

Potomac ALMANAC

Literary Offerings

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Randy Howe at
Saturday's book sale at
the Potomac Library.



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LEARNING FUN
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Judge Issues Stay Order

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Shim, Weiss Lead Churchill Field Hockey in 2012

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PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

AUGUST 15-21, 2012

ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM

No Referendum?

The county's Emergency Medical Transportation Insurance Reimbursement Act — to take effect Jan. 1, 2013 — will raise \$18 million a year from insurance company reimbursements for medical transport.

"No county resident will ever receive a bill, pay a co-pay or deductible. Non-county residents will receive a bill that can be submitted to their insurers for reimbursement. Those without insurance will be able to file for a waiver of the fees," according to County Executive Isiah Leggett.

The money raised will be dedicated to staffing, apparatus, facilities and equipment.

Leggett and the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association announced the agreement to improve the relationship between the volunteer association and Montgomery County, according to the county.

"Although we are concerned that non-County residents will receive a bill for emergency transport, we do not support a referendum on the [Act]," said Marcine Goodloe, president of the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association. "The fire and rescue service enhancements that will result from this agreement are too critical to jeopardize."

— KEN MOORE

Honoring WWII Veterans

World War II veterans will be honored Wednesday, Sept. 19 at the Silver Spring Civic Building at One Veterans Plaza. County Executive Isiah Leggett, Council President Roger Berliner and the County Council will lead ceremonies starting at 10:30 a.m.

Speakers will include veterans who served in various aspects of World War II.

"So many in our community heroically served our nation, and the world, 70 years ago," said Council President Berliner. "There have been many books written, and many movies made, about the people we will honor, but on this day, we will personally thank — and hear directly from — some of the men and women who did so much to shape the life and freedom we know today."

The county's public cable television channel will simulcast the event live. In addition, the PEG Network will be recording the stories of many of the veterans for a documentary that will first be shown on Veterans Day.

Montgomery Honors WW II Vets event organizers seek contact with more veterans. Veterans, or family and friends of the veterans, should call 240-777-7929.

November Ballot Charter

The Montgomery County Council approved ballot language Tuesday, July 31 for a proposed charter amendment that would help establish a program within the county merit system to recruit, select and hire people with disabilities directly for county positions.

Councilmember Phil Andrews was the chief sponsor. "The unemployment rate for people with disabilities far exceeds the general unemployment rate," he said. "In order for the county to significantly expand opportunities to bring qualified people with severe disabilities directly into county government jobs, the county's charter must be amended to provide that authority."

Andrews told other council members earlier this year that the county has taken previous action to expand opportunities for people with disabilities; including 2010 legislation that provides a hiring preference to veterans and people with disabilities who are applying for an initial position in county government and are among the highest rated group of applicants.

County Executive Isiah Leggett and the county's Commission on People with Disabilities strongly supports the charter amendment, according to county officials.

Zoning Rewrite Project

Montgomery County planners have been revising sections of the Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance since 2010. Planners seek to rewrite the Zoning Code — last rewritten in 1977 and

SEE THE WEEK IN POTOMAC, PAGE 7

News



Elaine Green, a volunteer at the book sale.

PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Literary Offerings

The Potomac Library held its 3-hour book sale on Saturday, Aug. 11. The event was sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter. The next book sale is Saturday, Sept. 8.

Residents Blast Pepco

Pepco and the Derecho Storm.

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

The Maryland Public Service Commission held the first of eight public hearings across the state this month to ask residents about experiences during the June 29 Derecho Storm.

More than 200 citizens attended the public hearing at Montgomery County Council headquarters in Rockville Tuesday, Aug. 7. The public comments were to address all three power utilities that serve Montgomery County, but focused on Pepco.

"We cannot plan our lives," said Jeff Mandell, a Potomac father of two children under 3-years-old who lived without power for 158 hours through some days that approached 100 degrees. "It wasn't a sustainable place to live."

On Saturday, June 30, the morning after the storm, Pepco's website reported that 18,229 customers in Potomac 20854 were without power. The U.S. Census estimates that there are 16,000 households in Potomac, plus businesses, so virtually all of Potomac was without power.

In Montgomery County overall, 232,400 Pepco customers out of a total of 309,000 were without power, and 500 of the county's 800 traffic signals were dark. It took more than a week to restore all of the Potomac outages.

Many directed comments at Pepco's aggressive and expensive tree pruning plans.



PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

PEPCO starts the long clean-up after the June 29 storm.

"It wasn't a sustainable place to live."

— Jeff Mandell, a Potomac father of two

"Aggressive pruning does little to increase reliability," said Arlene Bruhn of Conservation Montgomery.

"Miles and miles of trees were pruned, the numbers were impressive," she said. "The Derecho tested the hypothesis, and it didn't work. Pepco can't prune its way to power."

One Potomac resident spoke in limerick.

"I told you before, and I hate to bother you; next time we're going to have an outbreak of cholera," he said. "Potomac, Montgomery County is a nice place to be ... unless you're like me where you have no electricity."

Bring in outside experts to review Pepco's performance, said Bruce Bernstein.

Abbe Milstein and others directed comments to the commission, which many said had the power and

SEE IT WASN'T, PAGE 7

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Organic Farmer Sent Packing?

Judge Robert A. Greenberg of Circuit Court issues stay Tuesday, effects unclear. See update at www.PotomacAlmanac.com.

Editor's note: As the Almanac headed to press on Tuesday, the effects of two court proceedings and the governor's opinion cast uncertainty over county plans to take control of the Brickyard organic farm on Aug. 16 to turn it into soccer fields. This story was written Tuesday before the conclusion of the hearings.

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

Gov. Martin O'Malley wrote Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett and Board of Education President Shirley Brandman on Sunday Aug. 12.

"I believe we are about to make a big mistake," O'Malley wrote.

Organic farmer Nick Maravell is supposed to vacate the land he has farmed the last 32 years on Wednesday, Aug. 15, so the county can move forward with its plans to build "superior quality" soccer fields on Brickyard Road.

The county is scheduled to take possession on Thursday, Aug. 16.

