# CONECTION McLean \*Vienna



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block party to mark 32 years of the Old Firehouse

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#### News



First row left to right, Ethan Zhou, Tejini Holavanahali, Kristina Knauss, Emma Yang; (second row left to right) David Vergano, Zaylie Tamashiro, Olivia Zhang, Genavive Lotfi, Everly Johnston, Anna Raymond, Sianna Khandhar, Nandita Boddu, Noah Chin, Jeffrey Cheng; (third row left to right) Shubham Dey, Michael Wang, Emanuel Rouvelas, Ethan Ye, Benjamin Woods, Jack Apigian, Donghwa Shin; and (not pictured): Yeonsu Ju and Joseph Barboriak.

## McLean HS Counts 23 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

#### Prestigious achievement for PSAT takers.

By Mercia Hobson THE CONNECTION

his school year, McLean High School has 23 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists, which is the highest number in the school's history. The number of semi-finalists varies from year to year, but McLean HS usually has about 13

students named, according to Ellen Reilly, principal of McLean HS.

Reilly said that the only explanation she can think of for this year's high number is that the students' dedication to their studies is the reason. "We are quite proud of each one of these students and grateful to all the FCPS educators who supported them along the way," Reilly said.

#### Calendar

#### **UNTIL SEPT. 30**

Summerfest. 7 - 9 p.m. At Tysons Corner Center, McLean. The Summerfest continues through September with Earl's Happy Hour, Kids Concert Series, Tysons Fit Club, Outdoor Family Movie Nights, Summer Concert Series, and live music on the plaza.

#### SEPT. 15-OCT. 2

Mlima's Tale by Lynn Nottage. Thursdays at /:30 p.m., Friday p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. At 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road Tysons. Tickets: Tickets: \$50 general admission, \$47 seniors (65+), \$15 students, educators, and military. Purchase online at www.1ststage. org or 703-854-1856.

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 23

Wheel of Fortune Live! At Capital One Hall, Tysons Corner. Guests can audition to go on stage and feel like they stepped into the game show itself. They will have the chance to spin a replica of the Wheel and solve the puzzles on the tour's puzzle-board to win fantastic prizes including \$10,000, a trip to Paris, Hawaii and more. Tickets start at \$51. For tickets, visit www. WheelofFortuneLive.com, Cal (800) 514-ETIX (3849).

#### SEPT. 24-OCT. 30

Fall Festival. At Reston Farm Garden Market, 10800 Baron Cameron Ave., Reston. The festival will run

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 6 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

## News

## Sesquicentennial Celebration For Shiloh Baptist Church

Gathering to celebrate 150 years in McLean-Odricks Corner.

> By Mercia Hobson THE CONNECTION

ne hundred-fifty years ago, in 1872, Shiloh Baptist Church was organized with seven members under the leadership of the Reverend Cyrus Carter. The congregation worshipped in the one-room Odricks Schoolhouse, located at the intersection of Spring Hill and Lewinsville Roads in what is now McLean.

On Sept. 18, 2022, members of one of the oldest African-American churches in Fairfax County, its senior leaders, clergy, officials, presenters, and supporters gathered at the 150th Church and 15th Pastoral Anniversary Worship Celebration to recognize the occasions serving by the greatness of Grace.

"I'm proud to stand on the shoulders of some strong and powerful predecessors who have led us through some years, sometimes (with) some toils and some snares... I pray for a day and time we don't have to call it social justice. We can just call it justice," said Senior Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Robert F. Cheeks, Jr., with his wife, Assistant Pastor Constance Cheeks, seated nearby. "God has shown us time and time and time again how amazing Grace is. ... (And) here is our moment in time; we do this together. That is what this really is about."

Michelle Spady, chair of the Anniversary Planning Team, said they stood upon a foundation built through faithfulness to God. Spady said that she struggled with what to say that morning. She told of her inspiration, noticing a letter on her computer from the Rev. Canon Leonard L. Hamlin Sr., Canon Missioner and Minister of Equity and Inclusion at Washington National Cathedral. He had requested that Spady incorporate it into the celebration.

