

Potomac ALMANAC

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PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

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NEWS



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Katie Lane rides Gypsy.

Sunny Day at Potomac Horse Center

The Potomac Horse Center held its open house on Sunday, May 5. The half-country fair/half-horse show included horse and pony rides, tractor-drawn hay rides, stable tours, face painting, moon bounces, horse shoe decorating, riding demonstrations, food on premises, and more.



Yasmine Helbling with Emmy



From right: Ray Spivak, Pepito and Lyla Dinallo.



From right: Barry and Alex Henderson, Sophia Goncalvez, Gabriela and Suzi Henderson.

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PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

At the Azalea Garden Festival

Rides were some of the attractions at the Azalea Garden Festival at Landon School last weekend, May 3-5.



Elizabeth Zambella (left) and Lee Zambella give rides to people at the festival.



From left: Jack, Sue and Scott Prutting.

Center To Host Cultural Night

Meet new director at dance and cuisine event.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

The Potomac Community Center will be celebrating the multi-ethnicity of the community with an inaugural “Cultural Dance and Cuisine” night from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. on Friday, May 17. The public is invited to an evening of international dance performances representing China, Greece, Russia, India, Latin America and more. Appetizers from each culture will be shared to give everyone an opportunity to taste the cuisine from many countries of the world.

The free, multi-cultural evening is the inspiration of the new director of the Potomac Community Center, Peter Jose Selikowitz. Selikowitz, who has worked in recreation for 30 years, began his new position on March 11. Originally from the New Jersey shore, Selikowitz was director of Parks and Recreation in Essex, Vt. — a



Peter Selikowitz, director of the Potomac Community Center

community close to Burlington, Vt. New to the mid-Atlantic and the D.C. area, he is enjoying the many museums, cultural activities and athletic events in the area.

“The Potomac Community Recreation Center is one of our busiest and largest facilities, so the right fit for the position was critical,” said Recreation Director Gabe Alborno. “Peter’s past professional experience in recreation, community programming, and more will be a wonderful asset to the department and the community close to Burlington, Vt. New to the mid-Atlantic and the D.C. area, he is enjoying the many museums, cultural activities and athletic events in the area.”

SEE MEET NEW, PAGE 7

‘Blooming’ Opens at The Art Gallery of Potomac

Three perspectives on flowers.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

The Art Gallery of Potomac is alive with spring flowers and garden landscapes. Its latest show, “Blooming,” features the artwork of three local artists who have chosen their most vibrant pieces for this show. The opening reception is this Saturday, May 11 from 6 – 9 p.m. and the Artist’s Talk is on Saturday, May 18 from 2 – 3:30 p.m.

— or stop by during business hours to peruse or purchase. This is also a place to pick up that one-of-a-kind gift for mom for Mother’s Day.

Artists’ note cards, small books of original art and prints will be available for sale. “Blooming” runs through May 26.

The show brings together Art Gallery of Potomac resident artist Dot Procter and her two friends Ruth Marcus and Karul Lasher, guest artists. Procter has known Marcus since 1991, when they met in art classes at

Glen Echo. She and Lasher have been friends even longer — since 1976 when they both were employed at the same non-profit. Lasher had been living in Brussels, Belgium for many years until she moved to Northern Virginia five years ago. “We decided that we all love gardening and flowers — and could put together a show featuring our best paintings of the flowers we love to grow,” said Procter.

Even though the three artists’ styles are different, the paintings all indicate a love of the vivid colors of nature and a glimpse at the diversity of flowers in local landscapes.

Procter has several different types of paintings in this show. Some capture the grandeur of the Chateaux in France. “Giverny,” a 60”x48” acrylic on canvas brings Monet’s gardens to life in a painting



The three artists in the show “Blooming” at the Art Gallery of Potomac are (from left) Dot Procter, Karul Lasher and Ruth Marcus.

BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

that is rich with color and light. “Chateaux Boudoir” and “Chateaux Entrance Bouquet” portray the intricate patterns and hues that highlight the Chateau Chenonceau in the Loire Valley. “Color drives my work,” she said. “The colors found in nature never cease to delight me.”

Procter is also featuring her “intuitive” tempura on paper paintings. These are art pieces in which she starts painting without

with Walt Bartman at Glen Echo for two years. “He taught me how to translate light into color.”

Marcus’ wall of dramatic flower images — 12”x 12” acrylics on canvas — provides a multicolored juxtaposition of such flowers as tulips, irises, Virginia Bluebells, pansies, sunflowers, magnolias, daffodils and

a plan — and sees where it ends up. “I never really know where it is going,” she said. “I do these for my own healing and well-being.” She also has included luscious tempura on paper flower paintings. Procter’s mother and grandmother were both artists who taught her a lot about painting. After they died, she studied art

SEE ‘BLOOMING’ OPENS, PAGE 5

OUTDOORS

Potomac Outfitters Opens

“Ambassadors for the Potomac.”

BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

The Potomac River has always been Sunny Pitcher's most productive advertisement. “We can't take credit for any of it, it's all due to the river, we're just kind of ambassadors for the Potomac and for the park and we're trying to be great stewards and great guides getting out there and instilling some of these values in people,” he said.

Pitcher, founder of Potomac Paddlesports, opened Potomac Outfitters last Thursday, May 2, in the Potomac Promenade, in the mall next to Potomac Pizza.

“It's a privilege to have a busi-



Potomac Outfitters opened in the Potomac Promenade. Sunny Pitcher also operates Potomac Paddlesports.

ness where you are guiding people in the outdoors,” he said.

Pitcher's Potomac store, Potomac Outfitters, offers Patagonia clothing, kayak gear, running gear, shoes, kayaks, as well as guides to help people enjoy the outdoors either on the river, on the Billy Goat Trail, or walking or running on trails or on the towpath. Pitcher works with more than 40 guides, who teach white water kayaking, sea kayaking, and paddleboarding. He plans to have running and trail guides and running groups, too.

“With as much experience as we have out there on the water, in the park, it's good, because we can actually articulate the right way to get out there and recreate in what's the greatest geological and

recreational resource within a two to three hour drive,” he said.

“Everybody always refers to the Potomac, but we kind of forget about the fact that its one of the busiest national parks in the country, right there at C&O Canal National Historical Park. If we can serve the function as a gateway, I think that's our primary objective, to be a gateway for the park and the Potomac River and continue our advocacy for the river and the park.”

Potomac Paddlesports partners with other conservancy and advocacy groups, has helped build steps from Anglers to the river, has adopted the road on MacArthur Boulevard near Anglers, and focuses community on conservation.

“Getting people out there, their



Sunny Pitcher teaches students of all ages in all types of kayaks.

senses are so heightened,” he said. “So they're extremely receptive to everything, they are receptive to the sport, receptive to nature, receptive to conservation ideas, so it's just like a great seed that gets planted with every class.”

He has kayak students who are now adults that started paddling at 7, 8 or 9 years old. “They grow up inspired,” he said.

Pitcher loves watching the “lightbulb moment” when students figure out how to use the right muscle groups to roll a kayak, “but I also enjoy it when I see a student stopping and watching a great blue heron and their jaw drops, I enjoy that just as much as I do watching them get their first roll.”

“I never get tired of it,” he said.

Many Happy Returns Cicadas stage a comeback.

BY CAROLE FUNGER
THE ALMANAC

Maturing slowly underground for the past 17 years, the cicada is poised to reappear in Potomac beginning sometime this month.

Part of a class of periodic cicadas called Magicicada Brood II, found only on the eastern seaboard, this particular species is unique in its long, prime-numbered life cycle and massive, timed emergence, not to mention its loud chorus, that can sometimes top 90 decibels in a swarm.

This spring's outbreak is expected to begin in the Carolinas and work its way up the coast towards Washington, D.C. as the temperatures gradually rise. Peak season should occur in the Potomac area sometime in June. Cicadas are known to achieve incredible population densities, estimated as high as 1.5 million per acre.

According to Michael Raupp, a professor of entomology at the University of Maryland, “In places where they're going to be present, it's going to be spectacular. There could be as many as one billion cicadas emerging per square mile.”

Many hypotheses surround the 17-year cicada and its 13-year cousin's prime-numbered life span. Some scientists surmise that the prime number life cycle foils predators by its unpredictability. Others point to the fact that it's difficult for predators to have the same life cycle, which would permit them to feast exclusively on cicadas. Aside from the extended developmental phase, the cicadas' sheer mass and accompanying noise ensures that more of

the insects survive to mate and reproduce, ensuring the continuation of the species.

ABOUT MAGICICADA BROOD II

The adult Magicicada Brood II cicada exhibits bright red eyes and a black body. The translucent wings have orange veins. A black “W” shape embellishes the tips of the forewings. Adults typically measure 1-1.3 inches in size, with mature females slightly larger than males.

The story really begins, though, with the cicada “nymph.” Golden-brown in color, the nymph spends most of its 17-year life living underground, sucking root fluids from trees. The nymph matures slowly over its prolonged developmental phase, growing from the size of a small ant to achieve nearly the size of an adult by phase end.

Early in the spring at the end of their 17-year cycle, the nymphs receive a signal to begin constructing exit tunnels to the surface. Known as “turrets,” these tunnels are built out of the soil from which the nymphs will soon emerge.

The turrets can often be observed as a group of holes roughly the size of an adult finger located near the roots of deciduous trees.

Once the temperature reaches approximately 64 degrees, the nymphs begin climbing the tunnels in synchronicity and large numbers, shedding their shells to adopt the colors of the adult insect. Spreading their new bright-orange wings, they take flight, searching for mates. Male cicadas band together to form choruses of species-specific calling songs designed to attract females with their sexual allure.

Once mated, females climb trees to lay eggs

in a series of nests that they excavate from the tree's branches. After 6 to 10 weeks, the eggs hatch and the new nymphs drop down from the trees, burrowing back down under the roots, and beginning the whole 17-year process over again. By the time the nymphs have hatched, the adults have died.

