and informal has been a fundamental part of who I am. I can still feel the excitement that I have had in being a part of so many different educational experiences.

All these reminiscences about my educational background came back last week as my grandson received his MBA from Virginia Tech. Growing up in a family where the high-

est educational achievement was a brother who graduated from high school, I now live in a family where I, my wife and our children and grandchildren have among us 14 college degrees with six of those degrees being beyond the bachelor's level. I am honored to represent a district with constituents who are among the very best educated in the state.

Needless to say, education is among the highest priorities I have as a legislator. I want all students to have access to educational programs that will help them realize their highest potential. Fundamental to me is that our educational system leave all students with a quest for knowledge and the appropriate tools with which to pursue their interests. We cannot afford to have students not like school, nor can we ignore the fact that learning is a lifelong adventure. We have the institutions and the resources to make education at higher levels the best in the Nation. Virginia needs to join the states that are making community colleges free. Can we afford it? The answer is simply that we cannot afford not to!

## Send Father's Day Photos

Father's Day is Sunday, June 17, and once again this newspaper will publish a gallery of Father's Day photos.

Every year at this time, we put out the call for photographs of fathers and their children, grandfathers and their children and grandchildren.

Send in photos with the following information: the town where you live, the names of everyone in the picture, the approximate date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to tell us your town name and neighborhood. Photos are due by June 12.

You can submit your photos online at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday). You can also email photos to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com).

## Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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## NEWS



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Past presidents of the New Dominion Women's Club.

# New Dominion Women's Club Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

125 people party at The Pavilions of Turkey Run at Claude Moore Colonial Farm on May 4.

About 125 people helped celebrate the New Dominion Women's Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at a party held at The Pavilions of Turkey Run at Claude Moore Colonial Farm on Friday, May 4. With pink flowers hanging from the ceiling, and the deejay, Bristol Sounds, playing a selection of tunes from 1968 to the present, the festive evening was organized by co-chairs Jennifer Salopek and Kim Marinus. State Sen. Barbara Favola and Del. Kathleen Murphy mingled with some of McLean's finest. The food buffet was catered by J.R.'s Stockyards Inn and included carved beef tenderloin, grilled shrimp and chicken with an open bar from Total Wine & More. Sweetbites Café and Bakery provided the desserts.

"The celebration is a culmination of many months of planning and coordination and hard work on the part of our co-chairs, Jennifer Salopek and Kim Marinus. We're very excited to be doing this this evening. We're expecting a great turnout and we're ever so grateful for the weather cooperation," said NDWC President Desi Woltman.

"We have been planning the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for about a year and a half now and have used this as an opportunity to reach back and connect with former members and supporters, bring them back into the club, which has been an extremely successful effort," said co-chair Salopek. "Really, what excites me most is the number of former members who are joining us this evening. It's probably close to 50 percent of the attendance; former members coming back to reconnect and see each other and I'm happy that we can provide a venue for them to do that."

According to Favola: "I know that you're celebrating 50 years and the greater McLean community appreciates very much what you have done. You have been an integral part of making our community livable, making our community more passionate and really helping us build community so everyone feels welcomed, everyone feels part of our neighborhood, a part of the fabric that makes McLean great."



Co-chair Jennifer Salopek with Andy and Karen Briscoe.



NDWC co-chairs Kim Marinus and Jennifer Salopek.

Added co-chair Marinus: "We're just really glad to be able to celebrate ourselves. It's been a long run and we don't often get to pat ourselves on the back. It's nice to be able to get people together and bring people from the past. We have a number of past presidents who are here tonight as well."

According to Jeff Anderson, a Board member of Claude Moore Colonial Farm, which donated use of its pavilion rental: "What I really like is for organizations like this to be able to take advantage of the facilities we have here. It's a fantastic place to hold a huge event inside the Beltway in the heart of McLean, fully catered, covered with great facilities. We think it's a fantastic asset to the region."

— STEVE HIBBARD

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# VOTE

## on McLean Day

### McLean Community Center Governing Board Election

The Governing Board and staff of the McLean Community Center (MCC) strongly encourage all qualified residents to vote for members of its 2018-2019 Governing Board. Your vote sends a very important message of your support of the Center's programs and services.

**When & Where**

Vote between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the McLean Day 2018 festival on Saturday, May 19, at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Rd.

**Requirements to Vote**

1. You must be a resident of the MCC tax district (Dranesville Small District 1A); however, you need not be registered to vote in the general election.
2. You must be at least 18 years old by McLean Day to vote for an adult candidate. Adults may vote for up to three candidates.
3. You must be 15 through 17 years old by McLean Day to vote for youth candidates. Youth voters have two votes, and may vote for one candidate in the McLean High School boundary area, and one candidate in the Langley High School boundary area.
4. You must bring identification and proof of residency, such as a driver's license or you may sign a sworn statement.

**The McLean Community Center**  
**Temporary Administrative Office Address**  
6631 Old Dominion Dr., McLean VA 22101  
703-790-0123/TTY: 711  
www.mcleancenter.org

# More Than Apple for Teacher

Gifts for those who educate children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As the school year nears an end, it's time to thank those whose jobs run the gamut from comforting kindergartners with separation anxiety to teaching biology to hormonal teenagers. End-of-year teacher gifts are seemingly ubiquitous in June, but how does one choose a useful present that doesn't get re-gifted or donated? Local tastemakers offer their take on gifts for teachers that teachers actually want to receive.

"Teachers can always use extra supplies for their classrooms," said Courtney Thomas of the Picket Fence in Burke. "Put together a goody bag full of pencils and markers, notepads, page flags and sticky notes or anything your teacher needs to keep his or her desk stocked. Tie it all up in a reusable bag they can repurpose to carry papers and books to and from school."