According to Hamlin's letter, which Spady read, the 150th anniversary of Shiloh Baptist Church was an opportunity to reflect on www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



On Sunday, Sept. 18, members and friends of Shiloh Baptist Church in McLean celebrate its 150th anniversary and 15 years of ministry by Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Robert F. Cheeks Jr., and Assistant Pastor, Constance Cheeks.



Рното ву MERCIA HOBSON The Connection



Surrounded by her family, baby Genesis Reneigh Fennell awaits her dedication during the service.



Senior Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Robert F. Cheeks, Jr. of Shiloh Baptist Church, Odricks Corner-McLean.



Jeffrey C. McKay, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, holds the resolution congratulating Shiloh Baptist Church on its 150th anniversary and for its prominent role in the county's history.



Adrian Steele, member of Lewinsville Church in McLean



Deaconess Brenda Johnson reads a letter signed by Gov. Glenn Younkin congratulating Shiloh Baptist Church on its sesquicentennial.

the past, examine the present, and grasp the future. Hamlin had written that there were insufficient words to express his feelings as he reflected on this momentous occasion. Nevertheless, he wrote, "We are praying and looking forward to worshiping, witnessing, discipling, and transforming lives in the power of God."

Deaconess Brenda Johnson read a letter signed by Gov. Glenn Youn-

"Your leadership, knowledge, and experience will continue to guide, comfort, and inspire your congregation. The First Lady and I pray that on the sesquicentennial anniversary, the Lord will continue SEE HELPING, PAGE 4

### News

## Gathering to Celebrate 150 Years in McLean-Odricks Corner

to embrace your congregation and lift you up as you guide them in the coming years," the letter from Youngkin said.

Jeffrey C. McKay, chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, said that it was a testament to the individuals involved in the work they do to do good for "not some, but all," people.

"So, I come here today not only to celebrate 150 years of this assembly and our history but also to celebrate our past, to reckon with our past, and to make sure that we, as the people, government, religious, all people, work together to do better in the future, in our pursuit of justice and equity and fairness for all people," McKay said.

"And Lord knows, right now, we need all the help and all the strength possible to carry on that mission and to continue to do what I always say is the most important thing for all of us, which is to advance always, always as a community," McKay added.

McKay then presented a resolution on behalf of Fairfax County's nearly 1.2 million residents and the Board of Supervisors to commemorate the momentous occasion. It described the church's history and how, for 150 years, Shiloh Baptist Church has provided spiritual leadership and dedicated service to the McLean community and the greater region.

Adrian Steele, a member of the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church nearby also read a resolution. Steele said that Bible studies had taken place between the two churches, but the pandemic interrupted them. Now they were considering how to serve the community and each other better and more effectively. He read, "We give thanks to God for the many ways that you preach the gospel, serve the community, provide spiritual and material support, and bear witness to the Kingdom of God in our community."

Before transitioning from the celebratory presentations, Cheeks said that some had asked why he would insert a Baby Dedication on this day. "Why not? ... We gather to be who we are. We gather to celebrate what we have done for 150 years," he said.

"We've served. We've led. We've ministered. We've blessed babies. We've united individuals in the holy matrimony. We've baptized. We've served communion. And what a fitting moment to have in



The Baby Dedication of Courtland Creed Baker and Genesis Reneigh Fennell.

ing back, and being thankful about what's ahead. Because all that becomes the catalyst that propels us forward. But (what's) more appropriate for us, as the church, to be the church in a moment like this... (than) to dedicate his children?"

The parents and families of babies Courtland Creed Baker and Genesis Reneigh Fennell brought them forward for the Rev. Dr. Cheeks Jr. to bless and dedicate.

"What an amazing story for their lives," he said.

