

Potomac ALMANAC

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Organizers of the Potomac
Community Village are, from
left, Nelly Urbach, Jane Blocher
and Shirley Dominitz.

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

JANUARY 23-29, 2013

ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM

THIS WEEK IN POTOMAC

Budget Forums

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett (D) will hold budget forums in January and February to solicit input from the public about the Fiscal Year 2014 operating budget priorities. Residents can attend the forums and provide input; predicted budget shortfalls are likely to result in cuts to county services.

Leggett is scheduled to propose his operating budget on March 15. The County Council approves the FY 14 operating budget at the end of May.

Forums are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. on the following dates:

- ❖ Jan. 28, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Service Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda

- ❖ Jan. 29, Silver Spring Civic Building, One Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring

- ❖ Feb. 4, Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring.

Call at least three days in advance to request sign language interpreter services or other adaptive aids at 240-777-6507, TTY 240-777-6505 or email a request to karen.falcon@montgomerycountymd.gov.

No Fee for Dog Parks

Dog owners no longer have to pay an annual \$40 dog park permit fee to use county dog parks, including the one at Cabin John Regional Park.

To compensate for budget cuts, the fee was initiated in July 2010. However, the parks department has eliminated the fee after noticing a decline in the use of the dog parks.

"Dog parks are such an important resource to the residents of this county, and we regularly receive

requests for more," according to Mary Bradford, Director of Montgomery County Department of Parks. "Our parks have come to serve as 'backyards' for many residents as our county continues to urbanize. Dog owners should have a free, public place to play with and exercise their dogs."

Montgomery Parks' five fenced dog parks are located in Cabin John Regional Park, Black Hill Regional Park in Boyds, Olney Manor Recreational Park, Ridge Road Recreational Park in Germantown and Wheaton Regional Park. Dogs must be on leash in other Montgomery County public parks.

The Cabin John Dog Park, a half-acre park with a six-foot chain link fence, is located at 10900 Westlake Drive in Potomac. The facility is open for use sunrise to sunset, but is closed Tuesdays from 9-11 a.m. for maintenance. Dog-park users are encouraged to use the Westlake Drive parking lot.

A survey conducted as part of the 2012 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan indicated a need for more dog parks. Planning is currently underway to identify new sites for the dog parks — perhaps as many as 12 new ones — on park property.

For questions or comments related to the discontinuation of the dog park permit program, contact the Park Permits Office by email at MCP-ParkPermits@mncppc-mc.org or by phone at 301-495-2525.

Firearms, Mental Illness

Maryland's Task Force to Study Access of Individuals with Mental Illness to Regulated Firearms sent its report to the Governor and the General Assembly on Jan. 2.

SEE THE WEEK IN POTOMAC, PAGE 9

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Attending 57th Inauguration

Many brave crowds to witness history.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

Local residents were among the hundreds of thousands who left their homes on a cold winter holiday, Jan. 21, to brave packed Metro trains and slow-moving security check points for a chance to celebrate and witness President Barack Obama's second inauguration.

Standing among a sea of waving American flags that stretched beyond the Washington Monument, area residents say their reasons for wanting to attend the second swearing-in ceremony ranged from pride to curiosity. Their emotions ranged from joy to frustration.

Potomac, Md., resident Marjorie Goldman attended President Obama's first inauguration and was proud to witness his second. "This time a lot of people brought their young kids. It was a lot of fun," said Goldman, who is on the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee. "The crowd was large, but you a shared common purpose."

Goldman, who volunteered for the inaugural committee's transportation team as driver, attended with her husband Mitchell Stabbe and daughters Meredith, 17, and Dylan, 19. "I think Barack Obama is a terrific president and I was so glad to be there today," she said. "I thought his speech was measured and inspirational and gave an indication of where he's going."

Marcia Chamblin says she left her home and arrived at the Vienna, Va., Metro station at 5:30



Potomac resident Marjorie Goldman attended President Barack Obama's second inauguration with her husband Mitchell Stabbe and daughters Meredith, 17, and Dylan, 19.

a.m. to avoid crowded trains. "I am a huge Obama supporter," she said. "President Obama's speech was very inspirational and inclusive for all Americans. I am so proud to be an American and witness this historical day."

Some people came hoping to hear the president's plans on specific issues. "I was very interested in what he had to say about immigration reform," said Arnon Alom, a Fairfax engineer who immigrated to the United States from Bangladesh.

SEE WITNESS HISTORY, PAGE 4

Aging in Place

Fulfilling the mission of 'Potomac Community Village'

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Plan to attend informational meeting about aging in place 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 29 at Congregation Har Shalom.

Potomac's Nelly Urbach served as director of the Walter Reed Senior Center in Arlington, Va., for 30 years. While working, she kept "The Village Movement" on her radar — the concept of establishing and managing villages to enable people to remain living in their own homes and communities as they age. After she retired, she asked herself, "What will I do if Potomac does not have a senior village when I need it?" With that goal in mind, she began the process of establishing the "Potomac Community Village" as part of Montgomery County's Aging in Place movement.