Treat your teacher to a spa day at home, advises Thomas. "Get a collection of your favorite lotions, soaps and candles and give your teachers a much appreciated excuse to pamper themselves."

Flowers are a cheerful present to offer those who teach children, but fresh flowers have a limited lifespan, advises Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Old Town Alexandria who suggests bouquets with longevity. "Felt flowers always look fresh and add a bit happiness to every day," he said.

Sometimes the most treasured gifts are those that don't come with a price tag. "My favorite handmade teacher gift is a thoughtful note of thanks, said Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center in Alexandria. "Taking the time to say thank you and be specific about how an adult has impacted your child's growth is a powerful way of affirming the work teachers do. I think it is great to encourage kids to write letters of thanks as well and to think through what specifically they can name that they have learned or gained from a teacher."

"A beautiful and thoughtful gift for all teachers are



PHOTO COURTESY OF SONORAN ROSE BOUTIQUE

**Wine-scented bath bombs from Napa Valley are the perfect gift for the teacher who needs a little pampering.**

guest towels," says Cristina Chiotti of Sonoran Rose Boutique in Potomac, Md. "[We have some] that come from South Africa and are available in a variety of lovely prints and designs," she said. "Delicious wine-scented bath bombs from Napa Valley are the perfect gift for the teacher who needs a little pampering."

For teachers with a preppy spirit, Amanda Mertins, of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria, advises, "Some of the most thoughtful gifts for teachers who go above and beyond to educate our children are gift monogrammed items, gifts cards and notepads."

And for teachers who enjoy spending time outdoors, Chiotti says an ideal gift includes "Pairing some local Maryland honey with our gardening tool kit for the perfect springtime gardening gift."



COURTESY OF KATHRYN CONEWAY

**Notepads make useful end-of-year teachers gifts, suggests Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PICKET FENCE

**Candles, soaps and lotions in a gift bag will make luxurious end-of-year teacher gifts, says Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF ART AT THE CENTER

**A note written on a handmade card such as this collage with mulberry paper and acrylic medium on watercolor paper by Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center, makes meaning teacher gifts, says Coneway.**



## CAPPIES REVIEW



PHOTO BY MARGARET WAAGNER

**Haley Rose and Graham Cole in the McLean High production of '9 to 5: The Musical.'**

# Best You Can Be 'in a Man's World'

## McLean High production of '9 to 5: The Musical.'

BY ERIN MULLINS  
LAKE BRADDOCK SECONDARY

The sound of an alarm clock going off and the tapping of typewriters signifies a new day in the office, but what happens when an incident occurs involving rat poison and coffee? McLean High School's production of "9 to 5: The Musical" brings fun in the 1970s workplace as mischief unfolds and revenge is taken.

"9 to 5: The Musical," with lyrics and music by Dolly Parton and book by Patricia Resnick, is based on the 1980 movie of the same name. The story revolves around three women, Violet, Judy, and Doralee, who work as secretaries for a rude and bigoted boss. Together the three team up to make the office a better place and along the way find inner strength that redefines their limits and pushes them to be the best they can be.

Overall the cast performed with exuberance and featured many strong voices. The choreography (Kristen Waagner and Ashley Winegarden) ranged from tap dancing to jazz and the actors took it in stride. Every number was energized and in every scene the actors remained consistent in character.

The chemistry between Haley Rose (Violet), Erica Bass (Doralee), and Abby Covington (Judy) solidified the performance. Their connection with each other made the friendship feel natural

and believable. Their voices blended beautifully together and each stood out in the powerful three part harmony featured in multiple songs. Rose, Bass, and Covington all had a good grasp on their characters, and accurately portrayed the struggle of a woman trying to make her mark in a "man's world."

Benji Harris, who played Hart, the sleazy boss, took the character and ran with it. In a role some may feel uncomfortable to play, Harris offered impressive comedic timing that did not waver during his musical numbers. His performance was creepy and hilarious, and had the audience both cringing at the character and falling into fits of laughter.

The set design (Piper Phillips) featured a multi-piece set on wheels that was versatile and allowed for quick scene changes. The props (Graydon Al-Khafaji) accentuated the set and showed an obvious attention to detail. Each piece (for example the poster hanging above Hart's desk) provided a touch of authenticity for both the setting and the characters.

McLean High School's production of "9 to 5: The Musical" celebrates confidence and friendship. With strong performances both musically and physically, the show was entertaining from beginning to end. It reminds anyone who has ever felt like the little guy that they are capable of overcoming any obstacle, and that they too can "shine like the sun".

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### TRAIL SAFETY & ETIQUETTE

When you enjoy Fairfax County's 500 miles of trails by bike or foot, please be mindful of the comfort and safety of other trail users.

- Slow down and signal before passing others. All trail users should keep to the right except when passing.
- Keep one ear clear when using headphones, and always watch for debris, uneven or slippery trail conditions.
- Before crossing a street, always make eye contact with the motorist to ensure they see you - even if the walk sign is on. Wait until the road is clear or until all traffic has stopped.

The 2018 Fairfax County bike & trail map is now available at all government centers and bike shops in Fairfax County, as well as at [fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/bike-walk)

## RELAPSING MS IS A JOURNEY. HAVE YOUR NEEDS CHANGED ALONG THE WAY?

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**Date and Time:**  
5/23/2018 At 12:00PM

**Speaker:**  
Heidi Crayton, MD  
Vienna, VA

**Location:**  
The Capital Grille  
1861 International Drive  
McLean, VA 22102

**Event Code:**  
PEP-04260

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Registration is limited. Photo ID may be requested at event entrance. © 2018 Genzyme Corporation, a Sanofi company. All rights reserved. SAUS. MS.18.03.1386 April 2018



# CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

### “Trees, Trees, and Beyond.”

Through May 31 at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Vienna Arts Society Exhibition. Free. Open 10-7:30 p.m. in May. Visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org) or call 703-319-3971.