"I understand that these issues are the subject of litigation, and it is not my intent to express any view on the legal merits of the case. However, on policy grounds, there are significant and compelling reasons to preserve this farm for the benefit of the children of Montgomery County," O'Malley wrote, in a letter to the Executive and school board president dated Sunday, Aug. 12.

Maravell asked the Circuit Court of Montgomery County at a hearing on Tuesday to permit him to stay on the land while legal challenges are pending.

"Nick's Organic Farm has no right to be on the property" according to Patrick L. Clancy and Kristen M. Koger, attorneys for the Board of Education.

"Interfering with the County Board's ability to have its own land available for use as a school site constitutes irreparable harm," according to Clancy and Koger. "Petitioner's request runs counter to the fundamental principle of freedom of contract."

Affidavits

Cynthia Brenneman, director of real estate, Montgomery County Department of General Services:

"I negotiated the license agreement with Nick's Organic Farm. Mr. Nicholas Maravell, on behalf of Nick's Organic Farm, requested that the first optional Term expire on Aug. 15, 2012, a date which he said gave him sufficient time to harvest his summer crop.

"The County and MSI must have access to the site on Aug. 16 so that we may perform critical path activities, including soil, topographic and environmental studies as well as installation of four groundwater monitoring wells. The County and MSI must perform these studies in order to apply



Nick Maravell, who has been running the organic farm for 32 years, talks to his supporters at a May 30 rally.

MARAVELL HAS LEASED the property from the school system since 1980, operating an organic farm. In March 2011, despite no public involvement and just a few day's notice, the Montgomery County School Board voted to turn the land over to the county for a public-private partnership for soccer fields.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture certifies the farm as organic, which it has been since 1986. Maravell seeks to maintain "status-quo" while legal issues are decided by the courts.

But the County said it already extended Maravell's lease until August.

His claims for relief are "ultimately nonsensical," according to Marc P. Hansen, county attorney, and Clifford L. Royalty, Division of Zoning, Land Use and Economic Development.

"The Petitioners are seeking to void the only legal document (the license agreement) that has allowed Nick's Organic Farm to remain on the premises," they wrote. "The Petitioners need an injunction against themselves."

for permits and submit the proposed use of the Brickyard Road Site to the [Park and Planning Commission] for review under the mandatory referral statute.

If we cannot continue with these critical path activities, there will be an unacceptable delay in onset of site development activities. Any such delay will prevent the fields from being ready for play on Sept. 2, 2013. The MSI financial model for this project is based upon play beginning in accordance with the schedule in Sept. 2013."

Doug Schuessler, executive director, MSI:

"The County and MSI must have access to the site on Aug. 16 so that they may develop the soc-

A hearing had already been scheduled for Aug. 14 to respond a related Circuit Court matter filed by the Brickyard Coalition. The Brickyard Coalition claims the county has not fully responded to its request under the Maryland Freedom of Information Act.

Both Maravell and the Brickyard Coalition asked for an appeal or Judicial Review of last week's State Board of Education ruling. The state board ruled that Montgomery County's Board of Education did not violate law when voting to turn the land over to the county during a March 2011 meeting.

IN HIS LETTER, O'Malley suggested the mission of the newly established Brickyard Road Educational Farm shows promise for

what the farm could mean.

"Rather than moving our State backwards through this destructive policy choice, Montgomery County can and should be a leader," said O'Malley. "The vital connection between our farms, the food we eat, and our children's future has never been

SEE ORGANIC FARMER, PAGE 7

cer fields for the season that begins on Sept. 2, 2013.

"MSI has expended \$60,504.20 for concept planning, design, traffic studies, other studies and project management in connection with this project.

"MSI intends to develop at the site at least two superior quality soccer fields for immediate use, with the potential for a third field. If MSI is forced to incur a growing season delay in the seeding of the fields, it will cause a year delay in the opportunity for kids to play on those fields. The cost of replacement on an annual basis for those play opportunities is in the range of \$200,1000 to \$300,150."

Governor Weighs In

Governor Martin O'Malley wrote Montgomery County Board of Education President Shirley Brandman and County Executive Isiah Leggett Sunday, Aug. 12, three days before the County is scheduled to take over possession of 20 acres of farmland on Brickyard Road.

"I believe we are about to make a big mistake in destroying acres of a productive organic farmland and its solids which could be a priceless asset to the education, health and well-being of generations of Montgomery students. ...

I understand that these issues are the subject of litigation, and it is not my intent to express any view on the legal merits of the case. However, on policy grounds, there are significant and compelling reasons to preserve this farm for the benefit of the children of Montgomery County.

Brickyard Educational Farm aims to teach students about local and sustainable food and agriculture, and to show them how the food they eat is grown. The farm's vision is to supply organic produce for school lunches, and to offer field trips, a Beginning Farmer Program, apprenticeships, and internships to students in neighboring schools. The initiatives offered at Mr. Maravell's organic farm directly align with our State's priorities, including our Agricultural Literacy Program and our Farm to School Program. Furthermore, the farm helps the county meet the requirements of its 'No Child Left Inside' mandate.

As a nation we are doing an awful job at nutrition in our schools. Sadly, in Maryland we are not doing much better. Rather than moving our State backwards through this destructive policy choice, Montgomery County can and should be a leader. The vital connection between our farms, the food we eat, and our children's future has never been more important than it is right now.

In our State, where we believe in growing jobs and growing economy; where we believe in children growing healthy, growing educated and growing strong; where we believe in sustainably growing food for a hungry world; where we believe in growing in our midfullness, our awareness, and our understanding of the balance we must rediscover and reconcile with the other living systems of this one Earth we choose to share with future generations; we need assets like Mr. Maravell's farm, rather than fewer.

— Gov. Martin O'Malley

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THE CONNECTION
 NEWSPAPERS

PEOPLE

Pies Tackles National Competition

Local golfer qualifies for USGA Men's Amateur Golf Tournament.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
 THE ALMANAC

The U.S. Golf Association Men's Amateur Golf Tournament is the most prestigious golf tournament for amateurs in the United States — and Potomac's Rusty Pies qualified for the second year in a row. The tournament will be held Aug. 13 - 19 at Cherry Hills Country Club in Cherry Hills Village, Colo.