> **Shiloh Baptist** Church, Sunday, Sept. 18, 2022.





The refurbished bell of Shiloh Baptist Church rings again, marking the occasion..



The one-room Odrick Schoolhouse along Lewins-



the midst of looking back, reflect- The current Shiloh Baptist Church McLean-Odricks Corner.

A pair of photos, one of the one-room Odricks Schoolhouse where the congregation of Shiloh **Baptist** Church worshipped and the current church, installed on the wall of the McLean Community Center, show that the church was organized in 1872.



#### COMMUNITY

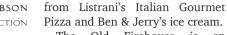
32rd Old Firehouse Block Party

#### It's a hit as crowds flock for the fun.

By Mercia Hobson THE CONNECTION

he Old Firehouse Center in McLean celebrated 32 years of service to its community on Saturday, Sept. 17. Located at 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., the Firehouse is a division of the McLean Community

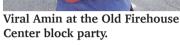
Patrons enjoyed hits by DJs from Hot 99.5's live broadcast and food



The Old Firehouse is an award-winning facility, the first of its kind in Fairfax County. It provides a safe environment for fifththrough-ninth-graders to participate in recreational activities with on-site experienced staff members.

Harvest Happenings by the Mc-Lean Community Center is Saturday, Sept. 24, with free admission; registration is required.







Bastiaan, 8, Sander, 4, and their dad, newly relocated to McLean 4 weeks ago, take in the "Old Firehouse" block party to mark 32 years of the Old Firehouse Center serving the Greater Mc-Lean community.



I scream. You scream. We all scream for Baskin Robbins ice cream, patiently though, at the "Old Firehouse Center" block party.



Upper body strength is crucial for Xander Arends, 16, as he makes it to the top of the Klime Wall.



At the 32nd Old Firehouse Center Block Party held on Saturday, September 17, from 1-4 p.m., guests had so much fun to cover in so short of time that they got dog tired, like this fella, and needed to rest.



## PUBLIC NOTICE

**In-Person Public Hearing on** the McLean Community Center's FY2024 Budget

(July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024)

**McLean Community Center Governing Board** Wednesday, Sept. 28, 6:30 p.m.

Small District 1A-Dranesville residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123. TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers list. The draft budget proposal is available on the Center's website. Copies will be available at the Public Hearing.

Written comments may be delivered to the McLean Community Center (see address below) marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to holly.novak@fairfaxcounty.gov. Written comments may be provided after the Public Hearing up through Monday, Oct. 24.





**McLean Community Center** 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101 703-790-0123, TTY: 711 www.mcleancenter.org



Block party time at the historic Old Firehouse Center in McLean

## 16th Annual **MPAartfest** connecting art and community

Sunday October 2nd 10am - 4pm

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McLean Project for the Arts









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**Obituary** 

Obituary

**Harris Nathan Miller** passed away from pancreatic cancer on September 15, 2022. He was just 71 years old, and a beloved husband, father, and grandfather.

Harris was born in Pittsburgh, PA, and remained a life-long Steelers fan. His brilliance and drive carried him from summers working in a steel mill and his father's car wash to the University of Pittsburgh (where he was Man of the Year in 1972) and then to Yale for graduate study in political science. A fellowship took him from the study of politics to its practice in Washington, DC. In the Carter Administration, Harris helped design the Senior Executive Service. On Capitol Hill. he worked on the Judiciary Committee for Congressman Ron Mazzoli, developing the 1986 Simpson-Mazzoli Act, which reshaped US immigration law. He went on to lead two trade associations. Most notably, at the Information Technology Association of America, he helped define the relationship between the federal government and a booming Silicon Valley and played a lead role in coordinating the public-private response to the Y2K threat. His time at the Association for Public Sector Colleges and Universities reflected his lifelong passion for expanding educational opportunities, which he continued to advance in semi-retirement as a co-founder of the Campaign for Free College Tuition. That campaign was only one among a seemingly endless list of volunteer leadership roles, particularly in education, the arts, veterans' affairs, and politics. Harris served, at various times, on the boards of the Virginia Opera, the National Philharmonic, the American Heart Association, the George Washington University Heart and Vascular Institute, the Virginia Lottery Board, and as Chair of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (1986-1993). A 2006 run for the Democratic nomination for the US Senate in Virginia garnered an enthusiastic endorsement from The Washington Post. In all this work, Harris showed a genius for bringing people together, for working out policy details, and for making government serve people better.