**Oakton Farmers Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Year-round weekly farmers market in Oakton. Local produce, meats/eggs, dairy, baked goods, and more. Admission is free. Visit [community-foodworks.org](http://community-foodworks.org).

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Music, vendors, fresh produce, fresh prepared food, delightful bakery, spices from around the world, wild-caught fish, grass-fed, free-range meats, organic-fed poultry and eggs. Email [kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org](mailto:kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org) for more.

## FRIDAY/MAY 18

**Bike to Work Day.** Join more than 18,000 area commuters for a free celebration of bicycling as a fun, healthy and environmentally-friendly way to get to work. Starting at various early morning hours, and some in the afternoon. Morning Bike to Work Day convoys, led by experienced bicycle commuters, will travel throughout the region. All levels of cyclists are welcome to join the convoys. To register, visit [www.biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org) and be entered for a free bike raffle.

**McLean Art Society Meeting.** 10 a.m.-noon at the Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Susan O'Neill, a graphic artist will be doing a demonstration on charcoal drawing. There will be a sale of art materials and books to fund the Society's volunteer projects. Call 703 356-2998.

**Thomas Pandolfi Concert.** 7:30-9 p.m. at Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Pianist Thomas Pandolfi in concert performing works by Mozart, Chopin, Ponce and Bernstein. Sponsored by the United Methodist Women. Meet and greet reception to follow. \$40. Tickets in advance at [www.greatfallsumc.org](http://www.greatfallsumc.org).

**Encore Chorale Concert.** 7:30-9 p.m. at United Christian Parish Reston, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. Combined Encore Chorales from Reston, Fairfax, and Lansdowne Woods sing music from Broadway, the Great American Songbook, and traditional Spirituals. Free and open to the public. Visit [www.EncoreCreativity.org](http://www.EncoreCreativity.org).

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MAY 18-19

**Traditional Afternoon Teas.** 3-5 p.m. at Freeman Store and Museum, 131 Church St. NE., Vienna. Enjoy a traditional English tea. Tickets are \$30 per person and include scones, tea sandwiches, assorted sweets and a bottomless cup of tea. A program will feature The Language of Flowers. Space is very limited; make reservations by calling 703-938-5187.

## SATURDAY/MAY 19

**2018 NGC Standard Flower Show.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Flower show “Celebrate Gardening Diversity.” Learn about plants that you can grow in the area, view creative floral designs. Free. Visit [www.gfgardenclub.org](http://www.gfgardenclub.org).

**Teens on the Green.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. For one afternoon each spring, teens run the Town of Vienna – at least its



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

**McLean Day now has two stages for entertainment—which means there is something for everyone to enjoy.**

# McLean Day Festival Returns Saturday

**M**cLean Day 2018 — produced by the McLean Community Center (MCC) — will be held on Saturday, May 19, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Rd. Admission is free.

The party starts early this year! On Friday, May 18, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. patrons can come to Lewinsville Park to enjoy the large, ticketed amusement rides just inside the entrance on Chain Bridge Road. Ride prices vary and some rides have height requirements.

Now in its 103<sup>rd</sup> year, McLean Day began in 1915 when the McLean School and Civic League sponsored a festival to raise funds for school and community projects.

entertainment. Vienna Parks and Recreation will host a youthful day of spring on stage as teens take over the Town Green with performances by Club Phoenix Live members, Madison High School's jazz band, Adrenaline Dance, School of Rock, and Velocity Dance. Call 703-255- 6360.

**McLean Day 2018.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Several options in stage entertainment. Rides, fair food and more. The festival will be held rain or shine. Call 703-790-0123/TTY: 711, [www.mcleancenter.org/special-events](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events).

### Over the Edge Rappelling

**Fundraiser.** at Hilton McLean Global Headquarters, 7930 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Some 80-plus thrill seekers will rappel down the McLean Hilton headquarters building. Sponsored by Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia. Each participant pledges to raise \$1,000 [www.habitatnova.org/ote/](http://www.habitatnova.org/ote/).

**Connect Our Kids Fundraiser.** 5-8 p.m. at Mosaic District's Alex and Ani store. In honor of May's National Foster Care Month, Connect Our Kids, a Falls Church-based non-profit, is pairing with Mosaic District's Alex and Ani store for a Charmed By Charity event. Alex and Ani will

A variety of popular large amusement rides can be enjoyed at McLean Day. Younger children can enjoy a “Kids' Way” area that features ticketed rides especially for them. There will also be several free games and activities all over the park, including Bubble Ball, a climbing wall, laser tag and Squeals on Wheels Petting Zoo.

McLean Day now has two stages for entertainment—which means there is something for everyone to enjoy.

For festival updates, driving directions, shuttle bus stop locations and a festival area map, visit: [www.mcleancenter.org/special-events](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events) or call the Center at 703-790-0123/TTY: 711. The Center's telephone will be answered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the day of the festival.

donate 15 percent of gross sales made during the event to support Connect Our Kids and their work developing proactive software that helps America's foster children find their families faster. Visit [www.connectourkids.org](http://www.connectourkids.org).

**A Salute to the Military.** 7:30 p.m. at Vinson Hall Community Building, 1733 Kirby Road, McLean. With Tysons McLean Orchestra. Sponsored by Linda and Wayne Sharp with special guest Col. Arnald Gabriel. Featuring Copland's Lincoln Portrait and Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. Adults, \$40; seniors, \$30; youth, \$15. Visit [tysonsmcleanorchestra.org](http://tysonsmcleanorchestra.org).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 19-20

**Colonial Spring Market Fair.** 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Play games and watch a children's puppet theatre. Order nails from the Blacksmith or a Corn Husk Doll. Enjoy music, dancing and 18<sup>th</sup> century fun. Lunch for purchase. The Colonial Tavern serves a variety of beer and ale, wine, lemonade and ginger ale. Adults, \$8; children and seniors, \$4; children under 3 free admission; free parking; directions at [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org).

