

Victoria Manoogian of McLean organized the protest against NOVA Firearms new location next to Franklin Sherman Elementary School in McLean on Saturday, Sept. 26. All parties hope for resolution to the battle over NOVA Firearms' location next to the school in 2016.

# What's Happening in 2016 in McLean

NEWS, PAGE 3

NOT  
IN MY  
BACKYARD

NOT  
IN MY  
BACKYARD

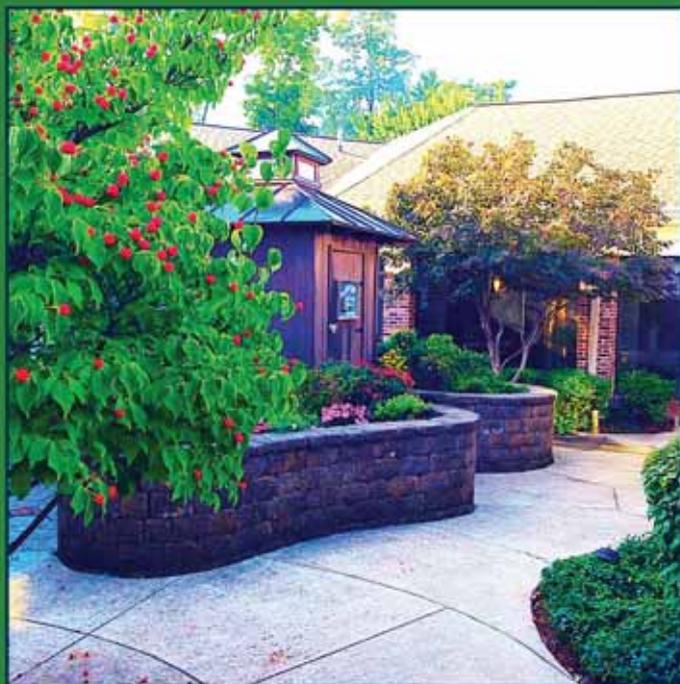
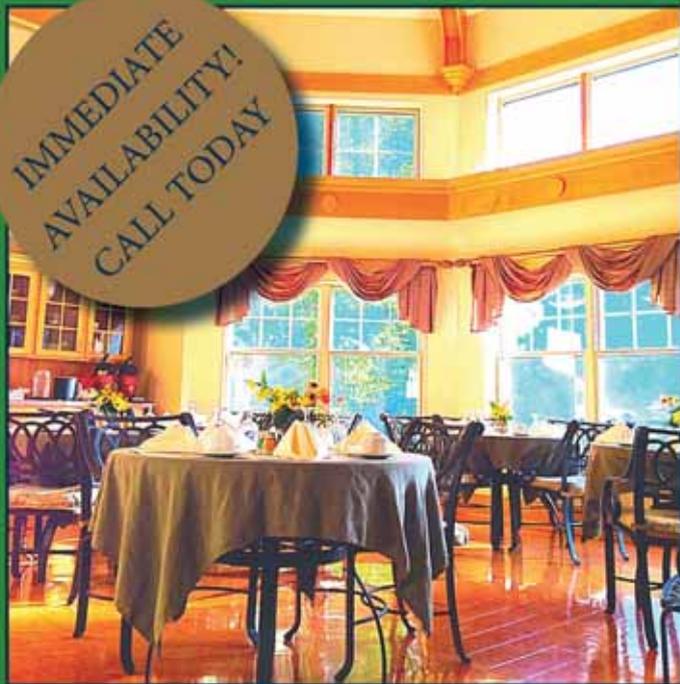
## Langley Girls' Basketball Beats West Springfield

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OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

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## What's Happening in 2016 in McLean?

A preview of the issues, events that will mark the new year.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

### MCA: Century of Advocacy

McLean Citizens Association has advocated for McLean and its people for 100 years.

MCA published "The Voice of McLean: 100 Years of the McLean Citizens Association," written by Merrily Pierce and Paul Kohlenberger in November 2014.

MCA members and committees study issues important to McLean, ranging from land use, planning and zoning, transportation issues, and environmental concerns to long range planning, Tysons, Public Safety, schools and more.

McLean Citizens Association is scheduled to hold its next meeting at the community center, 1234 Ingleside Drive, on Wednesday, Jan. 6, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

### MCC Expansion

McLean Community Center is scheduled to be fully renovated by the spring of 2018, promising an entirely "contemporary" new look.

"You want to see what's going on inside, you want to advertise that, you want to draw people in," said architect Greg Lukmire. "Successful public buildings are open these days."

Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in fall 2016. The project will cost approximately \$8 million, with \$6.1 million for construction. No money will need to be requested, raised or borrowed, said Ben Drosner, with Fairfax County's Department of Public Works.

"The money is coming from the McLean Community Center's tax district capital reserves," said Drosner.

The center is scheduled to remain open during the renovation.