Pies made the cut with two-day scores of 69 and 68 at the sectional qualifier played at the University of Maryland Golf Course. He was one of only four golfers who qualified for the honor. If he wins, he will join the ranks of Tiger Woods, Justin Leonard, Phil Mickelson and Hunter Mahan — all U.S. Amateur Champs before they joined the PGA tour.

Pies began playing golf with his dad when he was 12 and became serious about the game before he graduated from Churchill High School in 1988. He moved to Florida in 1990 to work at Bob Toski's Golf Center in Coconut Creek and turned pro at age 22. He spent 10 years "chasing the tour" as he puts it and teaching golf before he returned to Maryland and regained his amateur status. Pies is the current Club Champion at Bethesda Country Club and plays many local amateur tournaments.

This tournament pits the best amateur golfers in the U.S. against one another. "The first two days are 18 hole stroke play alternating at Cherry Hills Country Club and Common Ground Golf Club," Pies said. "Players have to score well because the field of 236 players is narrowed to 64 after the first two days. Then match play begins, with the first round of 18 holes played on Wednesday and the second and third rounds (18 holes each) on Thursday, Friday and Sat-



Rusty Pies

urday are 18 holes each day for the quarter-finals and semis and then Sunday is the 36 hole finals match.

"These are the best college players in the country. They are fearless and amazing players. I am hoping to hold my own." Another local player, Denny McCarthy of

Rockville also qualified. He currently plays for the University of Virginia.

If Pies should win, he would receive exemptions for the U.S. Open, the British Open, and for the next 10 U.S. Amateur tournaments. He would most likely receive an invitation to play in the Masters too. "It would be a dream come true to be the champion," said Pies.

Bethesda Country Club Golf Professional Kelly Smith said, "Rusty is a great local amateur. For the second year in a row, he has qualified to play with the best amateurs in the United States. We hope that he makes it to match play but we are still proud of his accomplishment."

According to the USGA website www.usga.org, this is the 112th U.S. Amateur Championship. Bobby Jones won this championship five times between 1924 and 1930. In 1994, Tiger Woods was the youngest player to win the U.S. Amateur Tournament at age 18.

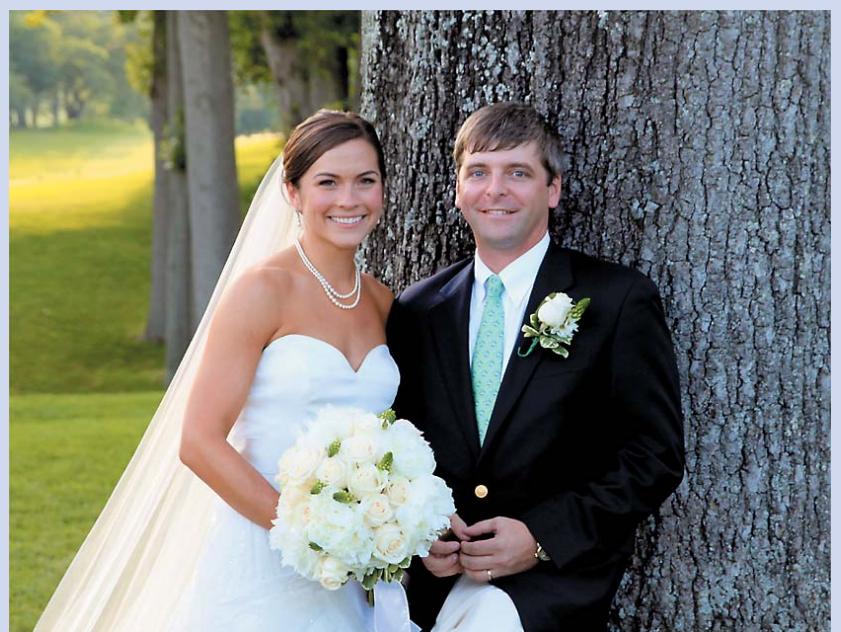
He won it three consecutive years but his status as the youngest player to win it was broken when Danny Lee and Byeong-Hun both won it at age 17. Players this year range from ages 14 to 56. Four sons of professional golfers will be competing this year - Eric Hallberg (Gary Hallberg), Michael McGowan (Pat McGowan), Robert Mize (Larry Mize) and Gary Nicklaus (Jack Nicklaus).

Pies hopes to play well in this year's tournament. "Last year, I missed the cut by 4 strokes. I'm hoping to make it to the match-play rounds."

Coale, Bourassa Wed

Bill and Sharon Coale of Potomac have announced the marriage of their daughter, Brittany Ann, to Christopher Ronald Bourassa of Hingham, Ma. The wedding took place on June 16, 2012 at Bethesda United Methodist Church with the Rev. Ron Foster and Monsignor James Beattie officiating. The reception was held at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda. The couple spent their two-week honeymoon traveling throughout Italy.

Brittany graduated from the Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart in Bethesda and from Ohio Wesleyan University. Chris is a graduate of the



Xaverian High School in Ma. and Fairfield University in Conn. They currently reside in Westport, Conn. where Brittany works for Freepoint Corporation in Stamford and Chris is a vice president for JP Morgan in New York City specializing in oil trading.

Bethesda Country Club To Host Wounded Warrior Tournament

Annual event returns Aug. 20.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

In 2005, Jim Estes, director of golf at Olney Golf Park began teaching injured servicemen and women to play golf — many of them amputees, many with prostheses. He took the job so seriously that he practiced raising his right leg and hitting the ball off his left leg for hours as he tried to figure out the best way for one-legged people to hit the ball.

He was so affected and inspired by these courageous men and women, that in 2007, he founded the Salute Military Golf Association (SMGA), a 503-c non-profit which provides golf equipment, lessons and access to golf courses nationwide for wounded servicemen and women. In the six years since the organization was founded, Estes and other volunteer golf professionals have given, free of charge, hundreds of lessons and clinics, forever changing and enriching the lives of our wounded warriors.