# Tenth District Forum to Be Held in McLean

## Candidates to debate at the McLean Lutheran Church of the Redeemer on May 23.

**T**he McLean Forum for 10th District candidates from both parties will focus on economic equality, jobs, health care and key safety net programs, education, women and minority issues and infrastructure investments, Wednesday evening May 23, 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1545 Chain Bridge Road. This is a meeting put together by the Virginia committee of the Economic Equality Caucus, a non-partisan coalition of nonprofits and concerned citizens in northern Virginia. No candidate will be endorsed.

The organizers want to focus on economic policy for all working families in this nationally watched race.

There is a non-political section for nonprofits from 5 p.m. to 5:50

p.m. and then the candidates' forum from about 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Organizations who will be attending include:

- ❖ Phillips Programs for Children and Families;
- ❖ Share, Inc. nonprofit in McLean/Tyson's;
- ❖ Community Foundation for Northern Virginia;
- ❖ Lutheran Church of the Redeemer Social Concerns Committee;
- ❖ Hunger Free America nonprofit;
- ❖ Northern Virginia labor federation;
- ❖ Virginia Planned Parenthood advocates;
- ❖ business groups;
- ❖ faith-based entities;
- ❖ women and minority organizations.

This is free and open to the public.

## SUNDAY/MAY 20

**Breakfast Buffet.** 8 a.m.-noon at Vienna American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Vienna. Get omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy and more. Adults \$10, children 12 and under \$4. Call 703-938-6580.

**Better Wellness and Safety for Mature Adults.** 1-4 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE. Tips related to finances, physical and mental health, and public safety – all especially for senior adults – at a Wellness & Safety Expo hosted by Vienna's parks and recreation and police departments. Snacks will be provided by Cava and Fresh Market, and guests may pick up a free Town tote bag filled with giveaways. Call 703-255-7801.

## TUESDAY/MAY 22

**Sierra Club Hikes.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Frank Wodarczyk, a Sierra Club hike leader, will talk about the Sierra Club Potomac Region outings and provide information about the type of hikes, what to bring, and transportation options. Free. Email [s.weltz@yahoo.com](mailto:s.weltz@yahoo.com).

## THURSDAY/MAY 24

**Fundraising Benefit.** 6-9 p.m. at the Tower Club, 8000 Towers Crescent Drive, Suite 1700, Vienna. The Women 2 Women Committee of the Tower Club is hosting a fundraiser to benefit the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association. The evening will feature journalists/authors Cokie Roberts and her daughter, Rebecca Boggs Roberts. All tickets (\$95, +fees) entitle participants to a reception featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres and two drink tickets. Visit [www.suffragistmemorial.org](http://www.suffragistmemorial.org).

## SATURDAY/MAY 26

**Vegetable Plant Clinics.** 10 a.m.-noon. At Nottoway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Learn

about growing nightshade plants (tomatoes, etc.). Fairfax County Master Gardeners will add a focus on vegetable gardening to their Plant Clinic program. Sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension. Contact the Master Gardener Help Desk at 703-324-8556.

**Model Railroaders Open House.** 1-5 p.m. at the Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE. Northern Virginia Model Railroaders hold an open house during Viva! Vienna. Free admission. Call 703-938-5157 or visit [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org).

## SATURDAY-MONDAY/MAY 26-28

**Viva! Vienna!** Vienna celebrates its annual three-day festival in the heart of historic Vienna along Church Street. The festival, hosted for 33 years by the Rotary Club of Vienna, features carnival rides, food, live entertainment across three stages, and more than 300 arts and craft and other vendors. Free admission. Rides require a specific number of tickets, which varies from ride to ride; tickets are \$1 each or \$20 for a sheet of 24, or \$35 for an all-day wristband. Parking in the historic area is very limited. Visit [vivavienna.org](http://vivavienna.org).

## SUNDAY/MAY 27

**Model Railroaders Open House.** 1-5 p.m. at the Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE. Northern Virginia Model Railroaders hold an open house at the Vienna Depot each month and on Vienna celebration days, including Viva! Vienna and the Vienna Holiday Stroll. Free admission. Call 703-938-5157 or visit [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org).

## MONDAY/MAY 28

**Memorial Day Brunch and Cookie Class for Children.** 10 a.m.-noon at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, 3rd floor, McLean. A special Memorial Day brunch where guests will enjoy a breakfast buffet, cookie decorating class and face painting. \$20.00 per adult/child plus tax (gratuuity not included). To make a reservation, call 703-442-9110.

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## SPORTS

# McLean's DeAnda Overcomes ACL Injury

Senior scores five goals in district semifinal win.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**P**aulina DeAnda scored a game-high five goals and helped the McLean girls' lacrosse team earn a return trip to the Liberty District tournament championship game with a 15-12 victory over Yorktown during the semifinals on May 11 in Arlington.

DeAnda's goal with 7:41 remaining gave the Highlanders a 12-11 lead they would not relinquish. McLean on Tuesday — after The Connection's deadline — faced rival Langley in the Liberty championship game for a second straight season.

While five goals in a district tournament semifinal is a strong effort on its own, DeAnda's performance was even more impressive considering she tore the ACL in her left knee just five months prior.

DeAnda, who will play college lacrosse at Coastal Carolina University, suffered the injury during

basketball season.

"It broke me," DeAnda said.

A full rehabilitation from ACL surgery can take six months or longer, according to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. By that timeline, DeAnda's final high school lacrosse season would likely be over before she had a chance to step on the field.