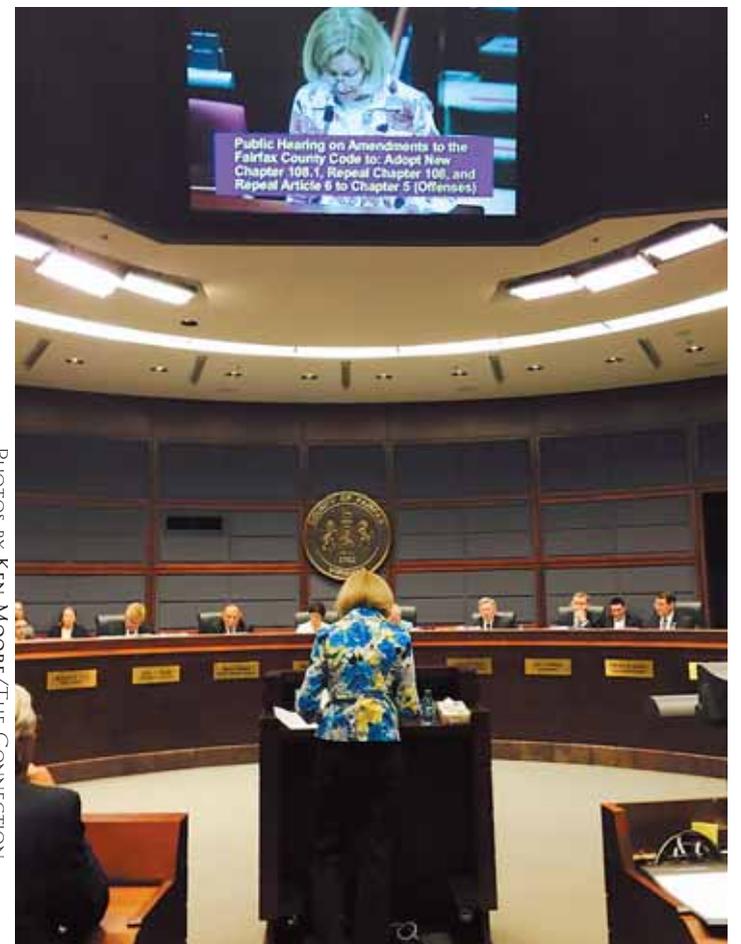
The renovation will add a total of 7,750 square feet to allow for a 1,500-square-foot fitness room; conference rooms of different shapes and sizes; renovation of the administrative area; added circulation and lobby space; additional restrooms; and bringing the entire building into full compliance with the ADA.

The Alden Theater, which was expanded with its 100-seat balcony in 1988, and the 2000 Art Studio will not be altered.

Some of the details include an open courtyard, natural lighting throughout the building, an open hallway that people enter and allows patrons of the theater in the lobby to see the art gallery on the top floor, and a



McLean Citizens Association has advocated for McLean and its people the last 100 years. This week, Jan. 6, the citizens association is contemplating a resolution for a second bridge crossing over the Potomac River. Pictured here at McLean Day 2015: Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, School Board member Janie Strauss, Dranesville Supervisor John Foust and McLean historians Merrily Pierce and Paul Kohlenberger (back row).



Joyce Harris, of McLean, testifies before the Board of Supervisors in May 2015, on the mandated rewrite of the county's noise ordinance. The Board of Supervisors approved a plan this past fall, which will go into effect in February. The Board will monitor the new ordinance's effectiveness over the next 18 months.



Protesters outside NOVA Firearms in McLean on Saturday, Sept. 26. The gun store is located on property that is adjacent to Franklin Sherman Elementary School. All parties hope for resolution to the battle over NOVA Firearms location next to Franklin Sherman Elementary School in 2015.

glass facade on the back that allows connectivity between the library and the center and a link to the outdoors.

"It's such a beautiful view and nobody

sees it," said Lukmire. "We see the community center as a building in a park. It's set in an environment that is natural and quite lovely."

### McLean's Own Gun Store

Sen. Barbara Favola pledged discussion at this year's General Assembly session regarding proximity of gun stores to schools.

Most local Supervisors, delegates and senators stated that NoVa Firearms new location adjacent to Franklin Sherman Elementary is an absurd place for a gun store.

McLean Citizens Association created an ad hoc commission to consider the issue.

NOVA Firearms opened at its new location, adjacent to Franklin Sherman Elementary School property, on Sept. 26. Dozens of McLean residents and parents and school children protested along Chain Bridge Road. Elected officials joined the event.

The store had been located in different area of McLean previously, near the post office but not next to a school.

"The protesters are exercising their right to free speech, and I'm okay with that," said James Gates, McLean gun store owner. "Our main issue now is that we wanted to stay in McLean near our old shop so we could keep our current clientele. It's hard to find a landlord in this area who will lease to a gun shop, and it's hard to find somewhere where you are actually zoned to be able to

SEE MCLEAN IN 2016, PAGE 4

# McLean in 2016

FROM PAGE 3

sell the firearms. And this location happened to be a good mix of all three at a good price.”

By moving to the larger McLean location, Gates said at his opening that he hopes to use the extra space to offer firearm safety classes.

MCA Board member Rob Jackson pointed out that there were no violations of law or zoning when the gun store opened on Chain Bridge Road bordering Franklin Sherman Elementary School.

At MCA's October meeting, a number of people attending carried weapons inside the community center, where local law cannot prevent people from openly carrying firearms.

The November MCA meeting was moved to McLean High School, a venue where firearms are not permitted. More than 80 people attended the monthly meeting, many wearing hunter-orange stickers that said, “Guns Save Lives.”

Others had signs and stickers that said, “Notice, no firearms allowed on premises.”

“This is a very difficult situation, and we're trying to figure out what we can all do together to solve it. And we think, if people can be flexible and patient, we'll get there,” said MCA President Jeff Bartlett.

## Talk to the General Assembly

The Fairfax County delegation to the Virginia General Assembly will hold a hearing for public comment on the upcoming 2016 session on Saturday, Jan. 9, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

The Virginia General Assembly will meet for 60 days in Richmond beginning Jan. 12.

Residents who want to sign up in advance to speak at the hearing should contact the Office of the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors at 703-324-3151, TTY 711, by noon on Friday, Jan. 8.

## New Noise Ordinance

The Board of Supervisors is at peace with the county's new Noise Ordinance.

“Believe it or not, that passes,” said Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova at the Nov. 17, 2015 meeting of the Board of Supervisors. The new ordinance becomes effective on Feb. 17.

The Board directed staff to monitor the effectiveness and impact of the new Noise Ordinance for an 18-month period after its enactment.

Some groups advocated for stronger enforcement and stronger details in the legislation, especially in neighborhoods close to county schools and parks. The school system has pledged to ensure that there will be specific technology on loudspeakers at schools to stay within new county code.

The Board delayed the effective date of implementation of the new ordinance to

February in order to provide time for staff training, to update County websites, and to assist staff in understanding the new regulations, according to county documents.

The overall goal of the Noise Ordinance is to recognize that there will always be certain levels of noise that occur in the normal course of daily living; to allow certain levels of daytime noise so that people can live, work and play during the day; and to minimize noise at night so residents have an appropriate quiet environment in their homes at night. For more, see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoning/noiseordinance/>.