Aging in Place addresses a dilemma many seniors are facing of how to remain in their Potomac homes and community near family and friends as they get older. They want to continue in as many activities as possible, but may require support. Many don't want to end up in an age-segregated, isolated retirement community.

The village concept encourages and supports seniors to "age in place" — to remain at home in familiar intergenerational neighborhoods while maintaining their independence, activities and social lives. In addition, the program promotes a stronger, more vital community because it unites residents

through volunteerism, neighborly acts and working together for the common goal of improving relationships within a community. The biggest advantage is that older adults can maintain the lifestyle they desire by remaining in their homes

"The village concept is a community of neighbors who both give and receive help as needed. Although services are targeted to older people, members of the village can be of all ages. We want to encourage people who represent all segments of the Potomac Community to become involved," Urbach said.

"Some of the proposed services being discussed for the Potomac Community Village are transportation, simple household chores, socialization, referrals to reliable service providers, neighborhood respite care, welcoming new residents, intergenerational reciprocity, telephone reassurance and technology assistance," she said.

Leslie Marks, who produced "The Village Blueprint" for Montgomery County said, "Every village must have a core group of people who want to make the village concept work. Everyone involved must be vested. If an 80-year-old woman needs transportation to the doctor, then she can be called upon to perform other tasks for the community; it might be reading to children, addressing envelopes, organizing information — everyone has a skill and a talent. The idea is neighbors helping neighbors."

SEE AGING, PAGE 9

Many Local Implications in County's Zoning Rewrite

Four-year project moves from Planning Board to County Council.

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

Earlier this month when Callum Murray, the county's chief planner for Potomac, spoke to the West Montgomery County Citizens Association, he told the group that the rewrite of the zoning code was about to move from planning to County Council.

The Montgomery County Planning Board has rewritten the county's Zoning Code, which guides all development and building in the county, to remove antiquated or redundant regulations and to help achieve

goals in community plans, like the Potomac Master Plan.

The revised Zoning Code will cover what is permitted in each zone, and the process by which development is reviewed and approved.

The new draft, which the Planning Board transmitted to County Council earlier this month, proposes to:

- ❖ Consolidate 123 existing zones into 30 proposed zones
- ❖ Ensure consistency with existing height and density rules
- ❖ Retain consistency with recommendations in master plans

❖ Make the code easier to use by adding diagrams and clearer text.

What is unknown at this point, Murray said, is what the unintended consequences of the rewrite will be. Some effects of changes of zoning can become clear as the language is applied, and it is the unintended consequences that will be noteworthy, he said.

The council's Planning, Housing & Economic Development (PHED) has at least two worksessions in February and two in March devoted to the Zoning rewrite.

The draft proposes new categories of floating zones and changes to the Commer-

cial/Residential zone, according to Stuart R. Barr, a land-use and zoning attorney at Lerch, Early & Brewer, a law firm in Bethesda.

"The current draft also proposes updated parking standards, open space standards, and buffering and screening requirements," Barr writes on the firm's website. "The draft also adds an entirely new category of uses — limited uses — that fill the gap between permitted-by-right uses and special exception uses."

These conditional uses with certain set and identified standards, would "be allowed in particular zones provided that certain standards are met that are shy of the onerous requirements of the special exception process," according to Barr.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Luxury Home Trends: The Kitchen Bedroom

One of the newer trends in the luxury homes market is the kitchen bedroom amenity: a miniature kitchen, built into the master bedroom suite to provide the convenience of mid-night snacking or intimate meals in the privacy of the bedroom. This type of bedroom upgrade is sometimes called a breakfast, coffee or morning bar and its features can range from a simple alcove with mini-fridge and microwave to an elaborate room design with fully equipped small-scale kitchen. Some even feature a built-in wine storage area or single-range stovetop Murphy kitchen, where clever cabinetry allows the consumer to hide the whole unit away after use. The possibilities are limitless when it comes to designing a kitchen bedroom. The idea behind this type of room design is to promote a sense of luxury, convenience and intimacy, bringing the master suite into the domain of a retreat within the home. For luxury homes with a large amount of square footage, a secondary kitchen can be located within the master suite or elsewhere in the house that is convenient to smaller-scale culinary needs and provide a sense of ease to homeowners. Price tags vary according to location, construction, cabinetry and amenities, making a kitchen suite upgrade commensurate with the needs and desires of the homeowner. Kitchen suites and secondary kitchens are unique features that can add to home value while providing the next level of lifestyle quality in the ensuing years. From basic upgrade to full-scale remodeling project, the kitchen bedroom can be positioned anywhere from the basement to outdoors to the upper floors of a home—even a modest home can get the luxury treatment by the addition of a secondary kitchen or kitchen suite. From a midnight snack to a midnight feeding, this addition to your home ensures you won't have to travel far for a warm bottle, hot coffee, a cold drink or to raid the leftovers. To take your luxury home up a notch, or to bring your home into the realm of luxury living, consider converting extra space into a secondary kitchen, and bring convenience and comfort into any room, saving yourself steps and hassle, and letting guests and family sleep undisturbed while you treat yourself to a midnight meal!