"I wasn't expecting her," McLean girls' lacrosse coach Caroline Cochrane-Braswell said, "to play at all."

With hard work, DeAnda was able to get medical clearance in four months. After undergoing surgery during winter break, she spent five days a week in the gym and would spend two hours in physical therapy rather than one.

"I pushed myself," DeAnda said. "I was very determined. I wanted to get back and play."

Once she was cleared, DeAnda eased her way back into action with the Highlanders. She played against South Lakes (April 13) and Langley (April 19) during the regular season and then took a

break. She returned for the play-offs, helping McLean beat South Lakes, 16-15, in the opening round of the Liberty District tournament on May 9.

On Friday, DeAnda led McLean past Yorktown. But while she performed well, No. 21 acknowledged fear of re-injuring her knee weighed on her mind.

"Today I was so nervous," DeAnda said. "I was having chills up and down my body when I'd fall. I [didn't] care who hit me, all I cared about was how I'd land. I didn't want to re-tear [my left ACL] or tear the other one."

Senior captain Cassidy Slavik (four goals) and junior Sarah Rice (three goals) each had strong performances to complement DeAnda's inspiring effort.

Slavik, a first-team all-district attack who will play at East Carolina University, scored three goals in the final 10 minutes of the first half, helping McLean to a 7-6 half-time advantage.

"Everyone really wanted this," Slavik said. "We wanted to play

**McLean senior Paulina DeAnda, left, scored five goals against Yorktown on May 11.**



VIDEO SCREENSHOTS BY JON ROETMAN



**McLean senior Cassidy Slavik scored four goals against Yorktown in the Liberty District tournament semifinals.**

Langley again. We're all about redemption. We lost by 11 goals the last time against Yorktown (13-2 on April 5) — that was a terrible game."

Last season, McLean knocked off perennial power Madison in the Liberty Conference semifinals before falling to Langley in the championship game.

Slavik said she's glad to be part of the group that helped the Highlanders become a district title contender.

"It's fantastic," she said. "I'm really looking forward to what the program is going to do when we're gone. We really set the tone for the underclassmen and they know that we're prepared to win."



## DETAILS MATTER.

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RENDERING COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

**Artist's rendering of the scope of The Boro, a major addition to the new Tysons.**



RENDERING COURTESY OF CHRIS BLAKEMORE, MAYHOOD COMPANY, FOR THE BORO

**Artist's illustration of one of the seven parks that will bring open green space, places for recreation, relaxation and entertainment to The Boro in Tysons.**

# Tysons Transforming

The “Next Great American City” well underway.

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

**B**link and you might just miss the next major addition to the ever-changing Tysons skyline. After years of construction on Metro's Silver Line and the four stations serving Tysons area, it seems like work on the Tysons Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 2010, is moving at light speed, versus rail.

“The pace of change in Tysons is astounding,” said Sol Glasner President and CEO of the Tysons Partnership, the large non-profit collaboration of Tysons stakeholders whose mission is to “accelerate the transformation of Tysons.”

In just the last four years thirteen new buildings have already added to the Tysons growth spurt. At present, twelve more, representing an additional 3.9 million-square feet, have passed through planning and design and are under construction.

The few inhabitants of the Tysons Corner of the 1950s, which consisted mostly of a general store and Post Office at the intersection of the Leesburg Pike (Route 7) and Route 123, wouldn't recognize the renamed Tysons of today. It's possible that the current residents and commuting workers will have some difficulty recognizing their own neighborhood in just a few short years, let alone before Tysons reaches its projected 2050 completion date.

If developers and the County remain true to the vision of the Plan and the Tysons Urban Design Guidelines endorsed by the Supervisors in 2012, these changes may be truly welcomed. Learning from missteps in the past and extensive studies of the most successful development projects around the country, the design guidelines set out a robust list of goals including:

- ❖ Smaller blocks to foster comfortable and safe walking with pleasant, safe and continuous tree-lined sidewalks
- ❖ Routes for pedestrians, motorists and cyclists
- ❖ High quality urban parks and public amenities
- ❖ On-street and underground parking structures that replace surface parking lots
- ❖ Sustainable building and site elements to create LEED certified buildings and



**The Tysons Partnership and Fairfax County hosted an Open House on May 3 to offer the public an update on the growing city, allow attendees to speak with county officials and representatives from the developments, and to sample some of the offerings from food and beverage vendors operating in the district.**

neighborhoods

❖ Creative site design that fosters stormwater reuse, infiltration, and runoff reductions

**THE TYSONS PARTNERSHIP** fully supports the guidelines. The Partnership and the County hosted an Open House at Basis Independent School in Tysons on May 3 to bring the public up-to-date on the status of the project, and to showcase some of the properties, services and food and beverage providers already calling Tysons home, or on the cusp of opening their doors.

“We are committed to making this a truly livable, walkable mini-city, where people want to put down roots. Where the services and amenities they need are on their doorstep and they can often leave their cars behind,” Glasner told the open house attendees.

Following Glasner, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) took the microphone and

told the audience that he is excited to watch Tysons becoming a “vibrant, 24/7 community.” Largely crediting today's progress to what was often viewed as the risky, sometimes controversial and occasionally stalled, Silver Line extension to the Metro system, Connolly hailed the burgeoning urban center as a model for the future and an enormous economic boon to Northern Virginia.

Connolly noted that Tysons had just welcomed its tenth Fortune 500 tenant, and “that's more than what 30 other states can claim.”

Citing the massive Capital One development on Route 123 just east of the Capital Beltway, Connolly said that the area could anticipate \$1 billion in tax revenues, which would reduce the tax burden on homeowners in the region, while providing much-needed funds for improvements and services.