He was passionate about travel, bridge, playing his saxophone, and listening to music. He was an avid collector of pens, watches, records, and hats. He loved golf almost as much as he loved his wife of 42 years, Deborah. He was a man of great brilliance, humor, and passion. He is lovingly survived by his wife, his two children, Derek and Alexis, his five perfect grandchildren, Hiram, Rina, Nadia, Roxanne, and Melody, and his sister, Lee. May his memory be a blessing.

VDDT Virginia Department of Transportation

FORMER OWNERS NOTICE OF INTENT TO DISPOSE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Provisions of the Code of Virginia (1950) as amended 33.2-1005A (formerly 33.1-90A). This is to notify Percy Talley, their heirs or assigns, of the opportunity to purchase property located between 38th Place North and North Richmond Street, in Arlington, Virginia. (No Tax Map or Parcel # Assigned). Contact Jordan Cheresnowsky at Jordan. Cheresnowsky@VDOT.Virginia.gov, 703-259-2971, Virginia Department of Transportation — Right of Way and Utilities Divisions, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax VA 22030 by October 17, 2022.

# FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to all of our papers Www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

#### Calendar

From Page 2

Friday, Saturday and Sundays September 24 to October 30 with five 90 minute online ticketed sessions. Fall Festival hours are Friday through Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m to 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. \$28 per child and \$7 per parent, children 2 and under free. For times and tickets visit https:// www.restonfarm.com/fall-fest.

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 24

Harvest Happenings. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. At McLean Community Center, McLean. Celebrate autumn with your family! Harvest Happenings is an indoor-outdoor festival with live entertainment, a petting zoo, crafts and games. Visit the pumpkin patch and purchase a pumpkin to decorate at the crafts station. Visit mcleancenter.org

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 24

DOGFEST. 11-3 p.m. At Reston Town Center, Reston. For DogFest Washington DC 2022 benefiting Canine Companions. Furry friends and their families are invited to join us for a day of fun, festivities, contests, graduate speakers, dog demonstrations, and more. Register for free at www.canine.org/ DogFestWashingtonDC to receive a FREE DogFest bandana for your dog. Canine Companions provides expertly trained service dogs to adults, children, and veterans with disabilities FREE of charge. Celebrate the community of people and dogs that make it possible for Canine Companions to show that the most advanced technology capable of transforming the lives of people with disabilities has a cold nose and a warm heart, www. canine.org/DogFestWashingtonDC

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 24

Reston Association (RA) presents Dog Paddle. Register in advance at RA Dog Paddle events. Then bring your dog to swim at the Ridge Heights Pool that has closed for the season at your registered time. Located at 11400 Ridge Heights Rd, Reston.

#### SEPT. 24-25

The Annual Civil War Books, Relics and Memorabilia Show will be held at the Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd, Fairfax, on Saturday and Sunday Sept. 24 and 25, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. both days. Admission is \$5 per person. Vendors are welcome. For information, call Bud Mayo, 703-389-1505 or mayo5304@cox.net

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 25

Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. At the Village Centre Green, Great Falls. Featuring Mars Rodeo – original, classic and modern rock. Come relax at the Village Centre Green and enjoy laid-back evenings of good music and good times with your neighbors.