According to the website <http://magicicada.org>, cicadas do not possess a single defensive mechanism. They do not sting or bite. When approached, a cicada will simply fly away. Additionally, cicadas are not poisonous, nor do they transmit disease.

Cicadas, in fact, are actually culinary delicacies for birds and other species, as well as for many humans. Some say they taste like asparagus or shrimp.

FOLLOW “SWARMAGEDDON”

The New York -based Radiolab at www.radiolab.org, is preparing for “Swarmageddon” with its Cicada Tracker Map and how-to information on building your own cicada detector and sharing your observations. Also keeping track of the scene is the National Geographic Society's www.magicicada.org/map_project/maps.php, with its own database of up-to-the minute cicada sightings.

On the social media side, there's www.cicadamania.com, dedicated to “the most amazing insects in the world” and providing online data on when the cicadas are expected, what they look like, how they'll emerge and even a page of audio sound files of cicada songs. For you tweeters, Cicadamania suggests using hashtag #Brood II and #Cicadas to update your followers on the latest developments.

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www.PotomacAlmanac.com

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Ruth Marcus displays her flowers on acrylic.

Dot Proctor stands before her "intuitive paintings."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DOT PROCTOR



"Spring in Holland" by Karul Lasher

'Blooming' Opens at Gallery

FROM PAGE 3

more. Marcus said, "What appeals to me is the emotional impact of the colors, shapes and textures that I see. Each painting becomes a journey filled with unexpected turns."

When she was thinking about how to fill the wall, she decided to paint her floral acrylics to honor the memory of her dear friend James Moore who died in February. "He was an artist who was always an inspiration to me," she said. "We often shared all kinds of information about painting. I worked with his wife at The Dalton School in Manhattan for many years and we were all close friends."

Lasher's watercolors are quite different from the other two artists in the show. Lasher begins her art pieces with a rough drawing of the image and then sketches in the elements of each flower. She paints layer upon layer until her work depicts her subject exactly as she wants it to appear. The results reveal lovely colorful flowers that are rich in detail.

The Art Gallery of Potomac is located at 9945 Falls Road (in back of the Bike Shop) in Potomac. Telephone 240-447-9417 or 301-320-0093.

The regular hours of the gallery are 12 – 4 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday.

Thieves Leave ATM Up in the Air

At approximately 1:57 a.m. Tuesday, May 7, 911 received a call from bank security personnel for an in-progress theft of an ATM at a Bank of America in Potomac Village, according to Montgomery County Police.

Security personnel, via surveillance cameras, were remotely watching the Bank of America located at 10217 Falls Road in Potomac at the intersection of Falls Road and River Road. They observed three subjects, wearing gloves and masks, attempting to steal a bank ATM.

Police officers responded and located a backhoe and pick-up truck in the parking lot. The ATM, which had been removed from the bank wall, was still attached by chains to the backhoe and was suspended over the bed of the pick-up truck. Investigators believe that the backhoe and truck are stolen and continue to investigate their status. The subjects had fled the scene and were not located.

Detectives are asking anyone with information about this crime or the suspects involved to please call the 2nd District Investigative Section at 301-657-0112. Those who wish to remain anonymous may call Crime Solvers of Montgomery County toll-free at 1-866-411-TIPS (8477). Crime Solvers will pay a cash reward of up to \$10,000 for information provided to them that leads to an arrest and/or indictment for this felony crime.

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House D in Potomac.



House A in North Bethesda.

Annual Potomac Spring House Tour Returns

Event to support Congregation Har Shalom's projects.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Love touring unique homes and looking for ideas of how to enhance your own home? Be certain to mark May 19 or 20 on the calendar for the Potomac Spring House Tour. Presented by Congregation Har Shalom, it will offer an opportunity to view four elegant homes, to observe the latest in interior design, architecture and remodeling — and to peruse antiques, family heirlooms and fine art. While this Tour is named “Potomac,” only one of this year’s homes is in Potomac while others are in nearby Bethesda, North Bethesda and Chevy Chase.

Co-chairs of the event are Joan Levenson and Jack Markowitz, their second year volunteering as co-chairs and their fifth year as tour volunteers.

“This year the Potomac Spring House Tour features showcase houses that represent the different urban and suburban lifestyles within our metropolitan area with particular emphasis on ideas from empty-nesters that accommodate the needs of occasional visits from adult children and grandchildren,” Markowitz said. “House tours are quite a tradition in Potomac. Our tour provides an opportunity for the tour-going community to visit local homes of distinctive value and interest in the spring when flow-



House C, room with a fireplace.

ers and trees are blooming.”

Proceeds from the tour benefit the Congregation Har Shalom and its projects which assist those in need locally and throughout the world. Co-Chair Levenson said, “I am proud that we assist so many local and international charities. Among them are Manna Food Center, Children’s Inn at NIH, A Wider Circle, Mazon, Fisher House, Camp Caring, and the Men’s Shelter in Rockville. This tour is also a wonderful way to demonstrate the power of what 100 volunteers can do.”

