



# McLean CONNECTION

## WELLBEING

PAGE 8

# McLean High Holds Celebrate McLean

NEWS, PAGE 3

McLean High seniors Annabell Lee and Tina Hashemi talk to an interested Celebrate McLean patron at the Book Club table.

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 13 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14

PHOTO BY MELANIE PINCUS/THE CONNECTION



## Alden's New Season Opens With Martha Graham Dance Company

NEWS, PAGE 12

## Harvest Happenings Return To McLean Community Center

NEWS, PAGE 4

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# NEWS

Club booths lined the edge of the football field at McLean High School at Celebrate McLean on Thursday, Sept. 1



PHOTOS BY MELANIE PINCUS/THE CONNECTION



Seniors Alex Simons and Bella Femia work at the table for McLean High School's Latin Club.

## McLean High Holds Celebrate McLean

Community festival includes food trucks, fair games.

BY MELANIE PINCUS  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n the cloudy afternoon of Thursday, Sept. 1, McLean High School's football field and an adjacent parking lot filled with food trucks and tables, some offering concessions and others information about school activities.

Celebrate McLean, a community festival open to all residents of the greater McLean area, included small performances from the high

school marching band, face painting and a variety of refreshments. Senior Noah Huffman came to Celebrate McLean after volunteering at McLean's freshman and transfer student orientation with the school's McLeadership program, which helps freshmen adjust to high school.

"I think [Celebrate McLean] is really cool. I think it's a really nice way for everyone to know what clubs we have at McLean and kind of what's going on, so I think it's a really good idea and there are lots of games and things like that

people are doing," Huffman said.

Senior Tina Hashemi, who staffed the McLean High School Book Club's table, said the event was not as successful securing freshmen interest in joining clubs as previous events. Prior to this year, McLean hosted Highlander Kickoff, just before the start of school to distribute class schedules and give students and parents an opportunity to turn in forms and explore clubs and activities.

"I think that [Celebrate McLean] is a great idea, but frankly I think it would be a better idea if we had Highlander Kickoff because it was really nice to have the freshmen come to one spot in the lecture hall for them to see all the clubs," Hashemi said. "It's the only time

in the year when they can see all those clubs and sign up, but I do think [Celebrate McLean] is really great for the community."

Outgoing PTSA President and current Vice President of PTSA Membership Alison Senold said the event had a good atmosphere.

"It's been really nice. In spite of the fact that the weather wasn't ideal, we've had a really good turnout. People seem to be having

a lot of fun," Senold said. "Kids are reconnecting after having not seen each other for the summer [and] they're seeing teachers and administrators."

Senold said the PTSA booth received many visitors.

"It's been doing a brisk business. We're getting memberships, we're getting sign-ups for help with All Night Grad Party, people are stopping by to chat,"

### WEEK IN MCLEAN

#### McLean Chamber to Co-host 10th District Debate

All eyes will be on Northern Virginia's crucial electoral battleground, as the two major party contenders in this year's 10th Congressional District contest square off in a live debate on Oct. 6 in Lansdowne, Va. Republican Barbara Comstock and Democrat LuAnn Bennett will appear before an audience of regional business, government and community leaders in a special installment of the Loudoun County Chamber's 2016 "PolicyMaker Series." The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce is partnering with the Loudoun County Chamber, the Northern

Virginia Technology Council, the Greater Reston Chamber, the Dulles Regional Chamber and the Prince William County Chamber. Facing a panel of Loudoun business leaders, the congressional candidates will answer questions about their positions on critical business, economic, and quality of life issues. "We are delighted to join with other leading Northern Virginia business associations to present this potentially pivotal debate," said Paul Kohlenberger, President of the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce. "Insofar as McLean has long been the home of both candidates, interest in this race is especially high in the Greater McLean area and its business community," he said. The debate will be held at The National Conference Center (18980 Upper Belmont Place, Lansdowne) on Thursday, Oct. 6, 8—10 a.m.

#### Comstock Announces Congressional App Challenge

"Once again we would like to announce The Congressional App Challenge which encourages students to engage their innovation and coding skills at a higher level in a team environment. Our District is home to many successful technology companies and it is my hope that the skills our students learn in this year's Congressional App Challenge push them to greater success as leaders in our local high-technology economy. I look forward to the exciting new apps the students will create this year as Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District enhances its reputation as the Silicon Valley

of the East," U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) said, announcing the Challenge.

The Congressional App Challenge runs through Nov. 2, challenging high school students to design and create an original app for submission. Eligible high school students in Virginia's 10th Congressional District may enter this challenge as individuals or groups of not more than four students and will be judged by a panel chosen by the Comstock's office. The submitted app can be on any topic, provided it is original, appropriate, and has been made within the last year. For more information, visit <https://comstock.house.gov/services/congressional-app-challenge>

SEE WEEK, PAGE 11

**Squeals on Wheels Traveling Petting Zoo will have a variety of farm animals on display giving children a hands-on educational experience.**



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

## Harvest Happenings Return to McLean Community Center

Harvest Happenings, McLean Community Center's annual fall festival for children ages 3-8, will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Saturday, Sept. 24. General admission is \$5 at the door; however, infants to 36-month-old children can attend for free. The center is located at 1234 Ingleside Ave.

Activities include field games, as well as a variety of fall-related arts and crafts projects. In addition, small pumpkins can be purchased and decorated. Squeals on Wheels Traveling Petting Zoo will have a variety of farm animals on display giving children a

hands-on educational experience. Children's entertainers, The Amazing Kevin and Kidsinger Jim, will keep young minds enthralled with magic and music on the outdoor stage. Food service will be provided by Lokl Gourmet, which serves locally-sourced, organic, gluten-free and vegan food.

For more information, call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit the website, [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org). For Old Firehouse activities, call 703-448-8336. For the Alden Theatre Box Office, call 703-790-9223.