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 25

NatureFest. 1-5 p.m. At Runnymede Park, 195 Herndon Parkway, Herndon. NatureFest is a hands-on nature event, which spotlights the animals, plants, and insects that live in Runnymede Park. Event participants can visit eighteen

See Calendar, Page 7 www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

#### CALENDAR

From Page 6

different nature stations, which include butterflies, fish censusing, life in the meadow, birds, and Nature Olympics. Visit herndon-va. gov for more information.

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 25

Food For Others 5K & Fun Run. 8 a.m.-Kids race, 8:30 a.m.-5K race. At Tysons Corner Center (parking lot), McLean. Food For Others nonprofit organization serviced in Northern Virginia focuses on the distribution of food to communities in need. In support of the 5K race is to help those struggling with food insecurity. The \$35 registration fee for the race will contribute to helping 21 families with a gallon of milk, 7 students with weekend meal packs, or 1 family with 3.5 days' worth of meals. Same-day registration for the race starts from 7am to 8am for \$40. Visit https://foodforothers.org/tysons-5k-and-fun-run/

#### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 28

The Caboose Comes to Town. 7 p.m. At the Herndon Historical Society Depot Museum, 717 Lynn Street, Herndon. Email HerndonHistoricalSociety@gmail.com for Zoom information.

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Oktoberfest Vienna. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. At Church Street in Vienna.

3 Stages of Entertainment, Two Beer and Wine Gardens, Great International Food, Free Kids Activities and Games, Car Show, Business Expo, Vendor Market, Handcrafters. Visit the website: ViennaOktoberfest.org.

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Reston Community Yard Sale. 8:30 a.m. 12018 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston.

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Reston 75-family Yard Sale. Halley
Rise Complex, 12010 Sunrise
Valley Drive, Reston, from 8:30
a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Register at RA's
Community Yard Sale. Bargains on
children's clothes, toys, furniture,
and more. Sign up for a booth
covering two parking spaces.

#### THURSDAYS/OCT. 4-25

Big & Messy Art classes for kids, a four-session class. Brown's Chapel Recreation Area, 1598 Browns Chapel Road, Reston. Click this link to register or for further details: Big & Messy Art class details. Kidcreate Studio partners with Reston Association.

#### SATURDAY MORNINGS

Summer Programming for Kids. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. Reston Museum is launching new summer programming for kids! Visit the Reston Museum to participate in fun and creative activities inspired by Reston's history. Program is free and everyone will receive an Explore Reston packet.

#### NOW THRU DEC. 31

rafts for Kids. 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
At Reston Art Gallery and Studios,
11400 Washington Plaza W at
Lake Anne, Reston. Free, themed
art projects for children (with
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Each local newspapers mission aspires to provide greater community service, and we do know that our communities are better off if we continue to publish. Last year's financial support for meaders and supporters like you bridged the shortfall before Federal PPP funding arrived, and both made our survival possible. We now await a decision for a grant from Rebuld Virigina in early Fedurary that we hope will help us in 2022 and beyond. But we meed help bu survive le linst quarter, always a trust lime meed help bu survive le linst quarter, always a trust lime.

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## Having My Cake, and Eating It Too



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

After way too many months to remember; my eagle, so to speak, has finally landed. The Entenmann's "Marshmallow Iced Devil's Food Cake" is once again in the house. The only problem is its size, it's too small. A sheet cake type-size would be ideal. Nevertheless. Cake one will likely be consumed in a day, two maximum. Followed by cake number two which will suffer a similar fate. In my house anyway, if the Entenmann's cake referenced above was an animal, it would sit atop the endangered species list. Moreover, I had written in a previous column moaning about my difficulties finding this item locally; even going so far as calling the parent company, "Bimbo Bakers USA" at their headquarters in Horsham Township, Pa. My thinking was, perhaps if I could speak with a distribution or public relation's person, maybe they could determine where, specifically, this item is being delivered. Unfortunately, the call was in vain, as the cake couldn't be located. In fact, the woman with whom I spoke wasn't even familiar with this item. Amateur. This escalation is some context for what action has followed.