The homes on the tour are each a different style. House A in North Bethesda is a warm and inviting retreat for family and

friends. Built by Jendell Construction in 2010, the home offers modern amenities such as a gourmet kitchen, three-car garage and exquisite landscaping — plus an art studio for the owner. Tour-goers will have the opportunity to view family heirlooms, including a Civil War sword, a 1920’s Steinway grand piano, an Iranian silk rug, antique model trains and an 1860 music box. Additionally, tour goers will be able to see original art created by the owner.

French décor is the highlight of House B, along with Harold Behrens paintings and interior design work by Carole Lindenberg of Potomac Designs. This home features intricate detailing, handsome antiques,

grand spaces, luxurious finishes and a cozy French country kitchen.

House C is a new four-level Arts and Crafts style home featuring two fireplaces, a gourmet kitchen, an expansive deck, a stunning master bath and a sunlit studio over a detached garage — all in the urban setting of Chevy Chase. However, even though this home is close-in, it includes views of Chevy Chase Golf Club to give it the open feel of a country home. This energy-efficient home was built by Sandy Spring Builders.

The final home on the tour is House D, located in Potomac. This 50-year-old farmhouse on 2.5 acres has been modified and expanded to blend Western charm with suburban convenience and modern amenities. The 5-bedroom home includes a two-sided stone fireplace, a working wood fireplace in the kitchen, an attic converted into a kids’ floor and a spacious master suite. The home has the feel of a rustic Colorado lodge.

The tour will take place Sunday, May 19 and Monday, May 20 from 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 on the day of the tour. Tickets may be purchased at www.PotomacHouseTour.org, or in person at Congregation Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road, Potomac.

Additionally, tickets may be purchased on tour days at Tour House A on Luxmanor Road near Poindexter Lane in North Bethesda or at Har Shalom during Tour hours. Tickets are not available at any other tour home or on-line on tour days.

For more information, call 301-299-7087x336 or e-mail info@potomachouse.tour.org.



House C in Chevy Chase.



House C, entry.



House B in Bethesda.

Meet New Director

FROM PAGE 3
nity.”

The “Cultural Dance and Cuisine” evening will provide an opportunity for the community to meet and talk with Selikowitz — and maybe even dance with him. Selikowitz is planning to participate with the dance troupes as well as spend time getting to know Potomac residents. “I’ve been out in the community passing out flyers and encouraging everyone to get involved. It’s going to be a sensational evening.”

“They told me this center was busy,” Selikowitz said, “and they weren’t exaggerating at all. I am thrilled that so many residents take advantage of the variety of programs that we offer. We have a huge senior population — over 300 come to exercise through tai chi, bone builders (in collaboration with Suburban Hospital) and more. Our pre-school classes with Coach Doug are exceptionally popular and Club Friday attracts 300 or more elementary school children each Friday. So far, the biggest challenge has been juggling the many duties of the director.” One of his goals is to conduct a needs assessment with

middle school youth to understand exactly what programs they would take advantage of. Along with Jeani Haven of the Friends of the Potomac Community Center, he is planning a focus group from four local middle schools to advise the community center — as well as to encourage middle school involvement. “It’s important that since I am new to this area, that I find out what my clients are interested in. Demographics are continually changing, as are the needs.”

His goals are commensurate with the mission statement of the Montgomery County Recreation Department — “to provide high quality, diverse and accessible programs, services and facilities that enhance the quality of life for all ages, cultures, and abilities.”

“I am excited to have Peter fill the center director’s position at the Potomac Community Recreation Center,” said Terry Blount-Williams, manager for Community Facilities and Programs. “I am confident Peter will continue the longstanding tradition of providing quality programs and activities, while finding new and creative ways to enhance programming.”

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/MAY 9

Downtown Lunch and Learn. 12:30-1:30 p.m. at Williams & Connolly, 725 12th St., N.W. Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt will discuss some of the historic controversies that Jews argued about and how they were debated and resolved. Free, lunch included. RSVP to bperlmutter@bnaitzedek.org.

THROUGH MAY 10

Vote. Abner Cloud House has been chosen to participate in Partners in Preservation, a community-based initiative that will award \$1 million in grants to local historic places. Visit www.preservedmv.com/competitors to earn points by voting, sharing photos and more.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

Grateful Shred VI. 9 a.m.-noon at Clara Barton Community Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John. Clean out old files and shred them. \$5/box of paper. 240-777-4910.

Dog Adopter Workshop. 11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at Your Dog’s Friend Training Center, 12221 Parklawn Drive. Trainers will teach how to deal with common issues and give advice on concerns. Free. Register at yourdogsfriend.org/blog/free-workshops or 301-983-5913.

Fit Fair. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at LEVEL, 7687 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John. Free. Enjoy classes, workshops and nutrition clinics. Visit levelclasses.com or 301-229-0080.

MONDAY/MAY 13

Talk. 7:45-10 p.m. at the County Council Office Building, 100

www.connectionnewspapers.com

LET’S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Green Extreme!