## Two Town Hall Meetings

Del. Kathleen Murphy is hosting a Great Falls Town Hall on Saturday, Jan. 9 from 1:30-3 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike.

Murphy is hosting a McLean Town Hall with McLean and North Arlington General Assembly Delegation at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean, on Saturday, Jan. 16, from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

## Stream Team

Dead Run is impaired and in poor quality, said Matt Meyers, Watershed Projects Implementation Branch Chief for Fairfax County Stormwater Planning Division.

“There's real degradation,” said Meyers, at June's public information meeting. “We know that this is an important project to improve the quality of the stream. We want to work with you to make it a good project.”

Meyers highlighted the intensity of stream erosion and degradation, increasing phosphorous levels and flooding that is impacting the surrounding community.

The stream restoration project would improve water quality by reducing sediment and nutrient loads, stabilize stream banks to reduce bank erosion and reduce tree loss in the future, improve aquatic habitat and restore and enhance the stream buffer, officials said.

But many residents who use McLean Central Park voiced anger over county plans to remove a couple of hundred trees as part of a stream restoration process to improve the health of Dead Run Stream.

Supervisor John Foust organized a Stream Team to discuss and potentially make decisions that will impact the McLean Central Park. Foust promised neighbors and citizens a chance to work with county officials through the stream team to determine if consensus can be reached to improve the quality of Dead Run but meet demands of neighbors and citizens who want to ensure that their park won't be compromised.

Late December, Foust's staff offered thanks to the stream team for the work this past fall.

“While we still have some more work to do, the latest design concept has reduced tree loss from the original plan by over 30 percent,” according to Foust's staff, although

some residents say that number is actually about 16 percent. “The next steps in developing the final concept design are to (i) refine the construction access taking into account input at the last task force meeting, and (ii) schedule group and/or individual meetings with homeowners along Carol Raye Street and Elizabeth Drive to obtain additional input and make final adjustments to the current design ..., (iii) review possible buffer plantings outside the proposed limits of disturbance along the left bank (Elizabeth Drive side) ... and (iv) schedule a broad community meeting.”

Susan Moser countered, “As a member of this task force who has attended virtually every meeting, I am of the opinion that, while there have been efforts made on the part of the County and Stantec, we are nowhere near a consensus or approval of a final plan.”

Continuing concerns include removal of 210 trees, removal of trees and other vegetation between the trail and residential property lines, maintenance, buffer landscaping and replacement of lost trees, and potential future flooding, according to Moser.

## Mental Health, Not Jail?

The county began its new Merrifield Crisis Response Center, a key component of the county's Diversion First initiative, on Jan. 1.

A sheriff's deputy and a police officer will be stationed in CSB Emergency Services, the Merrifield Crisis Response Center, every day from 11:30 a.m. until midnight starting on New Year's Day.

Their primary duty will be to accept custody of individuals brought in to the crisis response center by other police officers and sheriff deputies who have detained an individual for a non-violent offense but may need mental health treatment rather than incarceration, according to county documents.

This is designed to balance providing appropriate assessment and care for individuals in crisis while allowing those other officers and deputies to go back into service for other duties more quickly.

Interagency and community teams have made progress in developing components of the Diversion First initiative, designed to reduce the number of people with mental illness in local jails by diverting non-violent offenders experiencing mental health crises to treatment instead of incarceration.

Some of the components of Diversion First have already begun, including Crisis Intervention Team training for police officers and sheriff deputies and Mental Health First Aid training for other county first responders.

## Presidential Primaries

The Democratic and Republican Presidential Primary Election Day is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1.

To participate in the primary, voters must be registered by Monday, Feb. 8.

The Virginia State Board of Elections (SBE) determined by random drawing the

order that candidates' names will appear on the ballots for the upcoming presidential primaries.

On Dec. 11, 2015, the Democratic Party of Virginia certified that the following three candidates qualified to appear on the 2016 Democratic Presidential Primary ballot. The names will appear on the 2016 Democratic Presidential Primary ballot as:

- ❖ Hillary Clinton
- ❖ Martin O'Malley
- ❖ Bernie Sanders

On Dec. 15, 2015, the Republican Party of Virginia certified that the following 13 candidates qualified to appear on the 2016 Republican Presidential Primary ballot. The names will appear on the 2016 Republican Presidential Primary ballot as:

- ❖ Marco Rubio
- ❖ Lindsey Graham
- ❖ Ben Carson
- ❖ Rand Paul
- ❖ Mike Huckabee
- ❖ Ted Cruz
- ❖ Donald Trump
- ❖ Jim Gilmore
- ❖ Chris Christie
- ❖ Jeb Bush
- ❖ Rick Santorum
- ❖ John Kasich
- ❖ Carly Fiorina

Absentee voting by mail, fax or e-mail is due by Feb. 23. Voting in person but by an absentee ballot can be done by Feb. 27.

See [elections.virginia.gov](http://elections.virginia.gov).

## Congressional Race

U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) is serving her first term in Congress, elected following the retirement of long-time Congressman Frank Wolf.

Comstock is up for reelection in November, and will face Democrat LuAnn Bennett, who describes herself as a small business owner and working mother who has lived in Northern Virginia for more than 30 years.

Virginia Congressional District 10 includes McLean, Great Falls, Herndon, Chantilly, Lorton and some other parts of Fairfax County.

## Route 7 Widening

Throughout January, teams from the Virginia Department of Transportation will meet with Amberwoods, Bradley Oaks, Lockmeade, Locust Hill homeowners and Shouse Village homeowners association as well as the Towlston Meadow Community Association about plans to widen Route 7.

VDOT cancelled its two day Public Information and Open House Meeting scheduled for Jan. 8 and 9, but information meetings and hearings are tentatively planned for later in the winter and spring.

The \$265 million project would widen 6.9 miles of Route 7 in 2021, increasing from four to six lanes between Reston Avenue and Jarrett Valley Drive.

VDOT hopes for approval of the design from the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board in the summer of 2016.

Safety accessing the road remains a major concern to neighborhoods along Route 7 corridor.