With corporate residents like Capital One,



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

**A component of The Boro, an ambitious neighborhood in Tysons that will include 14 new mixed-use buildings, a theater, a public library, the region's largest Whole Foods, retail and dining, and multiple parks and green space, rises into the Tysons skyline.**

Hilton Worldwide, The MITRE Corporation, Northrop Grumman and others, Tysons is already the 12th largest business district in the country. All that's missing for Tysons to truly claim the title of “City” is the lack of round-the-clock residents – those staying put after work, rather than all “commuting in or out at the same time each day,” as Connolly described the current state of affairs.

The County, the Partnership and the developers are working vigorously to remedy that.

In building their “Next Great American City,” the goal is to increase the population of Tysons from about 20,000 to more than 100,000, and to double the number of jobs to more than 200,000.

But even in the midst of the most far-reaching projects within the 2,000+ acres that make up Tysons, the developers are ad

SEE TYSONS, PAGE 13

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# Tyson's Transformation Underway

FROM PAGE 12

hering to the design plan, incorporating in their designs significant amounts of green space, athletic and recreational space and/or facilities, and in some cases, even room for arts and entertainment to be showcased or performed.

The Capital One complex, for example, while expanding to a 5.2 million-square-foot campus, will feature a 1.5 acre "skypark" – an elevated, open-area green space. The banking industry giant will also have a Wegman's grocery store within their environs, as well as the 125,000-square foot Capital One Center which will offer conference facilities, along with a 1,500-seat performing arts venue. With residential towers and a hotel on site, it's no wonder Connolly described the complex as being almost a mini-city in its own right.

The Boro, currently under construction adjacent to Route 7, Westpark and Greensboro Drives and within comfortable walking distance of the Greensboro Metro Station, is perhaps one of the most ambitious undertakings in the new Tysons. Developers The Meridian Group and Kettler are "working to build a neighborhood," according to sales manager Chris Blakemore of the Mayhood Company.

Blakemore was at the Open House, displaying renderings and factsheets about "Verse," the luxury condominiums that he described as almost a "virtual village" and that will form an integral part of The Boro. The Verse design pays homage to the "green space/walkable lifestyle" concept that has been the mantra of the Tysons Comprehensive Plan from its conception. Like Capital One, Verse will also feature a "skypark," as well as town square-style common areas with fountains and a stage for live entertainment.

**IN TOTAL**, The Boro, which sits on the highest elevation in Tysons, will add fourteen new buildings. The site is so large it is dubbed a "superblock" by planners, but the developers are dividing up the project for accessibility by adding four new blocks with three new streets. The mixed-use project will place its three office towers closest to the Metro station. Five residential buildings will share the neighborhood with a hotel, retail and restaurant establishments, seven parks and a public library, which the developer will design and build.

The Boro is also pleased to have secured the largest Whole Foods grocers in the D.C. area at 70,000 square feet. A later phase of the project will add a 15 screen movie theater with reserved seats, a bistro and a full bar.

The southern end of The Boro will open up to Magnetic Park, the development's central open space.

The plans being approved reflect a focus on the "live, work, and play" objectives of the County, but in their decision-making, county officials haven't forgotten to address one of the major challenges faced by the region – the lack of affordable housing.

The developers building in Tysons have been charged with including a greater percentage of affordable and workforce housing than is required elsewhere. The Tysons Plan calls for such housing to be made available to residents making from 50 to 120 percent of the area median income, and recommends that the new, nonresidential developments contribute \$3 per square foot to a housing trust fund toward that end. As Connolly pointed out in his remarks, "this whole thing only works if people can afford to live here where they work" regardless of their occupation.

Transportation, infrastructure and security in the "Next



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

**The Highgate apartments on Jones Branch Drive are ready for residents and already at almost 70 percent occupancy, according to Lead Resident Services Coordinator Mark Monroe. Directly across from the Hilton hotel, the apartments back onto park facilities and pathways.**

Great City" are also being given full consideration.

"Policing is largely about reacting," said MPO Patrick Lucas, McLean District Station Crime Prevention Officer. Lucas and Second Lieutenant Charles Riddle were both in attendance at the Tysons Open House, sharing statistics and plans with attendees.

Lucas said that the Fairfax County Police Department had learned some "hard lessons" during the creation of the Mosaic District and the redevelopment in Merrifield. "We need to move from reaction to looking down the road to properly serve the residents of this area as it continues to grow." To do just that, the Department brought in outside expertise to re-work their model and make projections on manpower needs.

"Even as Tysons exists today, this area accounts for 29 percent of our calls for the entire county." The statistics indicate that by 2042 as many as 224 additional officers could be needed to meet the needs of the city-in-the-making.

As for transportation and infrastructure in the expanding urban center, aside from the new streets that the developers are adding to ensure connectivity and walkability, projects like the Jones Branch Connector, already 46 percent complete, have been included to improve circulation through the area. A multimodal span across the Beltway into Tysons, the Connector will enhance mobility for drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and transit riders alike.

**THE SCOTTS RUN TRAIL**, estimated to begin construction in late Spring of 2019, will provide pedestrians with a lighted connecting pathway from Magarity Road at Westgate Elementary to Colshire Meadow Drive near the McLean Metro station, with bridges over Scotts Run Stream and its tributary, while the Vesper Trail, slated for completion in October of this year, will provide a shared use path from Vesper Court to Route 7 and the Springhill Metro station. Multiple plans are being considered to best allow for accessing the Washington and Old Dominion Trail, the longest and most frequented multi-use path in the region. At the Open House, staff from both the County and the Virginia Departments of Transportation exhibited maps illustrating the transportation plans and proposals.

The Tysons Partnership website at [www.tysonspartnership.org](http://www.tysonspartnership.org) and the county's website, keyword "Tysons" both offer a wealth of information about the plans, from history to current status and timelines for each private and public piece-of-the-puzzle project, and opportunities for public feedback as the project progresses.