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BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY/JAN. 30

Open House. 8:30-10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Mercy School, 9222 Kentsdale Drive. For parents of prospective students. 301-365-4477.

SATURDAY/FEB. 9

Fourth Annual Cecily's Advocacy Workshop. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at McLean School of Maryland, 8224 Lochinver Lane. Get tools and information on how to help children, students and clients that are non-traditional learners. Visit www.mcleanschool.org for more.

SATURDAY/FEB. 23

Mini-Conference. Montgomery County Master Gardeners is holding its conference at Agricultural History Farm Park, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood. Enjoy a day-long event with workshops, door prizes, networking and more. Registration ends Feb. 15. \$50 or \$90/two people. E-mail mgminiconference@gmail.com.

ONGOING

Alzheimer's Association support groups provide a place for people with Alzheimer's, their caregivers, family members, and/or friends to share valuable information, caregiving tips and concerns throughout the Alzheimer's journey. Groups are facilitated by trained



PHOTO BY COLLEEN HEALY/THE ALMANAC

Artists' Reception

The Art Gallery of Potomac is hosting an open reception on Saturday, Jan. 26 from 5-7 p.m. The show will feature paintings by the resident artists. The gallery is located at 9945 Falls Road in Potomac. It is has relocated within the same shopping center and is now next to Big Wheel Bikes behind Walgreens. Call 240-447-9417 or 301-765-7617. Hours are Thursday-Sunday 12-4 p.m. For more information go to www.theartgalleryofpotomac.com.

group leaders and are ongoing, free and open to the community. Call the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 703-359-4440 or 800-272-3900 before attending a group for the first time to verify meeting information, obtain directions or other information about the group. A complete list of all groups in the National Capital Area region can be viewed at www.alz.org/nca.

Zumba at Village Yoga. An easy-to-

follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party. Classes are Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. and Saturdays 11:30 a.m. 10154 River Road. Call 301-299-1948.

Beginner's Yoga Classes at Village Yoga. Village Yoga is adding a new Beginner's Yoga Class, Mondays, 8 p.m. Continues Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Beginner's Gentle Flow class as well. 10154 River Road. 301-299-1948. Visit www.villageyogayogi.com.

Many Brave Crowds To Witness History

FROM PAGE 3

Others came out of a sense of pride and responsibility. "It is an historic event and is part of my civic duty," said Girl Scout leader Genea Luck of Alexandria. "I have to set a good example [for the] girls and practice what I preach."

Arlington resident Angela Harris, who is African American, says she came so her 5-year-old twin daughters could witness history. "I am happy that my children have two girls in the White House who look like them," she said. "I thought it was important for them to see that there really is no limit to what you can achieve in this country."

The warmer temperatures and smaller crowd made the president's second swearing in more pleasurable than the first for some.

"During the last inauguration it was so cold and there were so many people that you could barely move," said Marley Harmon of McLean. "It was not nearly as cold this time around and we actually had elbow room, so it was more comfortable."

For some, the second swearing in ceremony was also more important than the first. "It is still historic this time, but reality has set in," said Jackie Jackson of Reston. "The fact that he was elected for a second term means that he is more than just a fad riding a wave of enthusiasm. It means that he is a smart, solid president."

Others pointed to a few glitches in the ceremony: Kelley Green of Centreville, said her inauguration experience was marred by an anti-abortion protester who climbed a tree near the Capitol and shouted anti-Democratic messages throughout most of the service.

"It was disrespectful and disruptive, and distracted from the speech and the singing," said Green. "He yelled the whole time. I wondered why the police wouldn't just Taser him, but I guess he has a right to free speech."

The doyenne of household hints and former Arlington resident Heloise, who was in town for the Home and Remodeling Show in Chantilly, was also in the crowd. "[His speech] wasn't Earth-shattering, but it is appropriate and what you'd expect to hear," she said.

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JT Interiors Opens in Potomac

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Featuring custom window treatments, art and furniture.

The new JT Interiors is located in the historic Potomac House at 9906 River Road in the heart of Potomac Village.

Owner Terri Downs describes her new site as a “great old house. I was excited when it became available. We were in the Kentlands since 2004, but closed that shop in 2010, leaving the design service open in a smaller space. I always wanted the feel of a free-standing older home and have been looking for a long time. This was formerly an antique store. We renovated the entire indoor space and added a large parking lot out back. This space will showcase our custom window treatments, art and furniture.”

A long-time Kentlands resident, Downs also owns home interior store Savannah’s and Downs and Company, a shop that specializes in gifts, garden and gourmet. Both are located in Leesburg, Va.