See [www.ConnectRoute7.org](http://www.ConnectRoute7.org).

# An Outstanding Year

## Real Estate in McLean and Great Falls in 2015.

BY KAREN BRISCOE

The numbers are in for 2015 in McLean and Great Falls and the market is up almost 11 percent over 2014 in terms of number of sales. This is excellent news for the market area as it indicates an environment for the potential for price appreciation, provided demand remains strong relative to supply.

The best performing segment for these zip codes was the lower brackets, considered to be under \$1.25 million. Not surprising the entry-level home purchaser experienced the most significant increase of 23 percent in demand. Most analysts attribute this to the Millennial Generation now entering the market to purchase their first home. In this area because of cost of housing that is likely to be either condo or town home ownership.

The 22102 part of McLean that is located in Tysons Corner offers numerous condo options. The opening of the Silver Line metro



in 2014 has increased Tysons attraction for this demographic that desires an urban lifestyle. The other options available in McLean and to a lesser extent in Great Falls for the under \$750,000 price point are town homes and smaller, older single family homes.

The next price range up, between \$750,000 and \$1.25 m, experienced an increase in demand of almost 16 percent year over year. The first level move up home owner typically is what represents this market segment. Having more confidence that their lower-priced home should sell quickly for a strong price, these owners are in

a better position to make the move to a home in a higher bracket.

New home builders continue to represent a portion of this market segment by purchasing lots for new construction. As there is very little available land remaining for development in McLean and Great Falls, builders mostly rely on in-fill by tearing down an older existing home for the land value. When the builders compete for lots, there is less available for own-

ers that would buy the home to live in. These scenarios can make it challenging for a first-time home buyer to purchase, although it actually can be a healthy sign of recovery when new home construction is strong.

The upper bracket categories comprise all home sales over \$1.25 million and represent the next levels of move-up homeowners. The \$2-3 million price range is the only one that experienced an increase,

which was marginal. The other two brackets saw slight declines in number of sales year over year.

For many home sellers in McLean and Great Falls 2015 represented "best of times." Good homes priced correctly for the current market sold quickly for strong prices. All signs are for 2016 to continue the trend with positive market conditions.

Karen Briscoe and

Lizzy Conroy and their team are active and experienced Realtors with Keller Williams in the Northern Virginia, suburban Maryland and Washington, D.C. marketplace. They would be delighted to assist whether for home buying or selling. Please contact via the means most convenient for you: [www.HBCRealtyGroup.com](http://www.HBCRealtyGroup.com), 703-734-0192, [Homes@HBCRealtyGroup.com](mailto:Homes@HBCRealtyGroup.com).

McLean & Great Falls Market Analysis of Homes Sales: ALL 2015 compared to ALL 2014 (Based on Final Closed Price)					
	>\$3 Mil.	\$2-3 Mil.	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$750k-\$1.25 Mil	<\$750k
<b>ALL 2015</b>					
22101	10	32	96	204	83
22102	5	15	39	72	213
22066	3	18	48	106	33
<b>Total:</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>329</b>
<b>Combined Total Upper Brackets: 266</b>			<b>Combined Total Lower Brackets: 711</b>		
<b>All 2015 Sales: 977</b>					
<b>ALL 2014</b>					
22101	9	22	103	189	67
22102	10	21	45	65	180
22066	3	15	56	76	20
<b>Total:</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>267</b>
<b>Combined Total Upper Brackets: 284</b>			<b>Combined Total Lower Brackets: 597</b>		
<b>All 2014 Sales: 881</b>					

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**Please register early as space is limited.**

 **The McLean Community Center**  
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101  
703-790-0123/TTY: 711  
[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)

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Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 12pm-4pm  
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# OPINION

## New Year's Goals A few wishes for the Virginia General Assembly, more coming ...

**E**xpand Medicaid: Expanding Medicaid to cover as many as 400,000 uninsured people in Virginia under the Affordable Care Act would come at virtually no cost to Virginia and would be a massive boost to Virginia's economy. The local and state economy is suffering from the loss of federal spending in other areas, and it's just plain crazy and mean-spirited to deny medical care for people who can't afford it otherwise, and at the same time, turn away an economic stimulus equal to 20,000 or more jobs and a direct infusion of nearly \$2 billion a year.

❖ **Fund Education:** Localities need more help from the Commonwealth to pay for schools.

❖ **Fostering Futures:** Help teens in foster care by extending services and support, including foster care maintenance payments, to qualifying individuals age 18 to 21 years. The money spent will be matched by Federal dollars, and every dollar spent helping former foster children become independent, self-supporting adults saves a bundle in other costs down the line.

❖ **Stop Predatory Lending:** The local impacts of predatory lending, including some car title loans, can be devastating to struggling fami-

EDITORIAL

lies and individuals who get into the cycle of high interest debt. This is not an issue of just allowing more choice as some have claimed. And when someone loses the vehicle he or she needs to get to work, the costs can extend.

### Early Voting for Presidential Primary Starts Next Week

Every year is an election year in Virginia.

Just two months ago, Virginia voters faced ballots for almost every state and local elected officials. While candidates spent millions of dollars and not very much changed, some critical races in Virginia have been decided by a fraction of one percent of votes cast.

Elections have had significant consequences here, and the coming election is likely to be in that category.

Early voting (absentee voting in person) for U.S. Presidential Primaries starts Jan. 15, really, starting in just a little more than a week. The official primary date is March 1, but there

is no reason to wait until then to vote.

Voters in Virginia don't register by party, but can only vote in either the Democratic or Republican primary. To vote in the Republican primary, each voter will need to sign a form asserting that he or she is in fact a Republican.

Democrats will choose between Hillary Clinton, Martin O'Malley and Bernie Sanders (in that order).

Republicans will choose among 13 candidates who will be listed in the following order: Marco Rubio, Lindsey Graham, Ben Carson, Rand Paul, Mike Huckabee, Ted Cruz, Donald Trump, Jim Gilmore, Chris Christie, Jeb Bush, Rick Santorum, John Kasich and Carly Fiorina.