VIDEO SCREENSHOTS BY JON ROETMAN

**Langley goalie Kevin Halm held Yorktown to three goals on Friday.**

## Halm's Defense, Gomez's Goals Lead Langley

**Saxons beat Yorktown in district semifinals.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**I**t wasn't pretty, but a strong defensive effort and three goals from Justin Gomez helped put the Langley boys' lacrosse team back in a familiar setting.

The Saxons earned a return trip to the Liberty District tournament championship game with a 6-3 win over Yorktown in the semifinals on May 11 in Arlington. Langley on Tuesday — after The Connection's deadline — took on South Lakes in the tournament final. Last year, the Seahawks beat the Saxons to capture the Liberty crown.

Langley never trailed against Yorktown on Friday. The Saxons led 3-0 at the end of the first quarter and 4-2 at halftime. The Patriots cut the Langley lead to one midway through the third quarter, but the Saxons pulled away with goals by Gomez and Ben Johnson.

"I think our strength right now is our defense," second-year Langley head coach Jamie Parrot said. "Our leadership is our defense. [We are] using that as kind of our base that we build off of ... and then controlled offense. We don't have quite the athletes that we've had at times

in the past, so we've got to play six guys instead of a one-on-one game. It's kind of a grinding kind of thing. ... You have to understand our strengths and weakness and play to them."

Junior goalie Kevin Halm, a first-year varsity starter, led the way defensively for Langley.

"He played incredibly well," Parrot said. "... He's stepped in and really done a great job for us. He has the confidence to be a leader and that's the biggest thing. I knew he could stop the ball but being the leader of the defense — can he do it?"

Yorktown head coach Greg Beer praised Halm, as well.

"Their goalie ... he made a couple great saves," Beer said. "We had a couple really nice looks in the first half and he played great. Everything that we basically threw, it seemed like it was right in his stick."

While Halm helped limit Yorktown to three goals, Gomez took care of the Langley offense. The junior captain and first-team all-district selection scored three goals.

"He's our most important offensive player," Parrot said.

Fellow captain and first-team selection Johnson scored twice for the Saxons and sophomore Robert Hage added a goal.



**Justin Gomez scored three goals for Langley during the Liberty District semifinals on Friday.**



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**News**

**Traffic headed toward Maryland on the Beltway backs up where the Express Lanes end.**

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION



# Bridge Expansion Debated

FROM PAGE 3

end abruptly, and are not matched by increased traffic capacity on the American Legion Bridge or the Beltway in Maryland.

"Putting all the merge points at one point makes it a nightmare," said April Georgelas, calling the situation an emergency.

In April, Virginia's Commonwealth Transportation Board approved \$6 million in funding for the Virginia Department of Transportation to conduct an environmental study of a plan to extend the I-495 Express Lanes by approximately three miles from the Dulles Toll Road interchange to the vicinity of

the American Legion Bridge and Maryland line.

A meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2018 at Cooper Middle School to specifically address the proposal and its impact on McLean and the region.

According to the letter: "With the daily delays leading to the American Legion Bridge, many commuters leaving Virginia have found alternative routes to travel as close to the bridge as possible before entering the Capital Beltway. Since some neighborhood roads near the bridge have been affected by traffic from these commuters, we request that the traffic study undertaken as part of this process include the impact on these roads in its scope."

## McLean Auctioneer Earns Top Industry Designation

McLean auctioneer Anne Nouri, of Prime Auction Solutions, recently completed her training at the Certified Auctioneers Institute (CAI). CAI is the industry's premier training program developed by the National Auctioneers Association (NAA) for auction professionals. Nouri joins an exclusive group as there are approximately only 120 women with current CAI Designations in the world (as of March 2018). The three-year CAI designation program provides auction professionals the opportunity to earn the industry's most respected professional designation. CAI is an intensive, executive development program offering professional auctioneers with instruction and coursework in business management, ethics, finance, communication, strategic planning and marketing. The



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Anne Nouri**

NAA conducts CAI every March at Indiana University in Bloomington. In 2014 Nouri completed her auction training at the Missouri Auction School and has since earned the following NAA designations: Accredited Auctioneer Real Estate, AARE, Benefit Auction Specialist, BAS, Graduate Personal Property Appraiser, GPPA and now the highest designation in the Auction Industry, Certified Auctioneers Institute, CAI. Nouri is also a licensed Realtor in Virginia, Washington DC, and Maryland with Sorelle Realty at Keller Williams McLean, where she serves on the ALC, Agent Leadership Council.

To learn more about Nouri, call 703-889-8949, email [Anne@PrimeAuctionSolutions.com](mailto:Anne@PrimeAuctionSolutions.com) or visit [www.PrimeAuctionSolutions.com](http://www.PrimeAuctionSolutions.com).

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# BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## GOVERNING BOARD CANDIDATES

**The McLean Community Center** Three adult positions and two youth positions are open this year. Key Election Dates:

- Wednesday, May 16: Absentee Voting ends at the MCC Administrative Office and the Old Firehouse Center at 5 p.m.
- Saturday, May 19: Elections at McLean Day from 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

For more information on the MCC Governing Board Elections, call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit the Center's website: <http://bit.ly/2ix7qc1>.

## THURSDAY/MAY 17

**TedX Salon.** 6-8 p.m. in the Kathy Martin Community Building Ballroom, Vinson Hall Retirement Community, 1735 Kirby Road, McLean. From active duty to serving the community... How do the skills learned in the military translate when changing teams, companies or communities? \$20. Call 703-554-4103 or visit [tedxtyson.com](http://tedxtyson.com).