**Activities include field games, as well as a variety of fall-related arts and crafts projects.**



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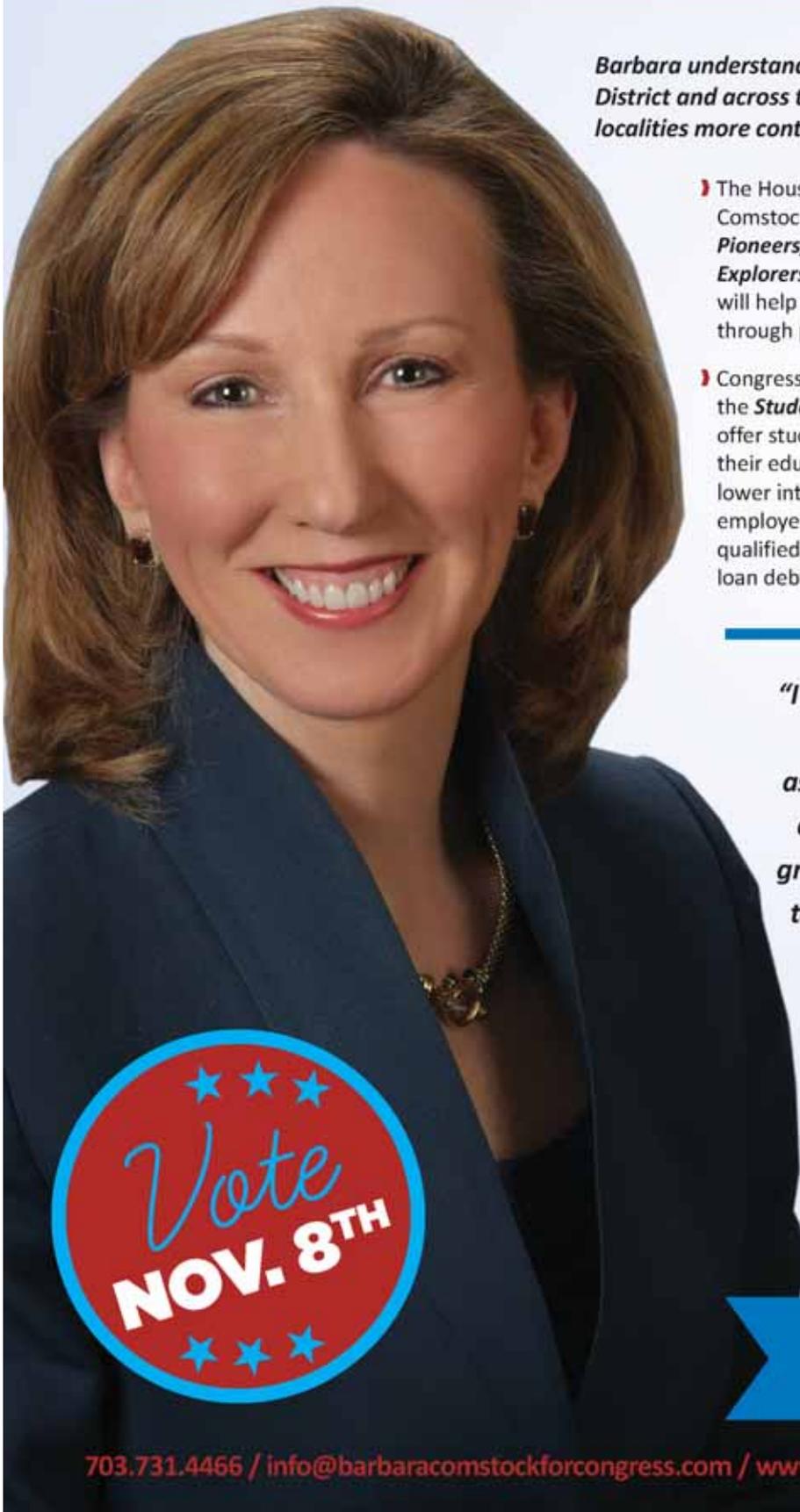
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*Barbara understands the sacrifices and commitments made by educators in Virginia's 10th District and across the nation. She supports policies which empower parents and give states and localities more control over their local schools to ensure the best education for our children.*

- › The House passed Congresswoman Comstock's *Inspiring the Next Space Pioneers, Innovators, Researchers, and Explorers (INSPIRE) Women Act*, which will help young women in the STEM fields through programs at NASA.
- › Congresswoman Comstock is the **Co-Chair** of the **STARBASE Caucus**, which offers hands-on STEM education to students in elementary school. She has worked in a bipartisan manner to increase resources for this important program.
- › Congresswoman Comstock has authored the *Student Loan Relief Act*, which would offer students the ability to refinance their education loans to take advantage of lower interest rates. It would also allow employers to use pre-tax dollars to assist qualified employees in paying off student loan debt.
- › Congresswoman Comstock voted for the bipartisan *Every Student Succeeds Act*. This bill, signed into law, represented a significant step toward improving our education system and empowers educators and parents to do what is best for each individual student.

*"I come from a family of educators – my mom was a school teacher and librarian and my husband Chip is a retired Fairfax County assistant principal and teacher. My sister is a guidance counselor at a Fairfax County Public School. The education of our children and grandchildren has always been a top priority of mine. It's a privilege to represent you in Virginia's 10th Congressional District. Together, we can make sure our children receive a world class education."*

*Barbara Comstock*

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# OPINION

## Back to School

Conversation and listening:  
top priorities for back to school.

**D**on't be afraid. Asking questions with respect and listening to the answers is one of the most important things we can all do as we head back to school.

Parents, go ahead and ask you students what they think about what's happening at school, what their plans are. Listen to the answers. Parents, go ahead and ask teachers about expectations, motivations and their philosophies and approaches on teaching. Attend back-to-school night if you can. Figure out how you will communicate with teachers.

Students, indulge your parents for five minutes a day. Answer a question or two. Share something interesting that happened during the day. Try to tell them why some things make a difference to you.

**GRATITUDE:** An excellent way to help wrestle back-to-school concerns into perspective is to count blessings and consider how to help someone wrestling harder things.

Hundreds, possibly thousands, of students headed back to school this week in Northern Virginia are experiencing homelessness. In Fairfax County, you can find ways to volunteer to help homeless students by contacting the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, 703-324-9492.