In 2008, the Kentlands’ JT Interiors was named one of the “Top 50 Stores We Love” in Montgomery County by Bethesda Magazine. Several homes decorated by JT Interiors were featured on the Kentlands Home and Garden tours. “Many of our Kentlands



The new home of JT Interiors.



A welcoming sign.

and Lakelands clients followed us to Leesburg,” said Downs. “Now that we have reopened in Potomac, it is my goal to again offer our customers design services as well as beautiful upscale gifts that you cannot find in the mall or in a box store.”

JT Interiors is a full-service design company that provides design consultants and skilled craftsmen to update and decorate homes. One of their areas of expertise is window treatments, but they also provide

carpenters, faux-finishers and other home decorating specialists. Besides Downs, Interior Designers Fay Brown Johnson and Chris Mendoza are available for design consultations.

JT Interiors is also a gift and home accessory center. “We feature upscale home décor items that other gift stores in the area don’t carry,” said sales assistant Lauren Gregory. “We carry silver from Michael Aram, ceramic dinnerware and glass by Juliska, fine

linens from Anali, Kat Burki Candles, Saxon Chocolates and much more. We provide unique hostess gifts and the perfect wedding gift. We also carry Spartini Jewelry and will soon feature scarves and leather clutches.”

Sales assistant Melissa Keepers added, “We also have a room dedicated to teas and tea services and we feature gorgeous cookbooks and stationary. We also create fabulous baskets for gifts as well as for charity auctions and corporate events. Our Stonewall Kitchen gourmet items are exceptionally popular. From this line, we carry ‘Dark Chocolate Sea Salt Caramel Sauce which is our most popular seller, Sea Breeze Mixer, Farmhouse Pancake and Waffle Mix, Fig and Ginger Jam and more. These can be paired with a glass jelly jar or a tray for an exquisite hostess gift.”

“As we get into spring, we will host events here as well as food tastings on the weekends,” said Downs. “Residents should look for notification of our grand opening. We want to support the Potomac community and become a part of it.”

The store is open Monday through Saturday from 10 – 6 and on Sunday from 11-5. For a design consultation, call 301-299-0485.

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SCHOOLS

Churchill Competes in National Robotics Tournament

Students create robots that travel aboard International Space Station.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

Potomac students were in Boston earlier this month competing in the ZERO Robotics Challenge, a competition sponsored by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). During the competition, high school students programmed robots to travel aboard the International Space Station (ISS).

"We all had a lot of fun," said Justin Schumacher, a senior at Winston Churchill High School who plans to attend the University of Rochester next fall. "My other teammates were wonderful. It was a great collaboration."

The team, named the Steelmen, was made up of Alexander Fang, Peter Jablonski, Andrew Kee, Amy Lin, Jesse Pai, Samuel Platt, Eric Rosenberg, Justin Schumacher and Diana Yin from Winston Churchill High School. For several months leading up to the event, the students, guided by their mentors Kenneth Fang and Hadley Steelman, began the competition online.

After several phases of virtual competition, the Steelmen were selected as final-



PHOTO COURTESY OF KENNETH FANG

Local students competed in the ZERO Robotics Challenge at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) earlier this month. Front row, from left, are Peter Jablonski, Alexander Fang, Jesse Pai, Justin Schumacher, Andrew Kee; second row, from left, are Diana Yin, Amy Lin, Samuel Platt and Eric Rosenberg.

ists, competing in a championship aboard the ISS. Astronauts Kevin A. Ford and Thomas H. Marshburn conducted the championship competition with a live broadcast that the students watched from an auditorium at MIT.

During the final round of competition, the Churchill team collaborated with other alliance teams from around the country. "We had to work virtually using SKYPE," said Kenneth Fang. "So they learned to work remotely like in the real world."

Although the Potomac students did not

place in the top three during the competition, they said the experience was amazing: "We watched the astronauts run our program on the International Space Station," said Schumacher. "It was very cool to watch it running in real life. We spend a lot of time write our programs, so it was very cool to see the end."

The students spent four months preparing and competing in preliminary rounds of competition, including 2-D and 3-D simulations. "As a parent, I think it was an incredible experience. The students take these

skills that they learn in school and apply them," said Julie Schumacher, mother of team member Justin Schumacher. "I overheard high-level academics saying, 'I wish this program had existed when I was younger.'"

The opportunities that students today have are incredible and inspiring."

The MIT Space Systems Laboratory (SSL) and Astronaut Greg Chamitoff created the competition with the goal of offering high school students opportunities to conduct research on the International Space Station. Experts say the program also helps build lifelong skills in science, technology, engineering, and math.

"The competition was inspiring for the students," said Kenneth Fang. "It pushed a lot of team work. Some are better at strategy, some are better at math. So the students learned how to recognize their strengths and work together."