On Monday, Aug. 20, Bethesda Country Club will host the 3rd Annual Wounded Warrior Golf Tournament, sponsored by Booz Allen Hamilton in partnership with

Salute Military Golf Association. The tournament will include breakfast, 4-person scramble golf tournament, luncheon and awards ceremony. Prizes will be presented for team low net and gross, closest to the pin and longest drive and a raffle will also be held. Attendees are also welcome for lunch only.

This tournament is one of six tournaments being held across the nation sponsored by Booz Allen Hamilton and SMGA. All the tournaments will be held in August. More than 400 Booz Allen Hamilton employees will donate hundreds of hours of their time to plan the golf events, volunteer at one of the tournaments or play along-side the wounded combat veterans.

"SMGA believes that the rehabilitative benefits of golf can significantly improve the mental and physical condition of wounded warriors as they recover from visible and invisible injuries and reintegrate into civilian life," said SMGA Executive Director Gretchen Hamm. "We are grateful to Booz Allen for its enthusiastic support of our mission to provide wounded veterans with playing opportunities, properly fitted golf clubs, and free lessons."

SMGA Board Member Andy McCann said that the golf tournament at Bethesda Country Club will host 17 wounded warriors: "This spring we had 50 - 60 wounded warriors each week coming out for our clinic



in Olney. I am always awed by the spirit and courage of each of these injured servicemen and women. The opportunity to play golf adds a normalcy to their days. The SMGA wants to expand the program nationwide to provide clinics, support and course access when these veterans return home."

McCann explained that SMGA has developed a training program with Penn State to teach adaptive teaching techniques to golf pros, not only for veterans but for anyone

with disabilities. "Golf is a life-long sport with huge rehabilitation benefits and we want to make it available to all our wounded vets."

Proceeds from this event go directly to the SMGA to provide golf experiences to wounded veterans. The SMGA website states: "The SMGA provides golf instruction, equipment and playing opportunities for combat-wounded American veterans injured in Iraq and Afghanistan. Since the SMGA was founded, they have provided over 250 sets of properly-fitted golf equipment for wounded warriors and offered free lessons to more than 600 combat-wounded veterans."

Sign up for this event at www.bah4smga.com or by calling Bethesda Country Club at 301-365-1703. Many charity registration options are available including a Gold Registration for \$1500 (4 golfers, 1 warrior sponsorship, event recognition), or a Silver Registration for \$750 (2 golfers, 1 warrior sponsorship, event recognition.) A foursome is \$1,000 and an individual is \$250. An individual lunch guest is \$100. There are still plenty of hole and breakfast sponsorships available and donations are also encouraged to support this program.

For more information about Salute Military Golf Association, go to www.golfsalute.org.

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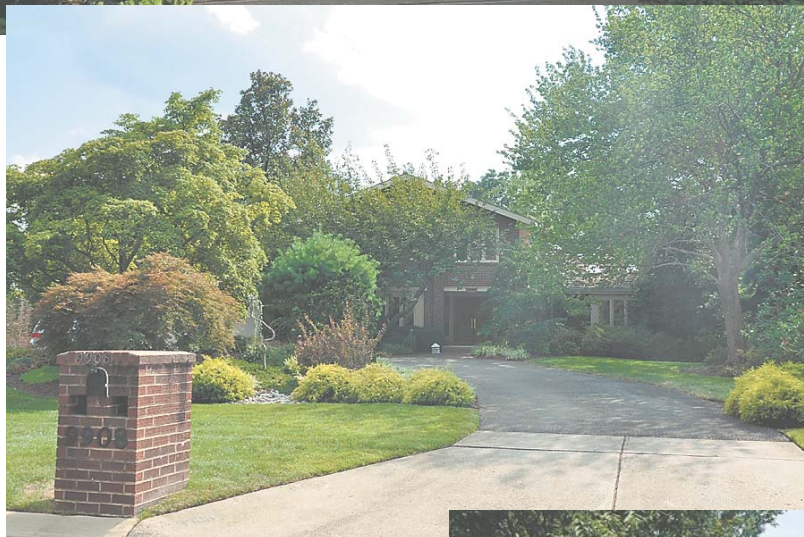
IN JUNE 2012, 56 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD
BETWEEN \$2,910,000-\$475,000.

Sales for June 2012, \$900,000 to \$1.099 million

1 12413 Rivers Edge Drive,
Potomac — \$1,095,000



4 11801 Ambleside Drive, Potomac — \$1,035,000



2 9908
Bluegrass
Road,
Potomac —
\$1,085,000



5 8261 Buckspark Lane West,
Potomac — \$1,001,500



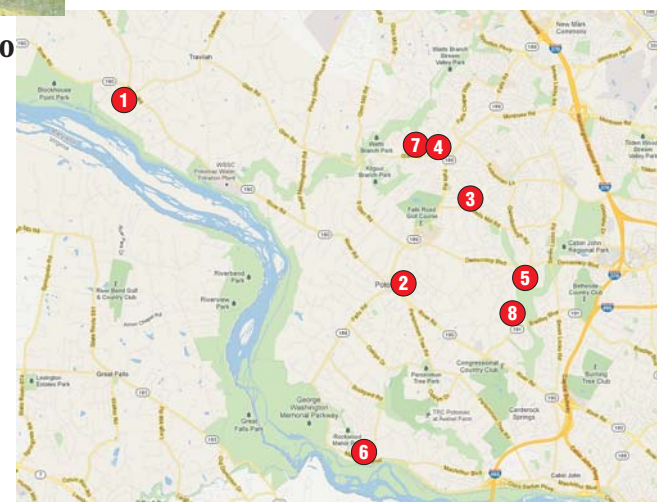
6 7201 Masters Drive, Potomac — \$985,000