**SAFETY:** We do know to slow down in school zones, watch for darting pedestrians, stop for school buses with flashing lights. Buckle seatbelts. But probably the most important

conscious step you can take for safety on the roads around schools and everywhere else is to resolve not to engage in distracted driving. Put your phone down. Students, talk to your parents about this; they could be at risk.

**Favorite Back-to-School Headline (from Fairfax County):** "Learn About School Lunches and Deer Management in the Latest News." Turns out deer management is not being incorporated into venison burgers in school lunches.

### Why Do Some Want Virginia To Be One of the Most Repressive States?

Two states allow absentee voting from prison.

Clearly that is not where we are headed in Virginia. But the restoration of voting rights moves Virginia towards the mainstream.

Virginia is one of four most restrictive states with lifetime bans on voting for those convicted of felonies.

Fourteen states automatically restore voting rights once the individual's term of incarceration is over, and two states allow absentee voting from prison.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe deserves praise for his efforts to restore voting rights for former felons who have served their sentences. He has

been thwarted at every turn by Republican members of the General Assembly, who don't appear to be done with their efforts to prevent people who have paid their "debt to society" from returning to normal, engaged lives in the community.

"If we are going to build a stronger and more equal Virginia, we must break down barriers to participation in civic life for people who return to society seeking a second chance," McAuliffe said. "We must welcome them back and offer the opportunity to build a better life by taking an active role in our democracy."

Earlier this year, the Maryland General Assembly restored the vote to all convicted felons immediately upon their release from prison. Previously, people convicted of felonies in Maryland had to complete all parole and probation before they were able to vote.

**MEANWHILE,** for all Virginia voters, the deadline to register to vote for the Nov. 8 general election is Oct. 17. You can verify your voter status at <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>. This is especially important to do if you have moved or have not voted recently.

In person absentee voting begins Sept. 23.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

*#It's an important election, with Virginia playing a critical role in the outcome of the race for U.S. President. There will also be many important local issues on the ballot, along with the races for U.S. Congress.*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Experience That Matters

To the Editor:

We are fortunate in our Congressional District to have a Congresswoman who comes from a family of educators and knows our pre-K, K-12 and university system very well. Barbara Comstock's Mom was a lifelong teacher and librarian. Her husband, Chip, served in Fairfax County schools for 30 years and her sister also serves as a high school guidance counselor in Fairfax County. With my three kids attending Langley High School, these roots matter to me. She knows our schools.

Langley was where her husband started his service to our public schools.

Barbara's children attended our local pre-schools, public and parochial schools and public universities (UVa, Tech, and George Mason). As our Delegate she worked to get all-day kindergarten into our public schools and to get more in-state college spots for our children at Virginia colleges and universities. She has worked exten-

sively with the public schools throughout the 10th District as well as our universities from George Mason to the Shenandoah University and the George Washington Campus in Loudoun. I would also like to thank Barbara for hosting the Young Women's Leadership Program that my daughters were honored to participate in.

In her first term in Congress, Barbara worked on a bipartisan basis to get The Every Student Succeeds Act passed. The Every Student Succeeds Act reduces the federal role in our schools and restores local control to empower local school districts and parents. When I talk with our local teachers and parents involved in our public school system, they are very appreciative of this new legislation. The bill had a broad range of support from the National Education Association to the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools and the National Governors Association and it also removed any requirements to force Common Core on schools – something Virginia never adopted.

Barbara's opponent has no such

depth in Virginia public schools or universities. She was not involved in any of our public schools or Virginia universities. She was appointed by her District of Columbia friends (where she was living until last December when she moved from the D.C. Ritz Carlton) to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia where she voted to raise tuition

costs by as much as 20 percent. We don't need that kind of backward D.C. policy experience for Virginia. Let's send Barbara's opponent back to the D.C. Ritz Carlton and let's re-elect Barbara Comstock to Congress to continue working for all of us.

**Puneet Ahluwalia**  
McLean

## 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:

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com)

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

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

**Ken Moore**  
Community Reporter  
240-393-2448  
[kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com)

**ADVERTISING:**  
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**Trisha Hamilton**  
Display Advertising  
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**Andrea Smith**  
Classified Advertising  
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[classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