For details on absentee voting in Fairfax County, see [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm).

For details on absentee voting in the City of Alexandria, see [www.alexandriava.gov/Elections](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Elections).

For details on absentee voting in Arlington, see [vote.arlingtonva.us/absentee/](http://vote.arlingtonva.us/absentee/).

— MARY KIMM  
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## A Workable Solution for I-66

BY DAVE MARSDEN  
STATE SENATOR (D-37)

**T**here was a great deal of concern about "\$17 tolls" inside the beltway on I-66 during the recent election. I shared those concerns as I did not want to set a precedent of tolling a road that we were not adding infrastructure to. As you know solo drivers cannot use I-66 during rush hour and must wait until 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. to access the road depending on the direction of travel. While I still have concerns over the tolls, the agreement between the Commonwealth and the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission provides new insight on how this project will work.

I feel better about the tolling as the average toll will cost \$6 and part of the revenue collected will be spent on multimodal (transit) options to improve thru-put on this extraordinary congested highway and will in the future be used to widen the road eastbound. At its December meeting the Commonwealth Trans-

portation Board received a presentation on the congestion benefits of this proposal using the Northern Virginia congestion rating process I helped put in place with Del. Jim LeMunyon (HB 599 and SB 531). The rating process shows that the Governor's proposal will eliminate 26,000 person hours of delay a day in the future. Of all the proposals considered, including a plan that only adds lanes to I-66 inside the beltway, the Governor's plan to improve multimodal options by far reduces the most congestion. If we can reduce the need for up to a lane of traffic through transit enhancements that will include carpooling, buses, improved van pools, and areas for riders to negotiate shared vehicles (slugging) then the Governor's idea appears to have merit. The same congestion analysis showed that simply widening I-66 eastbound without the transit improvements and conversion to dynamic tolling would only reduce 6,000 person hour of delay a day — about 20 percent of the benefits compared to the current plan.

Due to growth in the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor and the Coleman decision, a 1977 Federal Department of Transportation decision that gave Arlington County more control over options on I-66, I-66 will never be an easy journey. Arlington has now made concessions for the I-66 project and for the expansion of express lanes from Edsall Road in Springfield/Alexandria to Washington D.C. on I-395. This is welcome progress though not a panacea or these congested roadways. While perfect solutions may not exist, progress is essential and making progress on multi-modal/transit options as well as Express lane extensions and additional lanes are welcome news that will keep us moving forward.

In an ideal world we would have a different solution to I-66. However, the decisions in the past like HOV requirements and taxing gasoline on a wholesale basis limit the choices we have today. Given the current constraints faced in this corridor the Administration's plan offers the best opportunity to improve travel for commuters.

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 6

**Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce Brand Launch.** 8:30-10 a.m. Silverline Center Atrium, 7900 Westpark Drive, Tysons. Meet staff and members of the board of directors. Hear plans for future collaboration. Learn about upcoming meetings and events where businesses can get involved. Call 703-749-0400 for registration information.

#### JAN. 7, 12

**ESL Registration.** 7-8 p.m. St. Mark Catholic Church, 9972 Vale

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

Road, Vienna. Classes begin Jan. 19 and ends March 17. Classes held Tuesdays and Thursdays. \$25 for English classes, \$10 for conversation, writing, citizenship and workshop. Textbook cost extra. Cash only. 703-502-9433.

#### THURSDAY/JAN. 14

**Roadmap to Our Region's Economic Future.** 7:15-11:30 a.m. The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Stephen Fuller's presentation of the Roadmap, an industry-diverse panel of business

leaders, and a keynote speaker. The discussion will center on how the Washington regional economy can be re-positioned to remain competitive and grow in a national and global marketplace. \$100, \$120. Registration required. [www.fairfaxchamber.org](http://www.fairfaxchamber.org).

#### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 20

**Fairfax Commission on Aging.** Noon. Oakton Regional Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The public is welcome to attend and join in the comment period that begins

each session. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/coa.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/coa.htm). 703-324-5403, TTY 711 for meeting access needs.

#### McLean Newcomers and

**Neighbors Monthly Luncheon.** 11:30 a.m. Ristorante Bonaroti, 428 Maple Ave., East, Vienna. Eileen O'Grady, a nurse practitioner and wellness coach, will speak about the Science of Flourishing. \$29. For further information on the

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

McLean  
**CONNECTION**

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

Published by  
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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## VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

### Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project Arlington County, City of Falls Church and Fairfax County Design Public Hearings

Monday, January 25, 2016 (6:00-8:00 p.m.)  
Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

\*Snow Date: Thursday, January 28, 2016 (7:30-9:30 p.m.)  
Presentation at 8:00 p.m.

Washington-Lee High School Cafeteria  
1301 N. Stafford Street  
Arlington, VA 22201

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

\*Snow Date: Friday, February 5, 2016 (6:00-8:00 p.m.)  
Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Stone Bridge High School Cafeteria  
43100 Hay Road  
Ashburn, VA 20147

Wednesday, January 27, 2016 (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

\*Snow Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2016 (6:00-8:00 p.m.)  
Presentation at 6:30 p.m.

Visit [Transform66.org](http://Transform66.org) to view a live stream of this meeting beginning at 6:30 p.m.  
VDOT Northern Virginia District Office  
4975 Alliance Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22030

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VDOT Northern Virginia District Office  
4975 Alliance Drive  
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The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), will host Design Public Hearings for the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project. Improvements involve converting I-66 to dynamically-priced toll lanes in the peak direction during morning (eastbound) and afternoon (westbound) rush hours between I-495 (the Capital Beltway) and U.S. Route 29 in Rosslyn, along with implementing a series of multimodal improvements that will benefit toll users of I-66. Information related to proposed locations and design of toll gantries and signage will be available at the hearings, as well as a presentation on how the toll system will operate.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and 23 CFR 771, draft Categorical Exclusion (CE) documentation has been prepared in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and is available for review and comment. VDOT staff will be available to discuss the environmental studies underway and the coordination with appropriate regulatory agencies to obtain information about the resources in the project's vicinity. A public notice for review and comment on the final CE documentation will be posted at a later date. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also provided in the environmental documentation.