Hadley Steelman, chair of the Computer Science Department at Winston Churchill High School, says the robotics competition helps build confidence and teaches students "how to resolve conflicts when working in a group, and most of all, understanding how they can apply what they're learning in school to solve real world problems. Most of them were already pretty confident in their problem-solving abilities and were fairly good at working with others, but the math, science and programming needed for this contest were intense. No one had the answers for them. They had to figure everything out and solve problems by themselves."

Woods Robotics Teams Earn Awards at State Championship

On Saturday, Jan. 19, The Woods Academy Robotics teams competed against 70 other teams at the Maryland First Lego League Championship at the UMBC Retriever Activities Center in Catonsville.

The Owlbots finished Third Overall and the Green Machine was another one of the only 32 teams receiving awards. Seventy-two teams were invited to the championship on the basis of their performance in one of Maryland's FLL Qualifier events. The Qualifier events were held in various locations throughout the state in December and January and more than 300 teams participated in these events.

The Woods Academy hosted one of the 15 statewide qualifiers on Dec. 8.

The Owlbots won the Champion's Award, Third Place Overall, at the championship. The Owlbots, a team comprised of nine seventh and eighth grade students, is coached by Jeff Oosterhout, fifth and sixth grade science teacher, and Katya Cunnane, second grade teacher. This is the Owlbots' fourth year in the FLL. At previous MD FLL championships, they have won Third Place in Robot Design (January 2010) and Second Place in Programming (January 2011).



Owlbots: Front row, from left, are JD McLean, Anthony Mahshigian, Winston Grenier (with robot), Sarah Bash and Darius Kuddo. Back row, from left, are Chris McCormick, Jonah Barron, Noah Montemarano, Jack Wenger and Coach Jeff Oosterhout.

The Green Machine won Third Place in Gracious Professionalism, one of the awards in the Core Values Judging Category. As a second year team, this was their first appearance at the MD FLL Championship.

The Green Machine is comprised of nine fifth, sixth, and seventh grade students and



Green Machine: Front row, from left, are Alex Toner, Corina Capuano, Ryon Sarkarzadeh. Back row, from left, are Coach Katya Cunnane, Nicholas Mori, Gabe Schneider, Molly O'Connor, Briana Lantuh, Antos Wellisz and Coach Eric Smith. Not pictured: Catherine Heming.

coached by Eric Smith, director of technology, and Cunnane.

The Owlbots developed a Face Scan App designed to aid Alzheimer's patients in recognizing loved ones. Once the app goes on sale in the App Store, all proceeds will go to Alzheimer's Association.

The Green Machine conceived of an Activity Cube that presents Alzheimer's patients with stimulating hands-on activities.

In addition, both teams spent hours using Lego Mindstorms technologies to design, build, and program autonomous robots.

SPORTS

Wootton Swim and Dive Teams Beat Churchill

The Wootton boys' and girls' swim and dive teams defeated Churchill on Jan. 19.

In boys' action, Wootton defeated Churchill, 99-72. Individual event winners for the Patriots were: Eric Rogers (diving), Andrew Gibson (100-yard backstroke) and Austin Dickey (100 breast). Wootton also won the 200 medley relay (Matt Gibson, Dickey, Sawyer Hazel, Jason Lazar).

For Churchill, Steve Ge (200 free, 500 free), Harrison Gu (200 IM, 100 butterfly) and Austin Cole (50 free, 100 free) were double-even winners. The Bulldogs also won the 400 free relay (Ge, Lucky Sun, Gu, Cole).

In girls' action, Wootton beat Churchill, 103-68. Wootton's Jessica Chen was a double-event winner (50 free, 100 breast). The Patriots received individual even victories from: Emily Zhang (200 IM), Kristina Li (100 butterfly) and Leah Hubert (500 free). Wootton also won the 200 medley relay (Li, Chen, Scarlett Sun, Zhang).

Hannah Lindsey was a double-event winner for Churchill (200 free, 100 back). Individual event winners were: Marshal Hashem (diving) and Michelle Illig (100 free). The Bulldogs also won the 400 free relay (Illig, Fiona Asbury, Lindsey, Elaina Gu).

Churchill Boys' Basketball Beats B-CC

The Churchill boys' basketball team improved to 10-3 with a 60-40 victory against Bethesda-Chevy Chase on Jan. 18.

Bryant Wheatley finished with 15 points and 15 rebounds for Churchill.

Dominique Williams had 13 points and five steals.

The Bulldogs hosted Whitman on Tuesday, after The Almanac's deadline. Churchill will travel to face Wootton at 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25.

Churchill Girls' Basketball Improves to 10-3

The Churchill girls' basketball team defeated Bethesda-Chevy Chase 39-33 on Jan. 18, improving its record to 10-3.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, Japria Karim-Duvall led Churchill with 12 points. Alaine Thronson finished with eight points and Shira Racoosin added seven.

Churchill hosted Whitman on Tuesday, after The Almanac's deadline. The Bulldogs will travel to face Wootton at 5:15 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25.