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

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

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

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

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly  
**Production Manager:**  
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Jeanne Theismann  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
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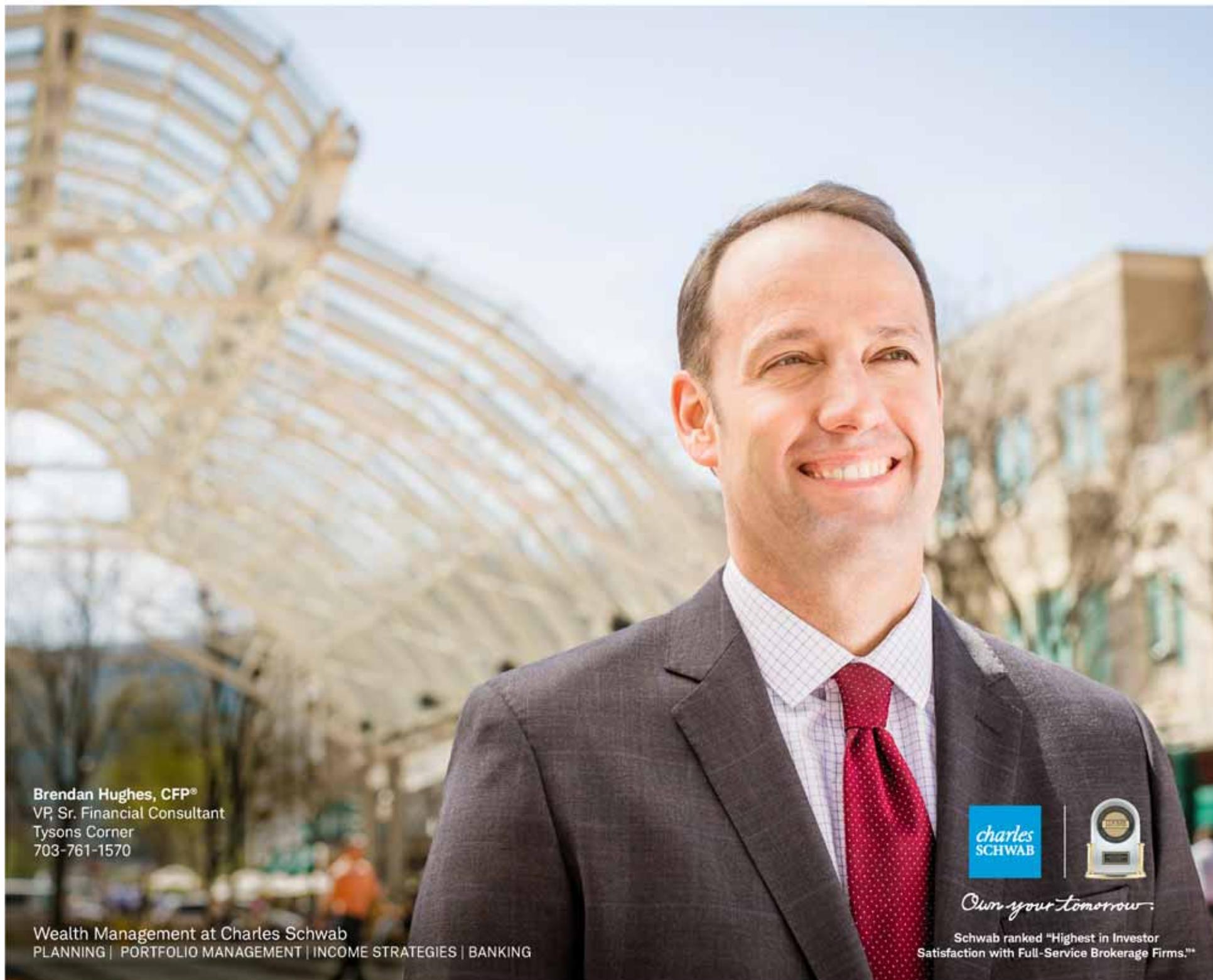
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# Inquiring about Vaccines

Strategies for asking another parent if their children are vaccinated.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

**A**s a new parent, Joy Baatin admits to being protective of her young son. In addition to guarding her son from household hazards such as electrical outlets and chemicals, she wants to protect him from catching a contagious disease from an unvaccinated playmate. But it's not easy to talk to other parents about vaccination, since it has become a controversial topic.

"I won't be so bold as to ask another [parent]," said Baatin, of Bethesda. "I respect that it's a matter of choice. But I wouldn't knowingly let my son play with a child who hasn't been vaccinated."

Like Baatin, many parents of young children feel uncomfortable bringing up this question. However, researchers point to outbreaks of measles in recent years. The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that there were 189 cases of measles in 2015 and 52 in 2016 as of Aug. 15.

For that reason, it is a good idea for par-

ents to become informed about which of their children's friends have been vaccinated, particularly for children with weakened immune systems or infants who are too young to be vaccinated. The importance outweighs the awkwardness of raising this question, and it need not be a difficult conversation to begin.

"I think it's important to recognize that, particularly when it comes to decisions about how to raise our children, certain issues are going to be sensitive," said Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria. "It's also important to recognize that we all have different perspectives and opinions."

Approaching this topic with genuine interest in learning another parent's point of view can help quell any discomfort about engaging in this conversation. "Asking what they think about vaccines to get their opinion is a nice way to start the conversation," said Lorente. "It allows you to begin from a point of curiosity rather than judgment."

In addition to withholding judgment, maintaining an open mind and keeping con-

versations light-hearted and straightforward is key. "If you are able to actually avoid passing judgment and respect another parent's perspective and point of view, that will come across in a conversation," said Karen Bronco, LCSW, a psychotherapist in Arlington.

Lorente's personal experience in discussing vaccines with one of her friends reinforced her belief that parents should educate themselves about vaccinations before having a discussion on the topic.

"My friend said that she wasn't going to vaccinate her kids," said Lorente. "I asked her what she'd read about vaccines so that I could understand her point of view. As a professional, I like to look at authoritative sources when it comes to making decisions for my children. With social media it's getting harder and harder to determine what those sources are, but I start with well respected organizations such as the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)."

Informed decisions can be made after educating oneself about the scientific research and debunking myths about vaccines, Lorente said. One reason that parents might choose to forgo vaccinations is the now discredited belief that there is a link between vaccines and Autism spectrum disorder. The CDC highlights multiple stud-

## PARENTS: IT'S TIME TO IMMUNIZE

Documentation of immunization is required for children entering kindergarten and sixth grade and for new students transferring into Fairfax County Public Schools. The Fairfax County Health Department offers school required immunizations from your health care provider and at the Fairfax County Health Department's five clinics. To shorten your wait, call ahead to make an appointment.

Parents should bring the child's immunization record and insurance card to the clinic. Without an immunization record in English, the child may need to restart his or her immunization series.

## CLINIC PHONE NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS

- ❖ Herndon-Reston District Office (HRDO) 1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Suite 100 Reston, VA 20190 703-481-4242, TTY 711
- ❖ Joseph Willard Health Center (JWHC) 3750 Old Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030 703-246-7100, TTY 711
- ❖ Mount Vernon District Office (MVDO) 8350 Richmond Highway Suite 233 Alexandria, VA 22309 703-704-5203, TTY 711
- ❖ Springfield District Office (SDO) 8136 Old Keene Mill Road Suite A100 (Cary Building) Springfield, VA 22152 703-569-1031, TTY 711
- ❖ Annandale District Office (ADO) 7611 Little River Turnpike, #400E (East Wing) Annandale, VA 22003 703-534-8343, TTY 711

ies which show that there is no link.