Stop by to learn more about the project, discuss your questions with VDOT staff, and attend the formal presentation.

Review project materials at the hearings, including the draft CE, traffic technical report, plans, project schedule, and right-of-way, environmental and civil rights information. Materials will also be available for review on or before January 8, 2016 at [www.Transform66.org](http://www.Transform66.org) or VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call 800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623) or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure availability of appropriate personnel to answer your questions.

Give your written or oral comments at the hearings or submit them to Amanda Baxter, Special Projects Development Manager, at the VDOT Northern Virginia District Office (address noted above). You may also e-mail comments at any time to [Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov). Please reference "Transform 66 Inside the Beltway" in the subject line. Comments must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT by February 22, 2016 to be included in the public hearing record.

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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

## SPORTS

# Langley Girls' Basketball Beats West Springfield

Saxons win nine of first 10 games.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

The Langley girls' basketball team suffered its first loss of the season during the Boo Williams holiday tournament in Hampton, but the Saxons responded by avenging the loss that ended their 2014-15 campaign.

Langley concluded its appearance at the three-day event with a 41-37 win over West Springfield on Dec. 30, improving its record to 9-1. The Spartans defeated the Saxons in last year's regional quarterfinals, putting an end to Langley's season, which included 21 victories and a runner-up finish in Conference 6.

Langley's seven-game win streak to open the 2015-16 season ended with a 45-38 loss to Lake Taylor on Dec. 28 at the Boo Williams tournament, but the Saxons bounced back with wins over Henrico (58-36, Dec. 29) and West Springfield.

"We played pretty tough during the Boo Williams tournament," Langley head coach Amanda Baker wrote in an email. "After losing our first game to Lake Taylor we did a good job staying mentally sharp and bouncing back to win the next two games."



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Head coach Amanda Baker, seen last season, and the Langley girls' basketball team entered 2016 with a 9-1 record.**

Senior guard Paige Galiani, who surpassed 1,000 career points this season, is averaging 19 per contest. After 10 games, she was 14 points shy of setting the school record for career scoring.

Senior guard Lizzy Shamloo and sophomore guard Jordyn Callaghan averaged more than 8 points per contest through 10 games. Junior guard Ari Aulisi, who has been out the last seven games, is expected back this week.

Langley opened the 2016 portion of its schedule with a game against Hayfield on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Saxons will host McLean at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 8.

## SPORTS ROUNDUPS

### Langley to host McLean for Basketball Doubleheader

The Langley girls' and boys' basketball teams will host rival McLean for a doubleheader on Friday, Jan. 8.

The girls' game is scheduled to tip off at 5:45 p.m. and the boys' game will follow.

The Langley boys' team finished 2015 with a 6-4 record after suffering back-to-back losses at Lake Braddock's Glory Days Grill Tournament of Champions. McLean was 1-9, including a nine-game losing streak.

### Oakton Girls' Basketball Enters 2016 Undefeated

The Oakton girls' basketball team wrapped up the 2015 portion of its schedule with an 11-0 record.

The Cougars won their holiday tournament Dec. 28-30, beating Hayfield (70-49), South Lakes (73-52) and Patriot (70-49). Oakton won each of its first 11 games by at least 12 points.

The Cougars entered 2016 with a game against Stone Bridge on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. Oakton will travel to face Herndon at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 8.

### Madison Girls' Basketball Competes at Bulldog Bash

The Madison girls' basketball team won two of its three games at the Bulldog Bash holiday tournament at Westfield High School Dec. 28-30 and ended 2015 with a 6-4 record.

The Warhawks lost to Battlefield 60-48 at the Bulldog Bash and defeated Centreville (45-33) and Yorktown (51-39).

Madison faced Fairfax on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Warhawks will host Washington-Lee at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 8.

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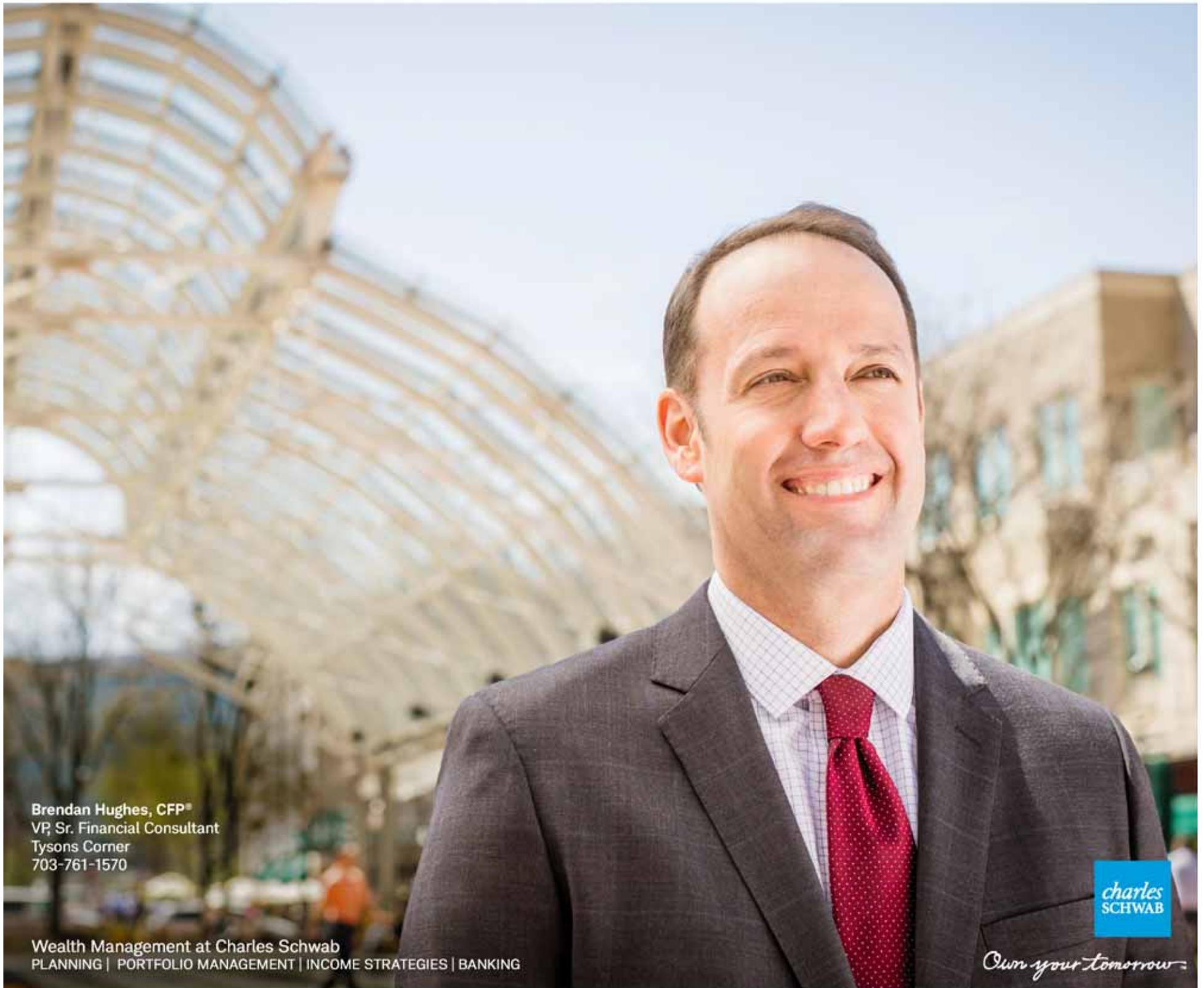
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## Upon Further Reflection