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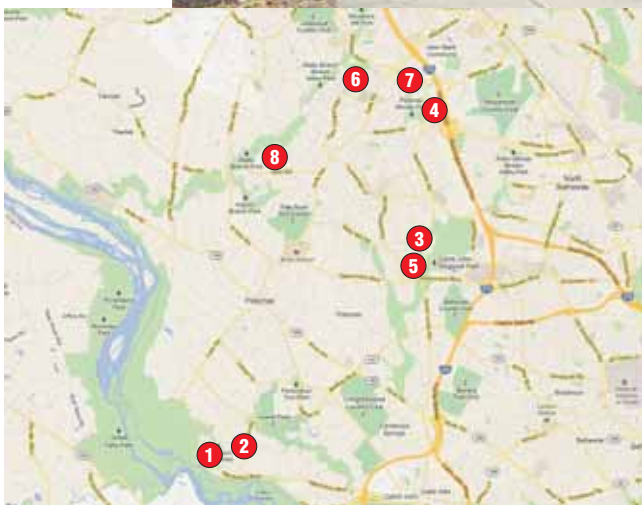
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6 8813 WANDERING TRAIL DR	4	...	2	...	1	POTOMAC \$790,000 Detached	0.45	20854 POTOMAC COMMONS	..	10/31/12
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NEWS

'Aging In Place'

FROM PAGE 3

bors. The village can be organized as a totally volunteer group, or a membership fee can be paid and concierge services can be offered to act as a go-between to provide services to members."

Potomac's Shirley Dominitz, Jane Blocher and Rabbi Leonard Cahan have also been active members of the initial committee to figure out the best methods for developing the program and putting the plan into motion.

"We held our first meeting last May, 2012. We now have a steering committee of 14," said Dominitz. "As we discuss the concept with others, they quickly get on-board. People have been generous about talking to us about how to organize our program and volunteering to help us get it going. Experts such as Leslie Marks and Elinor Ginzler have shared their time and expertise with us. We have gathered information from many sources and now have come a long way in a very short time. We plan to incorporate as a State of Maryland non-profit and then we will continue on toward establishing our village. It's very exciting to be on the initial planning stages of a program that will make Potomac a better place to live."

Blocher said, "We hope interested people will attend the meeting and become active members of the committee. We need people who enjoy creating and building something new — and who want to be involved in service to our community. People are wanted to

More

Potomac Community Village Planning Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 29, 7:30-9 p.m.
Congregation Har Shalom
11510 Falls Road, Potomac
Email Nelly Urbach at
nurbach11@verizon.net or Rabbi
Leonard Cahan lcahan@aol.com

help develop a business plan and we also need those with strong marketing, accounting and computer skills. Because the Senior Connection of the JCA just received a grant to create a transportation system called Village Rides, providing transportation for all who belong to Villages, we are motivated to move quickly to take advantage of this."

Contact Nelly Urbach at nurbach11@verizon.net or Rabbi Leonard Cahan at lcahan@aol.com, or call Nelly Urbach at 301-299-2522 to find out more or to volunteer.

THE WEEK IN POTOMAC

FROM PAGE 2

The Task Force made nine recommendations, including: further research and study of the link of mental illness, substance abuse and other risk factors to violence; mandatory reporting by certain professionals of threats made by a person against self or others; prompt investigation of such threats, and notice to Maryland State Police; a process that includes due process in the courts to determine if someone making threats should be prohibited from possessing or having access to firearms; "Mental Health First Aid" and firearms law training for law teams statewide; and directing funding from firearms licensing and application fees to fund the Task Force's recommendations.

Help Set Their Salaries?

The County Council establishes the salary of the Sheriff and State's Attorney for Mont-

gomery County and the county charter authorizes the council to set the compensation of County Council and the County Executive for succeeding terms of office.

Currently, the County Executive receives \$180,250, the Sheriff receives \$154,000, and the State's Attorney receives \$199,000. Councilmembers receive annual compensation of \$99,069 and the Council President receives an additional 10 percent compensation, according to a press release issued by the Council.

The Montgomery County Council seeks applicants for a citizens advisory committee to study the compensation of the county's elected officials.

The deadline to submit letters of interest is Monday, Feb. 4.

Submit letter of interest with a resume to Council President Nancy Navarro, Montgomery County Council, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Md. 20850.

Letters can also be sent by email to county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov

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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times

Bethesda (20817)

7713 Charleston Dr...\$1,050,000..Sun 2-4.....Hans Wydler..Long & Foster..301-986-6405

7700 Groton Rd.....\$749,900..Sun 1-4..Stephen Schuck..Long & Foster..301-215-7171

Potomac (20854)

11408 Falls Rd.....\$1,199,000..Sun 1-4...Leslie Friedson..Long & Foster..301-455-4506

11421 Twining Ln.....\$1,299,000..Sun 1-4...Leslie Friedson..Long & Foster..301-455-4506

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21 Announcements

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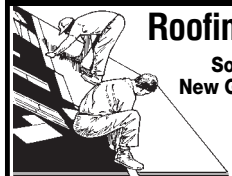
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The Best of Intentions, I'm Sure

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Regularly, throughout my now nearly four years of living as a stage IV non-small cell lung cancer "diagnosee"/survivor, I have had conversations where the person with whom I've been speaking – in response to a query of mine, said about a particular set of their circumstances: "Oh, it's nothing, really. I mean, it's not cancer, so it's not as bad as what you're (meaning me) going through." Said with the utmost sincerity and sensitivity to me of course, and with my feelings/reaction most definitely in mind; for a long time, I simply acknowledged their empathy/sympathy and continued on with our conversation as if no emotional pot – of mine, had been stirred.