Researchers say that it is helpful for parents of vaccinated children to know if their child's playmates have received their vaccinations. "There is still some slight risk even

SEE WELLBEING, PAGE 9

*McLean Remodeled Home Tour*  
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## 5K Run To Benefit Food Bank

Food for Others will hold a 5K and a 1-mile fun run on Sept. 10 to benefit the Northern Virginia food bank. This is the third annual Tysons 5K run. Last year there were about 300 participants and they raised more than \$26,000. The event will begin at Tysons Corner Mall (by Bloomingdales) at 8 a.m. Registration is \$35 for the 5K run and \$30 for the 1-mile fun run. Walk-in registration is 7:15 a.m.-7:45 a.m.; credit cards will also be accepted at the race. Food or monetary donations are also welcome. A truck will be there to accept food donations. Prizes will be awarded to the top 5K finishers in each of 4 age categories as well as the fastest corporate team. Since 1995 Food for Others has provided a safety net in Northern Virginia for those needing emergency food and the growing number of working poor who are unable to make ends meet. Food drives provide most of their non-perishable food. Food for Others is located on Prosperity Avenue in Fairfax.

## WELLBEING

# Walk to Prevent Suicide

## Walk supports survivors of suicide loss and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

The Out of the Darkness Walks are American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's largest fundraiser, producing millions for suicide prevention programs, and works to unite those who have been affected by suicide, and create communities that are "smart about mental health."

Out of the Darkness Walks connect hundreds of thousands of people to raise awareness and funds that allow the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to invest in new research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss.

### DETAILS

Walk Date: Sept. 24, 2016  
Walk Location: Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA 22035  
Check-in/Registration Time: Sept. 24 at noon  
Walk in registration available noon-2 p.m.  
Walk Begins: 2 p.m. Ends: 4 p.m.  
Contact: Leigh Boswell, 571-259-0721, Karrieboswell@aol.com

Online registration closes at noon the Friday before the walk. However, anyone who would like to participate can register in person at the walk from the time check-in begins until the walk starts. Walk donations are accepted until Dec. 31.

## Vaccines

FROM PAGE 8

if your child is vaccinated, as no vaccine is 100 percent effective," said Tony Yang, ScD., associate professor of Health Administration and Policy at George Mason University in Fairfax. "Research shows vaccination reduces the probability of infection substantially, but not perfectly."

As with other difficult conversations, such

as asking the parents of one's child's playmates whether they own a gun, the approach and attitude parents take can make the difference between a stressful or productive conversation.

"These are all important questions and I think if we address them with an 'it takes a village' mindset and think that we're all in this together, the conversations go a lot better," said Lorente.

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

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Sunday, Sept. 18, 2016

On-site Registration: 7 a.m.

Start time: 8 a.m.

Post-Race Party with food, live music & awards: 9 a.m.

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[www.Hyun-MiChung.net](http://www.Hyun-MiChung.net)

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Tysons, VA 22102

Miss Hyun-Mi Chung, a graduate of Juilliard School (B.M. & M.M.) with over 20 years of teaching experience.

## NEWS

Team members from Inova Health System's Juniper Program, the largest HIV/AIDS care provider in Northern Virginia, meeting with U.S. Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) at AIDS Watch 2016.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Saint Ann Catholic Church

### SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM  
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 AM  
1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy

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PARISH WEBSITE:  
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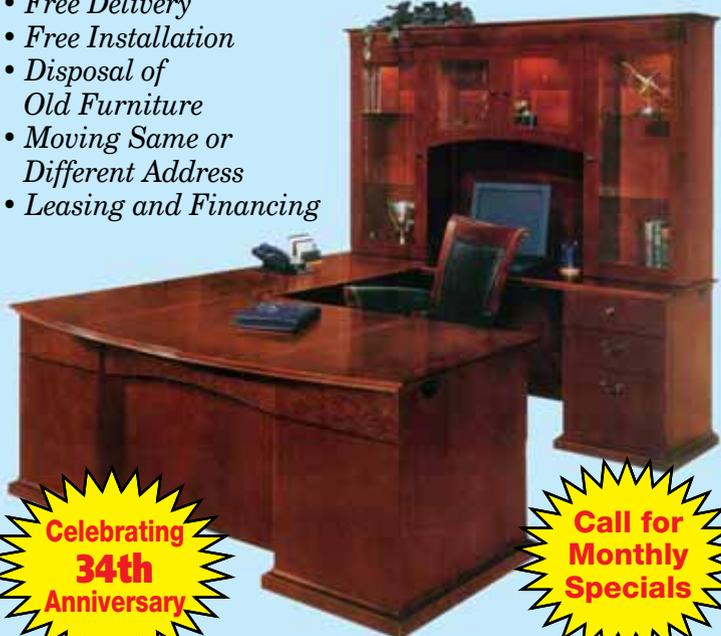


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## The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia Publication Shows Philanthropy is 'Good Business'

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia has released its fourth issue of GOOD BUSINESS, a bi-annual publication that features stories of local businesses, big and small, that play a key role in the community through philanthropy and volunteerism. The companies featured in this magazine understand that a positive correlation exists between a company's socially responsible investments and its ultimate economic success.

This issue of GOOD BUSINESS highlights some of the most successful, innovative, and engaged companies in all of Northern Virginia. The feature article highlights Inova Health System, our region's leading not-for-profit healthcare system that serves more than 2 million people annually. The article "Employee Driven Community Service" highlights Dovel Technologies' particular brand of external engagement that advances their culture and supports their mission driven values. Also featured in this edition is Kiddar Capital, a local real estate and technology investment firm that invests strategically in the region.

"The strategic use of corporate philanthropy has

and will continue to give companies a powerful tool that fosters a competitive edge, creates synergy, and boosts employee productivity," said Eileen Ellsworth, President of the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. "At the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia, we will continue to cheer and applaud all corporate investors in local community."

GOOD BUSINESS is designed to inform, inspire, and help spark a community dialogue on the future of corporate philanthropy in Northern Virginia. The full publication can be downloaded from <http://www.cfnova.org/publications/good-business>.

The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia grows philanthropy to help meet the most critical needs of the region. Comprising giving circles, donor advised funds, and other charitable endowments, it helps connect donors to community, meet community needs with community resources, and strengthen Northern Virginia.

During 2016, the Community Foundation awarded more than \$4.6 million in grants and scholarships and reported \$36.6 million in managed assets.