“Green” renovation is a trend that engineers, constructors and designers are encountering more and more each day. Going green is not only an ecologically aware choice, but it is also one that is becoming economically sound, with many green renovations providing tax deductions and reduced energy costs, offsetting or negating the cost of their installation in immediate terms—and proving priceless over time, as green renovations reduce the harm of civilization on nature and ecology. For those who have a deep commitment to “going green” or have more flexibility in their budget, there’s a world of ways to take your home renovations up a notch. For any budget, home or improvement project, there’s a green alternative that’s right for your house. Here are a few ideas to take “going green” to the next level—green extreme!

- Consider Home Solar Power Kits. While there are licensed contractors who can install solar power panels, there are also DIY kits available. Homeowners can do everything from constructing and installing hot water solar panels themselves to replacing traditional swimming pool pumps with solar-powered models and installing flexible solar heating panels for their pool. Check with your utility provider and tax preparation professional to find out what paperwork you will need to submit in order to receive reduced billing or tax deductions.
- Install a solar powered LED security light, motion detector or security alarm. Find out how to get the maximum brightness from solar-powered landscape lights while adding a green-wise security feature to your home and property. Many trusted names in home security are offering solar-powered products that customers can be assured are as reliable as electrically powered models. Green isn’t just smart, it’s safe!
- Construct solar-powered landscape lighting or install a decorative solar fountain or birdbath. Landscape lighting provides a serene ambience to quiet nights, allowing homeowners to relax outdoors and enjoy the nature that going green preserves. Likewise, solar birdbaths attract natural wildlife by keeping a running stream of clean, flowing water that doesn’t up energy costs and gobble up utilities. LED and “solar on demand” functions are available on many models. On these types, a panel will store solar power by means of an included battery pack, making the gentle sound of running water an outdoor feature that can be enjoyed during any time of day. Already have a fountain or birdbath that you love? Conversion kits are offered by a number of retailers, transforming any outdoor garden fountain into an electricity-free solar fountain!

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TUESDAY/MAY 14

Breakfast Club. 7:30-9 a.m. at Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education. Leadership Montgomery is hosting economist Dr. Stephen Fuller. \$20/Leadership Montgomery members; \$30/nonmember. Register by May 9 to www.leadershipmontgomerymd.org.

Afternoon Grief Support Group. A six-week group for anyone grieving the death of a loved one, led by Montgomery Hospice professional counselors. 1-2:30 p.m. at North Bethesda United Methodist Church 10100 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

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Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

March 2013 Top Sales

IN MARCH 2013, 31 POTOMAC HOMES
SOLD BETWEEN \$5,000,000-\$523,000.

1 9411 Newbridge Drive
— \$5,000,000



4 11018 Glen Road South
— \$2,650,000



2 9121 River Road — \$3,600,000

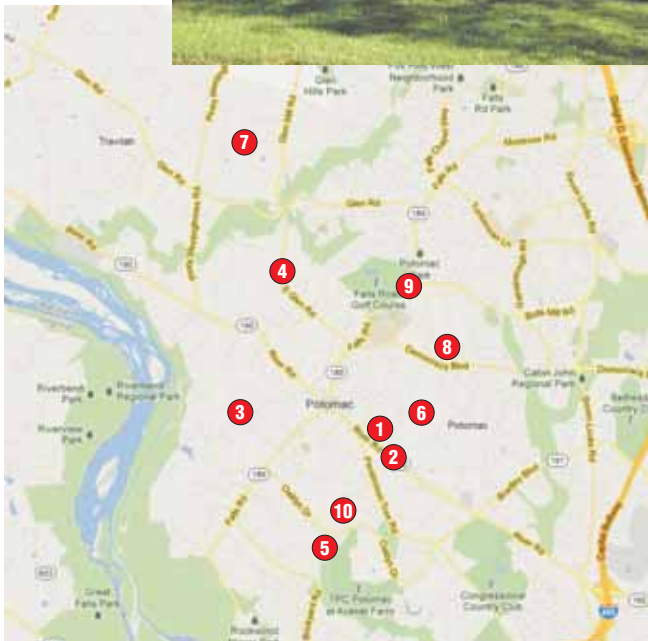
8 8921 Harvest Square Court
— \$1,750,000