8 9465 Tobin Circle, Potomac — \$915,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	.....	Postal	City ..	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold	
1 12413 RIVERS EDGE DR	4	..	5	..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,095,000	Detached	....	2.12	.....	20854	RIVERS EDGE	06/15/12
2 9908 BLUEGRASS RD	5	..	4	..	3	POTOMAC	\$1,085,000	Detached	....	0.66	.....	20854	POTOMAC VILLAGE	06/18/12
3 11136 WILLOWBROOK DR	4	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,055,000	Detached	....	0.35	.....	20854	NORMANDY HILLS	06/15/12
4 11801 AMBLESIDE DR	5	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,035,000	Detached	....	0.44	.....	20854	ROBERTS GLEN	06/05/12
5 8261 BUCKSPARK LN W	6	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC	\$1,001,500	Detached	....	0.34	.....	20854	RIDGELEIGH	06/04/12
6 7201 MASTERS DR	5	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC	\$985,000	Detached	....	0.44	.....	20854	RIVER FALLS	06/08/12
7 9800 BROOKFORD RD	4	..	3	..	2	POTOMAC	\$975,000	Detached	....	0.38	.....	20854	GLEN OAKS	06/13/12
8 9465 TOBIN CIR	5	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$915,000	Detached	0.48	20854	MCAULEY PARK	06/29/12

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© Google Map data

Organic Farmer Sent Packing?

FROM PAGE 3

more important than it is right now.”

On Monday, Aug. 6, Leggett announced a new program to support farmers that emphasizes the need for farmers to have long-term access to their land.

“Our region has an ever-increasing demand for sustainable, local food — food that nourishes our children, reclaims our environment and provides meaning employment within the County,” said Leggett. “The New Farmer Pilot Project will give new farmers a head start by matching them with private

land owners and a support network that enables them to grow their businesses.”

But whatever the court system ultimately decides, the County School Board made itself clear in court on Tuesday.

“The County Board of Education has determined that it does not wish to lease its land to Nick’s Organic Farm,” according to Clancy and Koger.

Save Nick’s Organic Farm scheduled a farm tour, a dinner, and a rally for Wednesday, Aug. 15, on what could be the last night of the organic farm.

‘It Wasn’t a Sustainable Place To Live’

FROM PAGE 2

ability to do more to hold Pepco accountable.

“You have enabled Pepco to wreak havoc in our lives,” said Milstein. “Let us hope you have finally heard us.”

Stan Croydon, who has multiple sclerosis, suggested Pepco could have paid for backup generators or equipment for thousands of residents with disabilities with the money spent on advertising.

“The arrogance, the self aggrandizing is a very expensive and a very insulting rhetoric,” said Catherine Pickar, Town of Somerset councilmember. “Tell them to fix it. Fix it soon. But not on the backs

of our rate payers.” “Thank you for coming in here and taking our outrage,” said Ed Levine, of Bethesda. “That’s the nicest thing I’m going to be saying today. In my neighborhood, when the clouds move in front of the sun, we lose power.”

Written public comments should be sent by Sept. 10 to David J. Collins, Executive Secretary, Maryland Public Service Commission, William Donald Schaefer Tower, 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor, Baltimore, Md. 21202.

Contact Regina L. Davis of the Public Service Commission at rdavis@psc.state.md.us or at 410-767-8054.

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PHOTO BY LISA BARBER

Off to Iowa

Area residents, from left, Steve Benz, David DePorter, Kelsey DePorter, Catherine Benz, Dillon Martin, Karl Benz, Brendan Barber, Mario Finelli and Jim Mahaffie head to Iowa every summer for the Registers Annual Bike Ride/Race Across Iowa. This is the 40th anniversary of RAGBRAI. The group left July 19.

THIS WEEK IN POTOMAC

FROM PAGE 2

1,200 pages long — to modernize antiquated, redundant zoning regulations and create new tools to help achieve goals in community plans, according to the Montgomery County Planning Department.

“The revised code — which will be considered by the Planning Board in a number of work sessions before going to the County Council for review early in 2013 — is expected to reduce the number of zones, clarify what uses are permitted in each zone, and rethink 1950s-era commercial strips and office parks,” according to Planning Board officials.

Planners have released a consolidated draft com-

binning all of those sections and seek input before taking a revised draft to the Planning Board for consideration in September and throughout the fall.

The draft Zoning Code covers what’s permitted in each zone, how one can build, and the process by which development is reviewed and approved. It consolidates 123 existing zones into less than 40 proposed zones and seeks to ensure consistency with current height and density rules as well as recommendations in each community’s Master Plan.

Download the draft at www.zoningmontgomery.org. Feedback is encouraged at the Zoning Rewrite Project’s online comment board.

OPEN HOUSES IN POTOMAC AUGUST 18 & 19

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Potomac (20854)

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For an Open House Listing Form, call Deb Funk at 703-778-9444 or e-mail debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com
All listings due by Monday at 3 P.M.



Churchill head coach Cay Miller instructs the Bulldogs during practice.



Jenn Shim, left, and Alyssa Weiss lead the Churchill field hockey team onto the field for practice.

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Shim, Weiss Lead Churchill Field Hockey in 2012

Bulldogs looking to build on 2011 region runner-up finish.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

Churchill teammates Jenn Shim and Alyssa Weiss competed in a drill called "stealing the bacon" during a recent field hockey camp. With a ball placed between them, the Bulldog rising seniors charged at one another in hopes of arriving first and gaining control. Instead, they crashed into each other and Shim's goggles dug into Weiss' left cheek, leaving a wound that required three stitches.

"It was not good," Shim said.

While offseason hustle and hard work will aid Shim and Weiss as they lead the Churchill field hockey team's effort to build on a breakout 2011 season, they are likely hoping for a less painful result.

Churchill won its first eight games last season and earned the No. 1 seed in the 4A West Region. The Bulldogs defeated North-

west and Wootton to reach the region final, but fell short against Bethesda-Chevy Chase. Churchill's 12-3 final record and region runner-up finish constituted quite the improvement over its 4-9 mark and first-round playoff exit in 2010.

"Last year when we started winning games, it was amazing," Weiss said. "As we kept going, we kept winning and were like 'We can do this,' and we really set our sights on being strong and having a top seed. Every game was a confidence booster."