Find more information at [www.cfnova.org](http://www.cfnova.org).

## 'Concert Across America to End Gun Violence' at Tysons Biergarten

A coalition of gun violence prevention organizations in the DC/ Northern Virginia area have announced participation in the national "Concert Across America to End Gun Violence" on Sunday, Sept. 25.

Music will unite the country as artists from coast to coast rise up in concert to remember the victims of America's gun violence. Locally, the region will join in music at 5-8 p.m. at the Tysons Biergarten, 8346 Leesburg Pike, just steps from the Greensboro Metro stop. Local and regional artists will perform. Confirmed artists include The Harried Americans, The Glimpses, singer /songwriter Tim White, The

Rockits and the youthful voices of Know1Else, with more artists being added.

Local sponsors include Concerned Citizens Against Gun Violence, Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence (NoVA Chapter), Reston Herndon Alliance to End Gun Violence and Virginia Gun Violence Prevention Coalition.

Free to all. Cash bar and food—craft beer and pretzels. Rain or Shine. The concert site is child and pet-on-leash friendly (pets outdoors only).

Visit [ConcertAcrossAmerica.org](http://ConcertAcrossAmerica.org) for information on this and other local concerts.

## FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday at noon.

**St. Thomas' Episcopal Church** at the intersection of Lewinsville and Brook Roads in McLean, just a mile west of Tysons, invites you for a casual Saturday Service at 5 p.m., followed by conversation and fellowship or for Sunday Services at 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. Sunday

School for Youth and Children takes place during the 10 a.m. Service. Look for our Pumpkin Patch this October, and check [www.stthomasmcleanva.org](http://www.stthomasmcleanva.org) for Special Events and Services through the year. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, 8991 Brook Road, McLean, 703-442-0330.

**Church of the Holy Comforter**, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna offers a

monthly Healing Eucharist with the Laying on of Hands and Anointing for Healing (first Sunday of the month, 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Chapel). The Healing Ministry is led by the Rev. Valerie Hayes and Alexandra MacCracken and includes a team of lay healers who have gone through intentional training and formation. Questions? Please contact the Rev. Valerie Hayes at [vhayes@holycorforter.com](mailto:vhayes@holycorforter.com).

# WEEK IN MCLEAN

FROM PAGE 3

## Fundraiser Supporting the Children's Science Center

A fundraiser for The Children's Science Center has been announced by HBC Group's (Keller Williams Realty) Community Charity Champions. Come to dinner on Tuesday, Sept. 13, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Pulcinella Italian Host in McLean to support The Children's Science Center. Enjoy dinner and know that approximately 70 percent of the proceeds from food and drink will go directly to the Center, as long as the diner brings the flyer for the event. Contact HBC Realty Group at 703-734-0192 or visit [www.HBCGroupKW.com](http://www.HBCGroupKW.com) to receive a flyer.

The Children's Science Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to creating a world-class, interactive children's museum in Northern Virginia. Their mission is to instill a love of learning science, technology, engineering, and math-

ematics (STEM) in all children by providing unique opportunities to explore, create, and be inspired.

Sponsors of the event are: Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy with the HBC Group of Keller Williams Realty, Marcus Simon with EKKO Title, Kevin Dougherty of Pillar to Post, Kathy and Justin Neal of The Neal Team/SunTrust Mortgage, Jim Harris of BOWA, The McLean Chamber of Commerce, and Moe Jebali with Pulcinella Italian Host.

## McLean Area AAUW to Host Open House

McLean Area Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold an open house on Sept. 25 at 2 p.m. at the McLean Community Center. The public is invited. Winners of the scholarships to Trinity, Marymount, and George Mason universities will be introduced, as well as the high school science fair female awardee. The scholarships are funded through part of the proceeds of the annual AAUW Used Book Fair Sept. 16-18. All the activities and projects of the branch will be featured as well.

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### WEDNESDAY/SATURDAY/SEPT. 7-10

**Quarterly Book Sale.** Friends of the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library will hold Quarterly Book Sale. Books and media for all interests and ages. Wednesday 1 - 5 p.m.; Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bag sale/half price

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

sale - \$7 per bag  
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Smaller scale weekly book sale. 7700 Leesburg Pike Falls Church. TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com 703-338-3307

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Questions? E-mail [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) or call 703-778-9431



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## NEWS

# Alden's New Season Opens With Martha Graham Dance Company

BY DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

**T** rue to its moniker, "small stage, big talent," McLean's Alden Theatre new 2016-2017 professional performances season takes off with the world renowned Martha Graham Dance Company.

"Martha Graham is perhaps the most important figure in the modern dance world. She created a distinctly American classical dance form," said Sarah N. Schallern, performing arts director, the Alden at the McLean Community Center. It's an honor to be able to bring back her iconic company to the local community. It is a too rare opportunity for the public to experience Graham's art in such an intimate venue" as the Alden.

Martha Graham Dance Company has been innovating the world of contemporary dance since 1924. Graham produced some of the greatest masterpieces of American dance known for evoking powerful emotions. One example is her work with Aaron Copeland's "Appalachian Spring" with conflicts and desires apparent through choreographed movements. Even twenty-five years after she passed away, the Martha Graham Dance Company remains a national presence and is on regular tours.

"The Alden program will combine original Graham works with a newly commissioned piece," noted Schellern. The Alden program will include Graham's "Diversion of Angels," "Errand into the Maze" and "Dark Meadow Suite" paired with Pontus Lidberg's "Woodland." The full evening of dance is also expected to include a newer work titled "Lamentation Variations." It was commissioned and created by four current choreographers to commemorate the national tragedy of 9/11.

"Alden audiences absolutely adored Martha Graham Dance Company the last time they were here," said Schallern. "The brilliance of Graham's work" is something to behold in person.

A talkback with the Martha Graham Dance Company artists will occur after the performance. It will provide patrons the opportunity to ask about the legendary Graham, her long career and the dance works just performed.

When asked about the upcoming 2016-2017 Alden season, Schallern indicated it "was programmed to include Alden favorites that our audiences have asked to have back! Some acts haven't been here in decades, we're honoring our patrons' requests for their return."