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I'm not a look-in-the-mirror kind of person. Other than in the morning when I wash up, brush my teeth, shave and get ready for the day, I spend very little time reflecting on my appearance. In fact, during the early days of my cancer treatment when I was infused with a chemotherapy cocktail for six non-stop hours every three weeks – I lost all my hair, as forewarned; I have no recollection of what I looked like without any hair on my head. Presumably, every morning when I prepped for the day, I would have seen what I was doing and watched how it was done; yet there is no image, still or otherwise, in my mind of how I appeared to others.

Seven years of continuous treatment later, when I look in the mirror now (I have a full head of hair and a growing stubble, like most men), I can't evaluate what I see. Do I look sick? Or do I look as I should for a middle-aged man aging gracefully? Not that I need to look good to feel good ("and you know who you are"), any more than I need to "look mah-velous," but the cumulative effects of chemotherapy and the inevitable signs of aging have blurred (no pun intended; I can see perfectly well) my objectivity. So much so that on any given day, what I see is what I get and I'm happy to have gotten it, subjectively speaking. Ergo, looking in the mirror more often than not serves no appreciable benefit – to me, since I know what I see, or rather, don't know how to evaluate what it is I do see.

Then along comes the holidays, when many social gatherings are planned where in addition to food and drink, face-to-face interactions occur with many people you see regularly and some you know but rarely see. It is the observations and comments from these rarely-seen persons, persons with whom you are familiar – and who are familiar with you and your "underlying diagnosis," as I call my cancer, that are the genesis of this column.

I am happy and amazed, and incredibly flattered even to say that the feedback I received was uniformly positive and extremely encouraging; and if I had to bet a nickel, I'd say their comments were all sincere and honest. And since I don't want to look for trouble (since trouble has already found me), I am going to take their words at face value (again, no pun intended). And in thanking them graciously, reconsider yet again how fortunate I am to be receiving such compliments, nearly seven years in and nearly five years past, the end date (pun intended) of my original "13 month to two year" prognosis, words which I first heard from my oncologist at the initial Team Lourie meeting held on February 27, 2009 (Oh, yeah, you remember that date, forever).

Unfortunately, there is a bit of a cynic in me, so I still question the validity of words people sometimes say not necessarily to the wise. Moreover, I still am not convinced that looking good is more important than feeling good (with apologies to a Billy Crystal sketch mimicking Fernando Lamas back in the day on Saturday Night Live). Nor am I at all sure that looking good is an accurate description of what effect my stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer is having on me and my mediastinum.

As much as I'd like to believe that form follows function and that looking good is a clear indicator of one who is not only feeling good, but doing well (cancer-wise), I'm still wondering what it is that sets me apart from many other similarly diagnosed patients who have succumbed to this terrible – and mostly terminal – disease. I never thought it was, or would be, my looks. And given that there hasn't been that much with which to work, maybe not focusing on my appearance all the time has helped? Apparently, it hasn't hurt.

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

## CALENDAR

Send announcements to [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

### ONGOING

- Pigments of My Imagination.** Jan. 4-March 31. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Long time Great Falls resident Donna Barnako, has created over a dozen colorful and whimsical small works. Her subjects are varied, from pigs to puppies and cowboy boots.
- Weekly Storytime.** Wednesday and Saturday. 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.
- "The Blues" Exhibition.** Jan. 5-23. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Exhibition of VAS members paintings with the theme, "The Blues." Free. 703-319-3971. [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).
- 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.

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- Concerts at the Alden.** 3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. This free classical music series, now in its 40th season, features professional musicians who have won international recognition for their artistry. The series also includes Young Soloists Recitals that showcase the talents of local school-age musicians. Free. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-790-0123.
- "Nature's Treasures" Reception and Awards.** 1-3 p.m. Green Spring Gardens Park, 4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria. Reception for Vienna Arts Society 2015/16 Art Show. Juror Caroly Grosse Gawarecki. Free. 703-642-5173.

### MONDAY-TUESDAY/JAN. 11-12

- Spring Kids' Show Auditions.** 7-8:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. "Sideways Stories From Wayside School" is a delightfully demented comedy about the strangest school ever built, where the students battle supernatural teachers and endure madcap lessons. The play is adapted by John Olive from the best-selling series of novels by Louis Sachar, the Newberry Award-winning author of "Holes." To reserve an audition time, contact [kathleen.herr@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:kathleen.herr@fairfaxcounty.gov).