One year later, the Bulldogs, minus nine graduated seniors, have increased expectations.

"I think we're really confident going into the season and everyone is so excited," Weiss said. "Coming off of last year, we have so much momentum and we feel more comfortable with each other."

Shim tied for the team lead in scoring last season, producing 12 goals and 13 assists.

The junior captain was also 2 for 2 in strokes. She will likely be the focal point of opposing defenses this year, something Shim said is motivation.

"It just pushes me," she said, "to work harder and go all out."

"The experience of getting to the regional finals last year was a great experience and the girls who were a part of the program for that last year now have that expectation of themselves — 'Oh, we can do this and let's work hard to try to get to this point again.'"

— Churchill field hockey coach Cay Miller

Head coach Cay Miller spoke highly of Shim's leadership.

"She's a leader in the game, she's a leader in practice and she's a leader off the field," Miller said.

"She does a really good job of bringing the team together."

Miller calls Weiss a "scrappy" player with strong tackling skills as a defender.

"She's really good at just stripping the ball from players," Miller said, "and her knowl-

edge of the game is incredible."

Senior defender Allie Amoroso and junior midfielder Jamie Lescht figure to be key contributors for Churchill, along with senior goalkeeper Melanie Maino and senior midfielder Mary Lee Lawrence. Seniors Christina Michaels, Catherine Roberts and Sara Gallagher each have experience.

Churchill opens the 2012 season at home against Wheaton at 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 31, followed by road games against Einstein (Sept. 5)

and B-CC (Sept. 12).

Churchill has been on the big stage, reaching last year's region final. Now the Bulldogs will try to find a way to get back.

"The experience of getting to the regional finals last year was a great experience," Miller said, "and the girls who were a part of the program for that last year now have that expectation of themselves — 'Oh, we can do this and let's work hard to try to get to this point again.'"

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

A preschool open house will be held at **Christ Episcopal School** on Wednesday, Aug. 22 at 9 a.m. The preschool educates students two through 4 in nurturing, inquiry-based classes.

Limited spots remain open for the 2012-13 school year. Guests should RSVP by calling 301-424-6550 or visiting www.ces-rockville.org.

Emilie Plesset of Winston Churchill and **Joe Sageman** of Bullis School were two of 11 local high school journalists participating in a free weeklong online journalism workshop hosted by the Washington Post Young Journalists

Development Program. Workshop topics include beginner and intermediate level news writing, story development, interviewing, reporting, video editing and more.

Joy Suslov was named to the Spring 2012's dean's list at Westminster Choir College of Rider University. Joy is from Potomac and is a music education major.

The following Montgomery County students recently graduated from Salisbury University. North Potomac area residents include **Mayra Cruz**, B.S., biology, B.S., pre medical studies; **Mariah Baughman**, B.A., English; **Zachary Eckstein**, B.A., psychology; and **Sofia Linshitz**, B.A., English, B.A., international studies. Potomac area residents include **Mariya Berge**, B.A., English, magna cum laude; **Jonas**

Gottlieb, B.A., communication arts; **Kevin Kavounis**, B.A., psychology; and **Kevin Motamedi**, B.S., finance.

Tania Yavari of Potomac received a bachelor of science degree in biological sciences from the College of Science at the Virginia Tech's spring commencement ceremony held May 11.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES KEGLEY

Students at the Norwood School in Potomac work in the Lower School computer lab. Education experts say the start of a new school year can be both exciting and stressful.

Time for School

Advice on how to transition from a laid-back summer to a hectic academic year.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Ellen Feldman's 5-year-old son started school for last fall, one of the biggest adjustments for the single mother of two was having to adhere to a schedule.

"All of a sudden we went from being able to do things on our own time frame to having to wake up and be at a certain place at a certain time," said Feldman. "Sending my son off to school for the first time was exciting, but also difficult."

From purchasing school supplies and new clothes to reuniting with friends and leaving home for the first time, the start of a new school year can bring about emotions that range from delight to anxiety.

"Back to school, which is a positive experience, has stress built into it," said Linda Gulyn, a professor of psychology at Marymount University in Arlington. "Any change is stressful, even a positive change. But kids will adapt quickly." The transition, said experts, is more manageable when parents develop a plan before the first day of classes.

Michele Claey, associate head and middle school principal at the Norwood School in Potomac, Md., believes that final days of summer break can be an ideal time for an academic brush-up: "There are often skills that aren't used throughout the summer, but are important as school starts. Having children of all ages read as much as possible for pleasure throughout the summer, but also in the days leading up to the start of school, is a good idea because it is a sustained experience where they are focused on something for a long period time." Claey also recommended giving children an opportunity to discuss their reading with friends.

EXPERTS ALSO SUGGEST establishing a sleep routine with a consistent bedtime. "If parents get started a full week ahead of time trying to get children into the routine of being awake and alert for the morning, it gives them a chance to get their bodies adjusted to the schedule that they will have to maintain for the whole year," said Claey.

Reintroducing a back-to-school morning ritual can be an anxiety-inducing exercise for some, especially after two months without a rigid agenda. According



Michele Claey, associate head and middle school principal at the Norwood School in Potomac encourages parents to help children see school as a fun place in which to learn.

to professional organizers, a tactical plan can make the daybreak drill more pleasant.

"Do as much as you can the night before. For parents who pack their kids lunches, it is important to have things ready to go and put in bags," said Anderson. For children who want the freedom of packing their own lunches, Anderson recommended dividing lunch options into food group and allowing children to select one item from each group.

"You want to give your child a balanced meal," she said. "One day there might be tuna sandwiches, and turkey sandwiches on another day, and whatever snack goes along with it like cut-up vegetables. Have those ready to go and in bins and let children choose one thing from each bin. That way kids will have more ownership over their lunches and there will be few complaints."

Don't underestimate the importance of breakfast either: "A child won't have all faculties for learning if they haven't eaten well," said Anderson. "Some kids don't

have lunch until 1 o'clock, so to go from 6 a.m. until 1 o'clock without food is tough."