In the next few weeks, the Alden's new season will also include professional performances for children and families such as the "Grey Seal Puppets" with world folk tales to share as well as the "Tap Kids" bringing the sounds of young tap dancers to



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

**Martha Graham Dance Company in performance**



PHOTO BY HIBBARD NASH PHOTOGRAPHY/COURTESY OF MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

**-Martha Graham Dance Company's "Appalachian Spring"**

### Where and When

Martha Graham Dance Company performing at the Alden, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Road, McLean. Performance Saturday, Sept 24, 2016 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$35 - \$50 (MCC tax district residents). Call Ovation tickets at 866-811-4111 or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org). Note: Alden 2016-17 Season brochure is here: <https://issuu.com/mcleancommunitycenter/docs/alden-2016-17-season-brochure>

the McLean Community Center.

A wonderful season "of comfort food" is how Schallern described the Alden programming.

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# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING

**McLean Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-noon. Fridays from May 6-Nov. 18. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The market provides area residents an opportunity to purchase locally grown or produced products. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets).

**Cirque du Soleil "Kurios."** July 21 to Sept. 18. Tysons II, The Lerner Town Center, 8025 Galleria Drive, Tysons Corner. \$39-\$170. 1-877-924-7783. [cirquedusoleil.com/kurios](http://cirquedusoleil.com/kurios).

**Lobby Hero 1st Stage Tysons** Sept. 8 - Oct. 9 Thursdays at 7:30pm, Fridays at 8pm, Saturdays at 2 and 8pm, and Sundays at 2pm. 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner, VA 22102. What does it truly mean to be a hero? While struggling with a world of conflicting truths, the characters grapple with their own realities and those of the people around them. [www.1ststageTysons.org](http://www.1ststageTysons.org) or 703-854-1856.

**Weekly Storytime.** Wednesday and Saturday. 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.

**Tai Chi Beginners' Practice.** Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weekly Tai Chi practice. Group has met for over 20 years. Free. [FreeTaiChi.org](http://FreeTaiChi.org). 703-759-9141.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 10

**Food for Others Tysons 5K.** 8 a.m. Tysons Corner Mall, by Bloomingdale, 8100 Tysons Corner Center, Tysons, VA 22102. Even though Northern Virginia is considered one of the wealthiest jurisdictions in the country, we still face a poverty rate of about 5 percent - more than 90,000 people are living in poverty and 30 percent are children. Come run or walk to help feed our neighbors. Visit: [foodforothers.org](http://foodforothers.org) or <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/McLean/>

**McLean Fall Community Garage Sale** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 1420 Beverly Road, McLean, VA 22101 behind Staybridge Suites Hotel. The McLean Community Center will hold its annual Fall Garage Sale. Admission to the sale and parking are free. A limited number of selling spaces remain and can be purchased for \$45. Individuals selling personal items and some commercial vendors may participate. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, Sept. 7, or until sold out. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit: [www.mcleancenter.org/special-events](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events)

**Native American lifestyles Festival** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Riverbend Park. at 8700 Potomac Hills Street in Great

Falls, Va. This exploration of the history and lives of Virginia's First Families includes many hands-on activities. Park visitors will shoot a bow and arrow, throw a spear, help build a dugout canoe, and learn to use ancient tools. There will be stories told, demonstrations of primitive technology, and a chance to enjoy traditional dancing featuring the Rappahannocks. Admission is \$6 per person in advance or \$7 at the door. Call: 703-759-9018 or visit the Riverbend Park website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/>

**Paint the Town Reception.** 4-6 p.m. 115 Pleasant St. NW. Vienna. Vienna Arts Society members exhibition. [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 10- WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 21, 2016

**Northern Virginia Senior Olympics.** Online registration open. Various venues around Northern Virginia. Events include badminton, volleyball, cycling, a 5k road race, and many more. \$12 per person. Visit [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us) for more.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 11

**Mike Terpak Blues Explosion.** 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. [www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/).

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 14

**Teddy Bear Band Jammin' Juniors Free Concert** 12:30 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Teddy Bear Band is a real band that helps children gain a positive sense of self and an appreciation of their own abilities. Participation and interaction are cornerstones of the band's musical shows. Visit: <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 15

**Seniors Learn** 10 - 2 p.m. Open house and the following eight weeks of Thursday classes will be at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Program Building, Oakton. Sunrise at Hunter Mill provides refreshments. Classes begin September 22nd and run through November 10th from 9 - 2 p.m. There is a \$40 registration fee for the semester. Program administered by Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna. Full lineup of classes will be available by the end of August on our website, [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org) or call (702)281-0538.

**History of the Military-Industrial Complex** 7:30 p.m. at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna, Virginia. Molly Sinclair McCarthney, co-author of "America's War Machine: Vested Interest, Endless Conflicts", will discuss the history of

the military-industrial complex and its potential impact on future American foreign policy. She is a thirty year newspaper journalist with emphasis on national security issues. The general public, teachers, and all veterans are invited. Admission is free. For information, call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit the web page at [www.vva227.org](http://www.vva227.org).

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 16

**The Old Firehouse AMC Double Feature 3:30-10 p.m.** 1440 Chain Bridge Road McLean, VA 22101. Teens can enjoy an evening at the cinema with the Old Firehouse as they head to AMC Tysons Corner for movies. \$35/\$25 members. [www.mcleancenter.org/teens](http://www.mcleancenter.org/teens)

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

**5K/10K Dulles Day on the Runway.** 7:30 a.m. 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. The full length of the runway will be closed off for runners. All race proceeds will benefit Special Olympics Virginia, the Committee for Dulles Community Outreach and the Washington Airports Task Force. Visit <http://www.planepull.com/View/Page/5K>.

**Dulles Day Plane Pull.** 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dulles International Airport. Teams of 25 are pitted against one another to see who can pull a 164,000+ pound Airbus 12 feet the fastest in Special Olympics Virginia's "heaviest" fundraiser. Visit [www.planepull.com](http://www.planepull.com).

**Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Festival.** 12-6 p.m. 8025 Galleria Drive, McLean. Attend for a day of fun. Your admission buys a sampling glass so you can enjoy all you care to taste while attending seminars in the tasting theater and enjoying live music all day. Visit <http://www.beerandbourbon.com/tysons/show-info>.

**Fall Bonsai Show and Auction** Saturday-Sunday/Sept. 17-18 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. September 17 and 18 Meadowlark Gardens Ct, Vienna, VA 22182. Auction of trees and related items in the Meadowlark Laurel Pavilion September 18; items on view 9 a.m. auction 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Both events free. See the NVBS web site at <http://nvbs.us> for club information and the PBA site for association information <http://www.potomacbonsai.com>. Contact: Gary Reese at [Info@nvbs.us](mailto:Info@nvbs.us)

**Model Trains and Thomas Open House.** 1-5 p.m. Historic Vienna Train Station, 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends. layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. Free. [nvmr.org](http://nvmr.org). 703-938-5157.



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## Here's What's Happening at MCC

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**Jammin' Juniors Free Concert**  
**Teddy Bear Band**  
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12:30 p.m.  
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**Onstage @ The Alden**  
**Grey Seal Puppets**  
**"A Tangle of Tales"**  
Saturday, Sept. 17, 2 p.m.  
\$15/\$10 MCC district residents

**Jammin' Juniors Free Concert**  
**Yosi and Eugene**  
Wednesday, Sept. 21,  
12:30 p.m.  
McLean Central Park

**Celebrate the Change of Seasons**  
**Harvest Happenings**  
Saturday, Sept. 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
General Admission:  
\$5 per person/Free 36 mon or younger

**Onstage @ The Alden**  
**Martha Graham Dance Company**  
Saturday, Sept. 24,  
8 p.m.  
\$50/\$35 MCC district residents

The McLean Community Center  
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[www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org)



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# Hardly Where



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If there's one place where I don't belong, one place where I have limited knowledge, one place where I have minimal interest; it's a hardware store. Complicating those incontrovertible facts are the size and scope of the modern-day, box store-type monstrosity familiar even to me. I realize/have been told that size doesn't matter; apparently, that message hasn't translated to the hardware store. The height of the ceilings, the width of the aisles, the depth of the shelves, the numbers of registers, the miscellaneous service counters, the automated/sliding entry doors, the pick-up areas, the shopping carts, the "vested" staff, the interactive displays and the sheer variety of everything are totally overwhelming to me (I'm being kind to myself; now I'll be honest: intimidating to me).

The chance of me walking out with the item necessary to solve the problem I came in to address is almost impossible to calculate. However, if I were to try, I'd guess, somewhere between zero and none. And what chance I might have would likely require talking with "an associate" and being able to accurately describe the problem and the presumptive solution. That sounds simple and reasonable enough unless you're me. I likely wouldn't know the right answer if I heard it because either I had asked the wrong question or characterized the wrong set of circumstances which precipitated my visit in the first place. Moreover, knowing the eventual outcome will entail yours truly returning to the store and exchanging the item or spending hours at home on a repair that a "normal"/capable man/homeowner would spend minutes on, makes the entire process as unpleasant as any I've undertaken. Yesterday was just such a day.

I wouldn't say I'm still recovering from the effort, but neither am I basking in the glow of a job well done. Now I'm not going to humiliate myself and tell you what the attempted repair was; you can be sure it wasn't plumbing or electrical and certainly didn't involve a toilet or a trap of any kind. Nevertheless, when you're a person of extremely limited ability, instincts and experience as I am, any home repair in which you walk away uninjured and without any further adieu (follow-up service call from a professional or need for a new/replacement item because you broke the first one or made the problem worse by breaking something else) is a "Mt.-Rushmore" success. Certainly not worthy of a mention in a magazine, but worthy I thought, of a column.

Now don't get any ideas that yesterday's success ('success' in this context is defined as 'not a disaster') emboldens me with any sort of self-confidence about future endeavors. Hardly. The fewer and farther between they remain, the happier I'll be. Yesterday's experience was nothing short of a miracle and simply moves me closer to the inevitable calamity I will cause when next I am faced with a similar set of homeowner-type circumstances.

For me, the devil is not in the details, it's in the "do-tells." The problem begins with the problem. It is then compounded by my inability to communicate the problem at the store, it is then compounded by my inability to understand the solution to the problem I am given at the store and finally, the problem is compounded by my inability to do at home what I was told at the store.

Believe it or not, I can accept my level of incompetence; I'm used to it. It's much harder on my wife, Dina, though; she has to live with me.

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

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1st Stage Inc, trading as 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Rd, Mclean, VA 22102. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Annual Mixed Beverage Special Event license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages, Alex Levy Managing Director  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

I am easily satisfied with the very best.  
-Winston Churchill

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Gordon Parks, Back To Fort Scott is organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, in partnership with the Gordon Parks Foundation. Photo: Husband and Wife, Sunday Morning, Detroit, Michigan, 1950; Gordon Parks (Newman, 1912-2006), photo above print. Courtesy of and copyright the Gordon Parks Foundation.

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**1538 Dahlia Court, McLean \$974,000**  
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**609 S. Oak St, Falls Church City \$1,199,000**  
**\*GORGEOUS\* 5BR/3.5 bath arts & crafts home built in 2004!** Incredible great room with gorgeous wall of windows, 25' ceiling and stone fireplace; expansive screened-in porch; state of the art gourmet kitchen; beautiful owner's suite with cathedral ceiling and luxury bath including steam shower, whirlpool tub & marble floor; separate media room; lovely .31/acre lot; sought-after Falls Church City location! **Falls Church City Schools!**



**704 Live Oak Drive, McLean \$1,495,000**  
**PHENOMENOL 5BR/4.5 BA on .61/acre lot** boasting private and treed oasis-like views! Gourmet island kitchen with stainless steel, granite and bar seating plus breakfast area; family room with wall-of-windows and 2-story ceiling; owner's suite with walk-ins and luxury full bath; spacious walkout lower level includes rec room, office and media room! **Super location; Langley School District!**

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