As time has passed, however, and I have continued to evolve as a cancer patient; meaning it wasn't about me all the time any more, responses to questions I asked, like the one inferred in the previous paragraph, began to irritate me – regardless of how well-meaning they were. Granted, a cancer diagnosis is bad news, but there's always worse – in my mind. And when people would self-censor their answers to me about something bad in their lives – which from their perspective was not as bad as receiving a diagnosis of terminal cancer as I had, it began to have the opposite effect on me. I felt worse for their not having said whatever their bad news was as if I was (A) inadvertently responsible for their not answering my question and (B) since I was the ultimate bad situation, nothing could ever be worse than my situation, so it seemed inappropriate somehow to consider even mentioning it. In short, I became the measuring stick for "bad," and since people rarely shared their bad news with me (out of kindness, I know), it meant – to me, anyway, that my news/situation was worse. How would you like to be the bad news/situation against which all presumably bad situations are compared? Every time I hear: "Well, compared to your...", I feel even worse than I try to never let myself feel. Internally I can manage it. But when external forces – random though they may be, context me in a depressing and disparaging way, I feel depressed and disparaged; two feelings which I fight hard to avoid. Cancer already has a foothold. I'm trying to prevent it from having a stranglehold.

As a cancer patient, one has sufficient challenges and surprises navigating through the various treatment protocols/requirements/appointments/scans, etc., attempting to assimilate the unthinkable into the "first-thing-you-thinkable." The experience is sort of like going from the sublime to the ridiculous except there's nothing sublime or ridiculous about it. (And by the way, your life depends on it.) Ergo, reinforcing a negative, as in my diagnosis being a conversation stopper – or re-director – takes me to a place, emotionally, that I never want to go to or be perceived as having been. I'm not sure if this is ego or naïveté or denial, but I can manage my feelings better when I bring them on myself rather than when others do so.

Now whether where I am emotionally, or how I got there really matters in the short term, I cannot say. But if there's going to be a long term, I need to feel better about my circumstances, not worse. They're bad enough on their own; I don't need any help making them worse.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

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

SATURDAYS THROUGH FEB. 2

Big Kids and Clay. 9-10:30 a.m. at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Students will learn to pinch pots, coiling and soft slab working techniques. \$75/child. Visit www.visartscenter.org or 301-315-8200 to register.

MONDAYS THROUGH FEB. 7

Getting to Know Clay. Children will get to work with kiln-fired clay to create works for ceramic art. 4-5 p.m. at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. \$40/child. Visit www.visartscenter.org or 301-315-8200 to register.

TUESDAYS THROUGH FEB. 12

Dare to Draw. Children in grades kindergarten through grade 2 can draw with charcoal, pastels, ink, markers and pencils while learning age-appropriate drawing techniques. 5-6 p.m. at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. \$75/child. Visit www.visartscenter.org or 301-315-8200 to register.

FRIDAY/JAN. 25

A Cappella Music. Ladysmith Black Mambazo will perform at Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane. \$25-\$65/person. Visit www.strathmore.org or 301-581-5100 for tickets.

Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m.



PHOTO BY MADELINE SMITH

Deconstructed Dance

A photography exhibition by Madeline Smith, Jan. 25 - Feb. 4. Madeline Smith is a sophomore at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School in Bethesda. Deconstructed Dance is a series of personal black and white silver prints, that Smith created for her high school's Middle Years Programme Project. An opening reception with artist is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 26, 5-7 p.m.

Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Boulevard, Glen Echo. Saturdays 1-4 p.m. and Sundays 1-8 p.m., (and anytime when a class is underway). Free to the public. Call 301-634-2274 or visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.



Tom and Bo Peep save a butterfly.

Photoworks Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, presents "Deconstructed Dance" featuring works by Madeline Smith, a sophomore at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. A series of black and white silver prints created for the Middle Years Program. Free. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org for more.

JAN. 25 THROUGH FEB. 4

Exhibit. Photoworks Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, presents "Deconstructed Dance" featuring works by Madeline Smith, a sophomore at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. A series of black and white silver prints created for the Middle Years Program. Free. Open Saturdays from 1-4 p.m. and Sundays from 1-8 p.m. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 26

Comedy Performance. 8 p.m. at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. See Jeff Maurer and Tyler Richardson perform. \$15. Visit <http://www.visartsatrockville.org> for tickets.