This unsuccessful attempt followed my initial pursuit which was to visit my local Giant supermarket (after perusing the Entenmann's website which also proved unsatisfying) to speak with the store manager about possibly adding this cake to their rather pedestrian weekly inventory of cookies, other cakes, donuts, and such. I was told that the Entenmann's order is handled by a middleman-type vendor who isn't even a Giant employee. As a result, Giant has no control/ability to submit any amended weekly list to accommodate my needs. Very disappointing. Therefore, I am stuck between a chocolate fudge cake, a cheese Danish/pastry, and an array of miscellaneous donuts/popems. None of which compares to the "sinfully good cake with heavenly Marshmallow frosting" as it's described on the Entenmann's website under "Delicious Products."

The reason I was forced to take this action is because the Entenmann's website provided no relief. There is a "store locator" feature on the site which enables the user to specify the item and then find it, if available/delivered within a 20-mile radius (maximum distance, from the zip code provided). After multiple visits to their site, I came away unrequited. I was out of any alternative ideas to reach this promised land. Then it hit me, perhaps the cake is located/distributed in other less local - to me, supermarkets, and so on a few occasions when I was further than 20 miles from my home, I would stop in a local supermarket or two (it didn't have to be a Giant: I've bought the cake at Safeway before. twice) and cross my fingers and hope to buy. That too, on the occasions which presented themselves, likewise proved unsuccessful.

And there the pursuit has remained, stalled almost, until Sept. 10, a day that will live in Lourie lore. That's the day when the eagle that had been flying around with no place to land indeed found its landing spot. It all happened so unexpectedly, so innocently, when I wasn't necessarily even thinking about the cake (it's rare, but it does happen) that it makes the reward all the more sweeter. As former vice president Hubert Horatio Humphrey, Jr. (1965 to 1969) might have said: "I am pleased as punch" to have found and already eaten in their entirety, both cakes. They never stood a chance, really. (And yes, they were as delectable as ever.) Not that it had been years since I was last lucky enough to find/eat this cake, it only seemed like it. Nevertheless, it was still long enough by half for yours truly to be deprived of something so essential to my existence; especially considering that as a cancer patient who was initially diagnosed with terminal lung cancer, you want what you want because you may never be able to want it again. A "13 month to two-year" prognosis will do that to you.

Next week the details of this most fortuitous circumstance which led to this auspicious and memorable occasion. The working/likely title: "As I Was Saying Last Week."

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



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7010 Tyndale Street, McLean \*FABULOUS\* 4BR/3.5 BA all-brick home on 2 Ivls in sought-after Rosemont/McLean location! Renovated w/ an addition in 2014, this beautiful property includes gorgeous hdwd & bamboo flooring; light-filled main level includes expansive liv room w/ frpl, dining room space and bay window; break rm off the charming kitchen with walkout to the deck and the large, level yard. LL with family room + 4th BR suite w/ kitchenette!

1562 Forest Villa Drive, McLean \*GORGEOUS\* 4BR/2.5 BA home features major remodel/renovations and looks like a dream home! Sparkling hardwood floors; remodeled gourmet kitchen with peninsula breakfast bar and huge bay window; large, luxury screened-in porch with 2 ceiling fans and recessed lighting; beautiful primary BR suite; upper level laundry; downstairs features large family room with half bath and walkout to patio & lovely landscaping; McLean HS pyramid!



1819 Deer Drive, McLean \*BEAUTIFUL\* 5BR/3 BA brick home on 2 spacious levels includes gleaming hardwood floors throughout the main level; large living room with picture window, built-ins and fireplace; updated kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances; gorgeous family/great room addition with vaulted ceiling, skylights, ceiling fan and windows; main level primary suite with updated full bath; finished, walkout LL & screened porch!





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1564 Great Falls Street McLean, 22101 \$1,223,000











1625 N. Albemarle Street 3950 N. Dumbarton St McLean, 22101 \$3,900,000

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