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 13

- Mary Pickford's "Sparrows" (1926).** 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Produced by and starring Mary Pickford, this mature silent film has been described as "Dickensian" and "equal parts Gothic thriller and sentimental melodrama." Tickets: \$12/\$8 MCC tax district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-790-0123.
- Westminster Choir Concert.** 7:30-10 p.m. St. Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Music in McLean presents a special concert featuring one of America's most renowned choral ensembles, Westminster Choir of Rider University. [musicinmclean.org](http://musicinmclean.org). 703-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

### American Shakespeare Center on Tour presents "Henry V" at the Alden Theatre on Saturday, Jan. 23.

356-0670.

### WEDNESDAYS/STARTING JAN. 13.

- Nature Detectives.** 1 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. During this naturalist-led class, children and parents get the opportunity to explore the natural world through hikes, stories, songs, crafts and other hands-on activities. Additional supply fee payable to instructor at first class. Ages 3 to 5. \$66/\$81 for six classes. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/calendar.htm>.

### THURSDAY/JAN. 14

- Vienna Arts Society Monthly Meeting.** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Features water colorist Jack Harding, who will demonstrate his technique of creating "distressed" rice paper for instant texture in watercolor paintings. 703-319-3971. [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

### FRIDAY/JAN. 15

- 5th and 6th Grader Parties - Winter Wonderland.** 7-9 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Hosted by The Old Firehouse Teen Center (OFTC), come enjoy the parties include music, dancing, games, snacks, videos and more! Tickets: \$35/\$25 MCC district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-790-0123.
- Family Fun Bingo.** 7-8:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Vertical, horizontal, diagonal or picture frame—whatever your strategy, join us for this family fun-filled evening of Bingo! Win great kid-friendly prizes, play guessing games, enjoy light refreshments and more. Fees: \$10/\$5 MCC district residents; Free for children up to 36

months old. <http://www.mcleancenter.org>. 703-790-0123.

- The Fabulous Dialtones 20th Anniversary Party!** 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. The Fabulous Dialtones horns blazing, crooning, booming and who-knows-what-they're-doing-next classic rock band. \$15-\$25. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

- Falu's Bollywood Orchestra.** 8 p.m. The Barnes, Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Fronted by one of India's most influential musicians—who's collaborated with masterminds including Yo-Yo Ma and A.R. Rahman—this ethereal ensemble, led by singer Fulu, combines the timeless elegance of Bollywood's musical golden age with an inventive modern style. \$22-\$27. <http://www.wolftrap.org/> or 703-255-1900.

### SATURDAY/JAN. 16

- Barter Theatre's "A Wrinkle in Time."** 2 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Come join for John Glore's delightful, wildly theatrical adaptation that brings the acclaimed story magically to life. Tickets: \$15/\$10 MCC district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-790-0123.
- Projected Man Album Release Show + Pleasure Train.** 5:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Join for the two band groups - Projected Man and Pleasure Train - for some jam music. \$10-\$18. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.
- Daycare Swindlers.** 10 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Join the evening as three groups take the stage for some exciting music of different genres. \$10-\$15. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.
- "The Blues."** 1-3 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Exhibition of VAS members paintings with the theme, "The Blues." Free. 703-319-3971. [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

## BULLETIN BOARD

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club, visit [www.McLeanNewcomers.org](http://www.McLeanNewcomers.org). RSVP Ann Skelly at [mfskelly@verizon.net](mailto:mfskelly@verizon.net) by Jan. 13. Prospective members invited.

### TUESDAY/JAN. 26

- Fairfax 50+ Community Ambassador Program.** 9:30 a.m.-noon. Pennino Building, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 206, Fairfax. This volunteer program trains members of Fairfax County community organizations to help link their fellow members to the county's services for older adults and caregivers. Contact Mena Nakhla at 703-324-5859 or by email at [Mena.Nakhla@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Mena.Nakhla@fairfaxcounty.gov) by Wednesday, Jan. 20.

### SATURDAY/FEB. 6

- Fairfax County NAACP Open House.** 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Meet community leaders and

members, discuss your pressing concerns, provide feedback, and enjoy food and music.

### ONGOING

- 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/lcombudsman/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/lcombudsman/).
- 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.
- Respite Care** volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are

provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fairfax County needs a volunteer **Senior Center Marketing Coordinator** to assist the Friends of Fairfax County Senior Centers with marketing. 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.

The **Lewinsville Senior Center** in McLean needs instructors for the following classes: Line Dance, Zumba Gold, Certified Arthritis Exercise, Square Dance, Basic Guitar, Art and Basic Spanish. 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.

**Food Drive for CHO.** Places vary. Please help CHO to help others in our area. All food contributions greatly appreciated. CHO is making plans for the holidays. Please bring new unwrapped gifts for children and teens to Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., NE, Vienna, on Dec. 11 between 9 a.m. and noon. Questions? Contact at [cho@cho-va.com](mailto:cho@cho-va.com).



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SUN. 1/10  
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**JUST LISTED!**

1560 McLean Commons Ct, McLean \$889,000  
**RARE FIND! GORGEOUS 3BR/3.5BA LARGE** end-unit home on 3 finished levels in sought-after McLean Commons! This beautiful home features light/bright 2-story foyer; spacious kitchen with granite, travertine backsplash and tile floor (2015). Lovely owner's suite with full bath; updated roof/skylights; flagstone walkway (2010); new paint inside/out, plus refinished hardwood floors; garage; 2 fireplaces; McLean High School pyramid!



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SUN. 1/10  
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2035 Franklin Cluster Ct, Falls Church \$969,000  
**\*LAVISHLY UPDATED\*** & lovingly maintained 5BR/3.5BA home on 3 finished levels featuring super upgrades in wonderful location-Haycock, Longfellow, McLean school pyramid! Fabulous granite/stainless steel kitchen; breakfast area; large living room & main level library with built-ins; main level laundry; beautiful owner's suite with walk-in & updated luxury bath; spacious LL rec room, separate media room & newly updated bath! 2-car garage; convenient FC location!



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2343 Brittany Parc Drive, Falls Church, VA 22043  
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