TO AVOID a last-minute morning search for errant permission slips or stray report cards, Vienna-based professional organizer Susan Unger of ClutterSOS urges parents to create a command center, a central location where all papers that must be signed and returned to school are kept. She adds that a chart outlining the morning tasks is another useful tool: "If children have a check list to look at, they can ask themselves, 'Have I brushed my teeth?' or 'Have I combed my hair?' The night before, choose clothes and put the backpack by the door."

Use a family calendar. "Another important thing is having a calendar that lists activities and sporting events and putting it in a place where everybody can see it and everybody knows the schedule," said Unger. "It also helps to color-code the calendar, so have one color for each child."

One of the most important components of creating a good start to a new school year is attitude, education experts agree. "Generally, it is helpful if parents help children see school as a fun, happy place where they can be stimulated and learn," said Claey.

Be a part of our **Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

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A Pill a Day...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Hopefully will keep the cancer at bay.
(I'd say "away," but let's be realistic, three
and a half years past a NSCLC diagnosis,
there is no way, generally speaking, that
stage IV lung cancer disappears into the
ether; it's classified as stage IV for a rea-
son. However, there are many – and var-
ied – non-traditional and not particularly
Western and/or A.M.A./American Cancer
Society-approved alternatives to fight this
insidious disease, many of which, about
20 or so, I have incorporated into my
overall treatment regimen. Moreover, if
my continuing survival reflects anything, it
is an affirmation of what former N.C. State
basketball coach Jim Valvano said in 1993,
in one of his last public appearances
before succumbing to bone cancer, on
ESPN's inaugural ESPYs Award show, as
the first recipient of the "Arthur Ashe
Courage and Humanitarian Award":
"Don't give up, don't ever give up." And
so I haven't.)

Besides, where's the future in giving up
or giving in? That's not to infer that the last
few years haven't been incredibly chal-
lenging, because they have. Emotionally
for sure, physically not quite as much.
Although chemotherapy is all it's cracked
up to be; some treatment (drugs) were
definitely worse (side effects/quality of life)
than others. Fortunately for me, amazingly
in fact, through it all, I have been relatively
asymptomatic with minimal/manageable
side-effects and zero hospitalizations.
Nevertheless, cancer's reputation as a kil-
ler is well-documented and hardly the
kind of diagnosis one can ever take with a
grain of salt – maybe better taken with a
grain of alcohol.

Every day, every doctor's appointment,
every scan, every time you have your
blood drawn, every change in how you
think and how you feel, relate to the
undeniable fact (and believe me, I've tried
to deny it; it's a good defense/self-preser-
vation mechanism) that you (meaning me)
have cancer, and not just a garden variety,
but rather the incurable kind, according to
my oncologist: stage IV. Defined as metas-
tased, inoperable, with a "13-month to
two-year prognosis." (Given to me late
February, 2009.)

But here I am, still. I have outlived my
prognosis (but hopefully not my useful-
ness) by a significant – to me, length of
time: years, depending how you calculate.
However, does that significance move me
closer than ever to the end of my writing
all these lines? I don't want to think that,
but whatever cancer does to you physi-
cally, it's equally bad – in my experi-
ence/opinion on your mind/thought proc-
ess. Thinking straight, thinking clearly,
thinking objectively, thinking unselfishly;
all become collateral damage as a result of
your cancer diagnosis. Fighting through
these difficult-to-control emotions is the
bane of my existence, an existence I'm
lucky to still have. My next CT Scan is in
September, two months after I will have
been taking my daily "targeted therapy"
chemotherapy-type pill. Then I'll know
how I really feel. Until then, life goes on.
And so far, this pill seems not to be making
a bad situation any worse; a non-side
effect for which I am extremely grateful.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for
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Selected works of Turkish watercolorist, Gul Bozacioglu will be featured on Saturday, Aug. 18 and Sunday, Aug. 19, 2012 at the Yellow Barn Art Gallery in Glen Echo Park. The Gallery is located at 7300 MacArthur Boulevard and will be open from noon to 5 p.m. both days. A reception for the artist will be held 5-7 p.m. on Saturday. The artist is known in Turkey for her use of watercolors in capturing Istanbul's timeless landscapes and the mood of its inhabitants. Istanbul: A Lover's Gaze includes approximately 40 paintings and is the artist's first one-person show in the United States.

Email community entertainment events to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos and artwork encouraged.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 15

UkeFest 2012. 7 p.m. Part of Strathmore's Free Summer Outdoor Concert Series. At the Gudelsky Concert Pavilion at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Ln. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

THURSDAY/AUG. 16

Blues and Swing Dance. 9-11:30 p.m. In the Back Room at Glen Echo Park. Beginner lesson at 8:15 p.m. DJ Mike Marcotte & Guests will play a variety of blues music. \$8. No partner required. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231, email info@CapitalBlues.org or visit www.CapitalBlues.org. The Back Room entrance is located on the far left side of the Spanish Ballroom. 7300 MacArthur Blvd.

SATURDAY/AUG. 18

Art Show. The selected works of Turkish watercolorist, Gul Bozacioglu will be featured at the Yellow Barn Art Gallery in Glen Echo Park. The exhibit is open from noon-5 p.m. A reception for the artist will be held at 5-7 p.m. The exhibition, titled Istanbul: A Lover's Gaze will be Bozacioglu's first show in the United States. Contact the Yellow Barn Gallery, at 301-371-5593.

SUNDAY/AUG. 19

Tree Identification Walk. River Center at Lock 8, 7906 Riverside Dr. Go on a walk with tree expert Laura Miller to identify different types of trees. Contact Hannah Larson at larson@potomac.org.

Wilderness 101. River Center at Lock 8, 7906 Riverside Dr. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Free wilderness outdoor safety class.

Art Show. The selected works of Turkish watercolorist, Gul Bozacioglu will be featured at the Yellow Barn Art Gallery in Glen Echo Park. The exhibit is open from noon to 5 p.m. The exhibition, titled Istanbul: A Lover's Gaze will be Bozacioglu's first show in the United States. Contact the Yellow Barn Gallery, at 301-371-5593.