**Public Information Meeting.** 7 p.m. at Westbriar Elementary School cafeteria, 1741 Pine Valley Drive, Vienna. The meeting will be used to provide an overview of the Fairfax County Resident Curator Program (RCP) administered by the Park Authority, and to discuss the use of the historic Lahey Lost Valley house as a Resident Curator property. The meeting will provide an opportunity for public questions and comments. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rcp](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rcp).

## SATURDAY/MAY 19

**McLean Day 2018**, is offering patrons a new way to stay up-to-date on the festival's many aspects. MCC has established the new app in cooperation with Whova, Inc. Patrons can download the app to their smart phones or other devices by searching for the Whova App in the Apple Store or Google Play. Once it has been downloaded, they can use the search feature to find McLean Day on May 19. The festival will be held 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Rd. Admission is free. Visit [www.mcleancenter.org/special-events](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events).

## THROUGH MAY 20

**NVTA Candidate Projects.** The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority has released for public comment 60 candidate projects and related information for its inaugural FY 2018-2023 Six Year Program. Today, through May 20, 2018, the Authority invites the public to learn more about and comment on the candidate projects under consideration for funding. A detailed project list, project description forms, maps and technical analyses are available at [www.TheNoVaAuthority.org](http://www.TheNoVaAuthority.org) and at the NVTA offices (3040 Williams Drive, Suite 200, Fairfax), on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. E-mail: [TheAuthority@TheNoVaAuthority.org](mailto:TheAuthority@TheNoVaAuthority.org); phone: 703-642-4652 Visit [www.TheNoVaAuthority.org](http://www.TheNoVaAuthority.org).

## MONDAY/MAY 21

**Proposed Zoning Changes Community Meetings.** 7-9 p.m. at Colvin Run Elementary, 1400 Trap Road, Vienna. The Department of Planning and Zoning will hold provide information about upcoming Ordinance Amendments and staff will speak one-on-one about zoning issues. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicaffairs/learn-about-proposed-zoning-changes-may-affect-your-neighborhood-2018-zoning-open-houses](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicaffairs/learn-about-proposed-zoning-changes-may-affect-your-neighborhood-2018-zoning-open-houses).

## FRIDAY/JUNE 1

**Help Children Navigate Adolescence in the Digital Age.** 10 a.m.-noon at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. What else can parents do to keep their teenager safe on the internet? Join Richard Stegman, FCPS Educational Specialist, to learn the top internet dangers for teens and seven steps for good digital parenting. Free. Call 703-204-3941 or visit [www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center](http://www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center).

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## Musing About Infusing



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Seven weeks between chemotherapy infusions; I could get used to this. Here I am sitting and writing on Wednesday, May 9 and my next scheduled infusion isn't until Friday, June 1. That's another three-plus weeks. It's a "staycation," of sorts, meaning: I'm not going anywhere, but due to the new extended chemotherapy infusion interval – from six weeks to seven, I don't have to.

Though it's hardly an ideal vacation – either staying or going – for a cancer patient still undergoing treatment, not having to go the Infusion Center is about as good as it gets. What's even better is receiving scan results (which at present are still scheduled quarterly) which show "stable," "shrinkage," or even "N.E.D.," which means "no evidence of disease" (I'm "stable"). All of which I can live with. Despite ending that last sentence with a preposition.

With respect to "N.E.D.," unfortunately, being asymptomatic as I generally am – and mostly have been, is not necessarily an indicator that all is well.

Neither do symptoms always confirm "progression" (medical jargon for growth and/or movement). Sometimes the pain is scar tissue. Other times it's a side effect of the medicine you've been infusing or the pill you've been swallowing. (Presently, there are targeted treatment options which enable patients to take pills at home, tarceva being one example. Which if I may quote the late Maurice Chevalier singing in "Gigi:" "I remember it well" from the 11 months a few years ago when I didn't have to commute to the infusion center.)

Throw in the occasional phone appointment I've had with my oncologist, post-scan, when he and I both know – per an email he usually sends, that the results continue to show "stable," and when an in-office examination is likely not to "present" (more medical jargon; this one meaning, show) any contradictory findings and I've definitely had my moments of relative/comparative calm. Moments which, when they do occur, need to be cherished because, in the terminal cancer world, the news is not always good.

And since you have to take the good with the bad, with minimal control over both – acknowledging the good and not giving into the bad, become your stock and trade. It's easy, maybe even inevitable that a cancer patient will get overwhelmed by his or her circumstances so finding a way to navigate the slings and arrows of the outrageous misfortune which has befallen you is more than crucial; it's life sustaining.

Practically speaking though, how does one absorb the news and subsequent reality of a cancer diagnosis? What word I used to describe what I felt and heard at the initial Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist when he told me I had a "terminal" form of cancer: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, was "surreal."

It's a word I've heard many other cancer patients use when describing the moment when they first heard their devastating news. At that ground-zero moment, the words "non-small cell lung cancer," at least for me, were almost incomprehensible, especially if there's no cancer history in your immediate family (which was true for me). I mean, I understood him well enough, I just didn't process the information.

Similar to when I received a call at work, from my internal medicine doctor, a few days after my biopsy (and a week or so before meeting my oncologist), advising me of the results. He asked me if I wanted to meet him at his office (that can't be good I thought – and it wasn't). I said, "No. Just tell me" And so he did.

He told me that they found tumors in my lungs which were malignant. My knee-jerk reaction? "What does that mean?" Upon hearing that kind of news/maybe just that word, "malignant," you sort of lose control of your faculties. (At least I did.)

Thinking straight? Hardly. You're thinking crooked. But as time goes by and you somehow begin to assimilate/compartamentalize your diagnosis/prognosis, it becomes quite clear: anything you can do to bring some normalcy into your life is a win-win for you and a lose-lose for cancer.

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





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