6 9736 Sorrel Avenue — \$2,150,000



5 10024 Avenel Farm Drive — \$2,400,000



© Google Map data

Address	BR	FB	HB	..	Postal	City ..	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 9411 NEWBRIDGE DR	7	7	5	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$5,000,000	Detached	2.25	20854	FALCONHURST	03/07/13
2 9121 RIVER RD	7	8	2	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$3,600,000	Detached	4.78	20854	BRADLEY FARMS	03/08/13
3 10817 STANMORE DR	5	7	2	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$2,800,000	Detached	3.61	20854	GREAT FALLS ESTATES	03/15/13
4 11018 GLEN RD S	8	12	3	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$2,650,000	Detached	2.08	20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE	03/18/13
5 10024 AVENEL FARM DR	7	6	2	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$2,400,000	Detached	0.47	20854	AVENEL	03/29/13
6 9736 SORREL AVE	6	7	2	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$2,150,000	Detached	2.25	20854	FALCONHURST	03/13/13
7 12208 MEADOW CREEK CT	8	8	1	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$1,850,000	Detached	2.07	20854	PINEY GLEN FARMS	03/12/13
8 8921 HARVEST SQUARE CT	6	4	2	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$1,750,000	Detached	2.00	20854	KENTSDALE ESTATES	03/11/13
9 17 NANTUCKET CT	7	5	2	POTOMAC	...	\$1,700,000	Detached	1.10	20854	KENTSDALE ESTATES	03/21/13
10 8901 ABBEY TER	5	4	1	POTOMAC	...	\$1,585,000	Detached	0.38	20854	AVENEL	03/29/13

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Adding texture to kitchen design, like the backsplash in this Potomac, Md., kitchen created by Aidan Design, is a popular trend.



PHOTO BY ROBERT RADIFERA

The Latest Trends in Kitchen Decor

Designers reveal noteworthy trends and new products for kitchens.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

From textured backsplashes to a return of retro design and hands-free faucets, the National Kitchen & Bath Association just unveiled the latest in kitchen design.

Two local interior designers recently spent time scouting the trends at the association's 2013 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show in New Orleans. Megan Padilla and Tina Geiger Keppler, of Aidan Design in Bethesda, got a first-hand look at cutting-edge trends ranging from the re-emergence of nostalgia-inducing Formica in bold patterns to engineered stone counter tops that could pass for their natural counterparts.

Padilla and Keppler believe that many consumers will be interested in new cabinets with sliding doors. The appeal, they say, is that without traditional hinged doors, such cabinets will take up less space, something especially important in tiny kitchens.

When it comes to counter surfaces, engineered stones with finishes that bear a striking resemblance to their natural counterparts are in demand.

"Consumers are using engineered stone for easy maintenance," said Padilla. "They are as durable and stain-resistant as granites without the required sealing. For the person [who] wants the look of stone without the maintenance, it's a great choice. We also use engineered stones when we want a solid color or more consistent look."

Keppler adds, "I have had many clients interested in the Caesarstone that looks like marble or limestone. They resemble these natural products while not having the staining problems associated with marble and limestone. They are also anti-microbial, which is very popular."

From tiles to cabinetry, incorporating textured materials into kitchen design is a trend that's also on the rise. "We've seen a great deal of interest in textured laminates in more contemporary designs," said Padilla, who incorporated both textured laminate cabinets and a hand-carved tile backsplash into a recent remodel of a contemporary kitchen. "In more



PHOTO BY DAVID PHILLIPICH

Designers from Aidan Design, who created this Alexandria kitchen, spent time scouting the most current trends at the 2013 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show.

traditional designs, we're using textured tiles to bring greater depth to tone-on-tone color palettes."

Look for pops of bright colors like orange, yellow, blue and green in kitchen décor. "One recent project we completed paired white cabinets and a 'leathered' black granite countertops with bright orange wall paint to showcase a retro pottery collection," said Padilla.

FINALLY, IMAGINE turning on your kitchen faucet without using your raw-chicken-contaminated hands. Hands-free technology is already available to private homeowners, but Padilla and Keppler offer a caveat: "I do see this becoming a popular product in

SEE KITCHEN DECOR, PAGE 10

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- Kitchens & Baths: The Important Details
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When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

Potomac (20854)

11225 River View Dr.....\$2,295,000...Sun 1-4...Leslie Friedson.....Long & Foster..301-455-4506
11421 Twining Lane.....\$1,299,000...Sun 1-3...Leslie Friedson.....Long & Foster..301-455-4506
11209 Ambleside Dr.....\$724,500...Sun 2-5...Coreta Osborne..Long and Foster..301-922-4336

Rockville (20850, 20852)

13305 Glen Mill Rd.....\$939,900...Sun 1-4.....Carey Brill.....Weichert..301-468-1600
11004 Rosemont Dr.....\$899,000...Sun 2-5....Farhad Keyani.....Weichert..301-656-2500
4 Radburn Ct.....\$649,997...Sun 1-4...Leslie Friedson.....Long & Foster..301-455-4506
11800 Old Georgetown Rd #1405...\$559,335...Sat 11-6.....Bob Lucido.....Toll..410-979-6024
11800 Old Georgetown Rd #1213...\$471,335...Sat 11-6.....Bob Lucido.....Toll..410-979-6024

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HomeLifeStyle

The Latest Trends in Kitchen Decor

FROM PAGE 9

the future, but not immediately," said Keppler. "Right now it feels like the kinks have not yet been worked out and it is still in the novelty stage. [M]any of the ... models that we saw ran on batteries. The issue with batteries will definitely become old."

Padilla agrees that the concept has promise, but remains skeptical. "Varying sensitivities means that any touch can activate the flow of water. [For example,] switching from full flow to spray could turn

off water in the middle of clean up," she said. "It's a fantastic concept for the kitchen when hands are so often dirty with things you don't want touching the food you are preparing. Think raw meats."