Canal Stewards Service Activity. 10 a.m.-noon. Meet at the River Center to clean up the lockhouse area and the nearby towpath. Cleanup is open to all ages. Necessary supplies provided. Activities include picking up trash, vegetable pruning, or repairing the towpath and trails. At River Center at Lock 8, 7906 Riverside Dr. Contact Anne Sundermann at sundermann@potomac.org or 301-608-1188 x208.

THURSDAY/AUG. 23

Potomac Cuddleups. Potomac Library. 10101 Glenolden Dr. 10:30 am. Stories, songs and rhymes for babies from birth to 11 months and their caregivers. No registration required.

Children's Fashion Show. Free. Join Shoe Train, the rest of the CJ Center and Mall stores and MCPS at "Flip into Fashion," a fun-for-families fashion show event. Entertainment includes music, games and dancers. To register, visit www.shoetrainpotomac.com. Cabin John Shopping Center, 11325 Seven Locks.

Blues and Swing Dance. 9-11:30 p.m. In the Back Room at Glen Echo Park. Beginner lesson at 8:15 p.m. DJ Mike Marcotte & Guests will play a variety of blues music. \$8. No partner required. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231, email info@CapitalBlues.org or visit www.CapitalBlues.org. The Back Room entrance is located on the far left side of the Spanish Ballroom. 7300 MacArthur Blvd.

FRIDAY/AUG. 24

Bay Jazz Project with Mary Alouette at the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park. A drop-in beginner swing lesson will be from 8:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. and the dance goes from 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. The Bay Jazz Project features experienced musicians and singers in the area, such as Sean Lane, Seth Kibel, Bob Abbot, Mark Lucas, and Mary Alouette.

SATURDAY/AUG. 25

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. til midnight. Admission is \$15. One-hour lesson from 8-9 p.m. With the Tom Cunningham Orchestra. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Visit www.tomcunningham.com/calendar.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 1

Fundraiser hosted by the Potomac Bridle and Hiking Trail Association. The evening party and dinner will benefit the group's effort to maintain the hiking and equestrian trails of the greater Potomac area. The event will be hosted at Callithea Farms in Potomac, with musical performances by Alan Bennett and Bruce Hartley, along with Poole's famous BBQ sandwiches. Starts at 6:30 p.m. Visit pbhta.org or call 301-762-7214.

Gas House Gorillas blues band at the Bumper Car Pavilion in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Glen Echo, MD 20812. Drop-in beginner swing lesson from 8-9 p.m., then the dance goes until midnight. \$15 per person.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 4

Chinese Language Book Club. 6-8 p.m. Potomac Library. 10101 Glenolden Dr. Chinese book discussion in Chinese language. "1776" by David McCullough. Ask for the books at the Circulation Desk. No registration required.

UkeFest Returns to Strathmore's Free Summer Series

Summertime strumming at its harmony-happy Hawaiian best: that's this year's edition of UkeFest as Strathmore takes the uke back to its roots with emcees Marcy Marxer and Cathy Fink leading an ensemble of local strummers and performers straight from the Aloha State in a free luau-themed blowout on Wednesday, Aug. 15 at 7 p.m. Performers will lead a free pre-show strum for community members at 6 p.m. Cathy and Marcy's cadre of Hawaiian strummers includes Moanalani and Keola Beamer and the Hula Honeys making rare East Coast appearances, along with Bruce Hutton and a host of other D.C.-area musicians. In response to 2011's record-breaking attendance at UkeFest—more than 2,100 attendees swarmed the Mansion lawn—Strathmore introduced the new four-day Uke and Guitar Summit for players of all experience levels to marshal their skills before UkeFest.

Sharing generations of Hawaiian musical tradition are Keola Beamer and his wife, Moanalani. His musicianship honed by five generations of one of Hawaii's most illustrious and beloved musical families—his great-grandmother Helen Desha Beamer and mother Winona Beamer were cultural treasures—Keola is known as a master of the Hawaiian slack key guitar and, with Moanalani, the ukelele.

A child of the rock and roll era, Keola blends traditional Hawaiian music with contemporary sounds—recording more than 20 albums and making appearances on Sesame Street and NBC's Today Show.

Longtime friends Ginger Johnson and Robyn Kneubuhl make up Maui's Hula Honeys, blending vintage Hapa Haole songs with jazz classics to create a swinging sound all their own. A founding member of the Double Decker String Band, Bruce Hutton plays a staggering variety of instruments, from banjos, guitars, mandolins, lap dulcimers, mouth bow and kazoo to the uke. His performances and recordings have received critical acclaim in the United States, Canada, England, Germany and Japan. Bruce is dedicated with sharing his craft with young people—he has appeared in over 1,500 schools throughout the

East Coast. Also performing in the festival is Gerald Ross, a uke soloist known for his infectious good humor and blending of jazz, blues and swing.

Takoma Park's House of Musical Traditions will sell ukuleles on site for concert-goers. Strathmore is partnering with Hungry for Music at UkeFest to help put instruments in the hands

of eager young people. Donations of used but well-loved instruments are welcome and tax deductible.

Attendees of the Uke and Guitar Summit learned Hula, lei-making, Hawaiian culture, history and traditions, while enhancing their musicianship on slack key guitar, tenor guitar and ukulele. Summit instructors were the Hula Honeys, Moanalani and Keola Beamer, Bruce Hutton, Marcy Marxer and Cathy Fink. In addition to hands-on classes with uke experts, the Summit encouraged extemporaneous playing with jam sessions, song circles and open mics for students to exercise and share their talents.

Details

UkeFest

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2012
7 p.m. (with pre-show strum at 6 p.m.)
Concert is free, no tickets required.

For Free Summer Outdoor Concerts, parking is available at meters along Tuckerman Lane or for \$5 in the Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro garage, payable by credit card or SmartTrip card. Enter at Tuckerman Lane. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket or a low beach chair. Food and beverages are available from the Restaurant Associates BBQ Shack. Dogs are not permitted at outdoor concerts.

Music Center at Strathmore

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