MONDAY/JAN. 28

Raising Confident Kids. Parents often worry about children's problems and misbehavior. In this talk Emory Luce Baldwin focuses on how parents can encourage children to develop what they need to feel confident and successful in life. Call 301-468-9343.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 30

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. Deborah Bond and her band Third Logic will perform new music. \$15. Visit www.strathmore.org for tickets.

'Toyland' at Glen Echo

In its tradition of making the old new again, and introducing children to a wide spectrum of theatrical forms, the Puppet Co. is presenting "Toyland," an adaptation of Victor Herbert's operetta for children, "Babes in Toyland." As the title might suggest, "Toyland" is a condensed version of the 108-year-old children's classic. The Crooked Man is out to grab all the toys in Toyland, and it's up to Tom, the Piper's son, and Little Bo Peep to sing and dance their way, with the help of Mother Goose and friends, to a happy ending.

Christopher Piper, who plays the Toymaker, adapted the libretto. The production uses the full Puppet Co. stage, with Piper as the "live" Toymaker, while actor Tony Strowd voices both Tom Piper and the Crooked Man, bad ol' Mr. Barnaby. Piper also voices Mother Goose and Little Bo Peep when not on stage, and both actors manipulate the near life-size marionettes.

"Toyland" runs Jan. 18-Feb. 10, Fridays at 10 and 11:30 a.m.; Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Group rates available. For information and reservations call 301-634-5380 or visit www.thepuppetco.org. Running time is 40 minutes and the show is recommended for preK-grade 4.

JAN. 30 THROUGH MARCH 10

Theater Performance. Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda, showcases "Anime Momotaro," a Japanese folktale that teaches powerful lessons about inner strength and the ability to stand up against bullying. Tickets range \$12-\$25 and available online at www.imaginationstage.org or 301-280-1660.

FRIDAY/FEB. 1

Music Performance. China National Symphony Orchestra performs at 8 p.m. at Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda. Tickets range \$25-\$65. Visit www.strathmore.org or 301-581-5100.

Performances. 9 p.m. at Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. See Bellflur's "Ghosts of the Handsome Skin," a project that includes musicians, artists, authors, actors, dancers and choreographers from the Washington, D.C. area. \$12/online; \$15/door. Visit www.strathmore.org or tickets.

Contra Dance. 7:30-11:30 p.m. at the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Dance to live music by Anadama. \$10. 301-634-2222.

SATURDAY/FEB. 2

Music, Dance and Painting. 3 p.m. at 10116 Lloyd Road. Farewell party for "Persian Dreams." \$10, space is limited so purchase tickets in advance. Portion of the proceeds go to the OMID foundation. Visit www.omid-e-mehr.org or 202-276-9419.

"Love and Let Love." 8 p.m. at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. See a cabaret about love's ups and downs presented by the Peabody Opera Department. Free will offering. 301-365-2850.

Swing Dance. 8 p.m.-midnight at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Flying Feet Enterprises presents dancing to the Daryl Davis Band. Lesson starts at 8 p.m. \$15. E-mail dance@flyingfeet.org or 301-634-2222.

SUNDAY/FEB. 3

Photography Lecture. 1 p.m. in

the Buchanan Room at VisArts. Professional photographers will discuss their work. \$20/event; \$70/series for early registration. \$25/event; \$80/series for regular registration. Visit www.visartsrockville.org for more.

Waltz Dance. 2:45 p.m. introductory workshop at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. 3:30-6 p.m. is the dance. \$10. Visit www.WaltzTimeDances.org or 301-634-2222.

Argentine Tango. 6:30-11 p.m. at Ballroom Annex at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Enjoy music by DJ Rene Davila. \$15 with the lessons at 6:30 p.m. for beginners or 7:30 p.m. intermediate lesson or both lessons and dancing; \$10 just dancing at 8:15 p.m. 301-634-2222.

Contra and Square Dance. 7-10:30 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Anadama will provide the music. Lesson starts at 7 p.m. \$12/non-member or \$9/FSGW member. Visit www.fsgw.org or 301-634-2222.

THROUGH FEB. 3

Art Exhibit. Saturdays and Sundays from noon-6 p.m. in the Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Enjoy a collection of artwork inspired by the Valentine's Day holiday. Visit www.glenechopark.org or 301-634-2222.

TUESDAY/FEB. 5

Music. A John Denver tribute performance at 8 p.m. at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane. Tickets range between \$28-\$48 and can be purchased at www.strathmore.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 8

Drama Performance. Winston Churchill High School presents "Bus Stop" at 7 p.m. at the school. \$8 online at www.wchsarts.com or at the door.

SATURDAY/FEB. 9

Drama Performance. Winston Churchill High School presents "Bus Stop" at 7 p.m. at the school. \$8 online at www.wchsarts.com or at the door.

THROUGH FEB. 9

Art Exhibit. See the Strathmore Artists Juried Exhibition featuring

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