The designers say they uncovered a few unexpected trends as well. "The biggest surprise at the show was Formica," said Padilla. "They did a great job of making their colorful, retro patterns relevant again. They are so fun that you immediately start thinking about projects you could use them in, like craft rooms, homework stations or kids rooms."

HOME SALES

In March 2013, 31 Potomac homes sold between \$5,000,000-\$523,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$5,000,000-\$717,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR.	FB	HB	...	Postal City	Sold Price ...	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision
9411 NEWBRIDGE DR	7	7	5		POTOMAC	\$5,000,000	Detached	2.25	20854	FALCONHURST
9121 RIVER RD	7	8	2		POTOMAC	\$3,600,000	Detached	4.78	20854	BRADLEY FARMS
10817 STANMORE DR	5	7	2		POTOMAC	\$2,800,000	Detached	3.61	20854	GREAT FALLS ESTATES
11018 GLEN RD S	8	12	3		POTOMAC	\$2,650,000	Detached	2.08	20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE
10024 AVENEL FARM DR	7	6	2		POTOMAC	\$2,400,000	Detached	0.47	20854	AVENEL
9736 SORREL AVE	6	7	2		POTOMAC	\$2,150,000	Detached	2.25	20854	FALCONHURST
12208 MEADOW CREEK CT	8	8	1		POTOMAC	\$1,850,000	Detached	2.07	20854	PINEY GLEN FARMS
8921 HARVEST SQUARE CT	6	4	2		POTOMAC	\$1,750,000	Detached	2.00	20854	KENTSDALE ESTATES
17 NANTUCKET CT	7	5	2		POTOMAC	\$1,700,000	Detached	1.10	20854	KENTSDALE ESTATES
8901 ABBEY TER	5	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,585,000	Detached	0.38	20854	AVENEL
11709 LE HAVRE DR	5	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,281,000	Detached	0.48	20854	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS
7734 LAUREL LEAF	4	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,200,000	Detached	0.36	20854	FAWSETT FARMS MANOR
8108 COACH ST	5	3	1		POTOMAC	\$1,140,000	Detached	0.35	20854	RIVER FALLS
10212 IRON GATE RD	5	4	1		POTOMAC	\$1,100,000	Detached	2.48	20854	CAMOTOP
11900 PINEY GLEN LN	5	6	0		POTOMAC	\$1,100,000	Detached	2.10	20854	PINEY GLEN FARMS
9704 BRIMFIELD CT	5	2	1		POTOMAC	\$940,000	Detached	0.41	20854	HERITAGE FARM
10825 ADMIRALS WAY	5	4	0		POTOMAC	\$915,000	Detached	1.12	20854	DARNESTOWN OUTSIDE
8820 MAXWELL DR	4	3	1		POTOMAC	\$865,000	Detached	0.48	20854	OLDFIELD
11427 CEDAR RIDGE DR	3	3	1		POTOMAC	\$819,000	Townhouse	0.07	20854	POTOMAC CREST
8428 FOX RUN	5	2	1		POTOMAC	\$810,000	Detached	0.27	20854	FOX HILLS
10116 COLEBROOK AVE	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$768,000	Detached	0.24	20854	BEDFORDSHIRE
9208 FARNSWORTH CT	0	0	0		POTOMAC	\$740,000	Detached	1.08	20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE
6 BLUEBERRY RIDGE CT	4	2	1		POTOMAC	\$717,000	Detached	0.21	20854	HORIZON HILL

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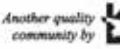


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MOTHER'S DAY

Advice for Buying Jewelry for Mother's Day

Experts offer suggestions for choosing the perfect piece for Mom.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

Mike Grantham of North Potomac shuffled from one jewelry display case to another. His eyes surveyed each row of sparklers: yellow and white diamonds, deep blue sapphires and blood-red rubies.

"Are you looking for something in particular?" asked a saleswoman.

"I'm not quite sure what I am looking for," he said, his dazed expression revealing his bewilderment. Mother's Day was two weeks away and Grantham was still gift-less. "I need to buy something for my mom," he offered. "She likes earrings and diamonds and she has big hair. But she's very picky."

Whether it involves selecting a hand-engraved locket or a diamond-encrusted bangle, confusion like Grantham's is common. Jewelry is one of the most frequently



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE KAUFMANN

Handmade jewelry like this white and chocolate diamond pendant by George Kaufmann of Robert Bernard Jewelers in Potomac often comes with a higher price tag than mass-produced pieces, but the tradeoff is craftsmanship.

offered tokens of gratitude on the day set aside for honoring the women who bore us. But the dizzying array of options, from emeralds swathed in platinum to turquoise beads strung on silk cords, can baffle even the savviest of shoppers.

Local experts say there are a few things that everyone should keep in mind before embarking on a fine jewelry buying adventure.

Discerning the recipient's taste or design preference is a good place to begin. Look for clues in the type of jewelry she wears on a daily basis, say experts. Lifestyle is another consideration. "Is she active? Does she like big earrings or does she like dainty things?" asks jewelry designer Lindy Kavanaugh, a graduate of the Gemological Institute of America and a former jewelry appraiser for Tiffany & Co. in New York. "Does she wear a lot of bracelets? Does she wear white gold, yellow gold or silver?"

When it comes to metals, jeweler and goldsmith George Kaufmann, who co-owns Robert Bernard Jewelers in Potomac, says

platinum and gold in 14-karat and 18-karat are the alloys seen most often in the United States. He adds that 18-karat is softer and less durable than 14-karat. "However, if the piece is made right, whether it is in 14-karat or 18 isn't going to matter," said Kauffman.

Kavanaugh added, "Rose gold is really popular right now and yellow gold has always been popular because it has a richer look to it." She suggests choosing a color that complements one's skin tone.

Both Kauffman and Kavanaugh create original designs for their clients. Artisan jewelry and handmade, custom pieces often come with a higher price tag than their mass-produced counterparts. The tradeoff is originality, craftsmanship and sentimentality, however.

"You're getting a one-of-a-kind piece. You're paying for the luxury of not passing your necklace 50 times on the street or seeing the girl behind the counter at Starbucks wearing it," said Kavanaugh. "You're also paying for the jeweler's knowledge and time."

Kauffman added, "A handmade piece will be finished nicer because I can get inside all the nooks and crannies and polish and then assemble it," he said, referencing one of his creations: a chocolate and white diamond pendant.

Patrons often walk through Kauffman's doors bearing gemstones and commissioning wearable treasures, he says. During more than 50 years in the jewelry business, he has seen the best and worst of stones.

"Sometimes the quality of a stone is obvious," he said. "For example, you don't have to be an expert to recognize a good emerald. My grandchildren can tell the difference. The bottom line is, before you buy a stone or any piece of jewelry, you have to know and trust who you're dealing with."

Kavanaugh adds that it's also important to do your research: "You have to educate yourself about enhancements. Many stones



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Artisan jewelry like this gold pendant offers an opportunity to present Mom with a one-of-a-kind treasure on Mother's Day.

are treated, and synthetics and simulants can be confused with natural gemstones," she said. "If you're investing in ... a nice piece of jewelry, ask questions. With anything, whether it's diamonds or sapphires or pearls, you want to educate yourself and know what you're getting."

For example, Kavanaugh says a strand of pearls is a classic gift, but notes that the variance in price and quality available to consumers is as wide as the oceans from which they're dredged. "When buying pearls, you have to make sure you're comparing apples to apples," she said. "You want to look at the luster of the pearls and make sure they're matched nicely. Look at the clasp and make sure it is heavy and well-made."

On Mother's Day, some jewelry experts emphasize sentimentality and recommend giving women charms engraved with the names or initials of each of their children. Grantham, however, left the jewelry store with diamond hoop earrings set in white gold, still nervous about his choice. "I guess Mom can always return them," he said.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Artisan jewelry, like this gold ring dotted with cabochon-cut rubies, offer originality, craftsmanship and sentimentality.

ME & MY MOM

Biani Seested with daughters Ava and Evani visiting and supporting a local farm. They rode, fed and brushed the horses. The Seesteds live near Potomac Village.



Randi Levy and her three daughters, Spencer, Courtney, and Taylor from Potomac, cheering on the Redskins.

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If you would like to donate a door prize, please call
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ENTERTAINMENT



'The Umbrella Project'

Artist Vince Coates will present "The Umbrella Project," at the Yellow Barn Gallery, May 11-12. The gallery is open Saturday through Sunday, 12-5 p.m. A reception is scheduled for Saturday May 11, from 4-6 p.m. in the gallery. Many of Coates' paintings are inspired by umbrellas. Coates will present a poetry reading during the reception. All events are open to the public. The Yellow Barn Gallery is located at Glen Echo Park at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Contact 301-371-5593 or Vince Coates, at 301-471-5950. Visit www.vincecoates.com.

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

ONGOING

The Puppet Co. at Glen Echo Park has announced its 2012-2013 season. Call 301-634-5380 or visit www.thepuppetco.org. **Cinderella**, through June 9, Thursdays and Fridays at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, May 12, see "Fletcher Mackey: Arc" at the Gibbs Street Gallery. Free. Visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200.

Art Exhibit. Through Sunday, May 12, see "Mixtopias" at the Kaplan Gallery. Free. Visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200.

Art Exhibit. Through Saturday, May 25, see a painting collection by Sayeh Behnam, at 10116 Lloyd Road. It is an exhibition of color, harmony and rhythm. Free. 202-276-9419 for hours.

Art Exhibit. Through Monday, May 27, see images of works by William Gudenrath at Partnership Office Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Visit glenechopark.org.

Art Exhibit. Through Monday, May 27, see photographs of William Gudenrath's works at Ballroom Annex at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. He is a glassblower. Free. Visit glenechopark.org.

Musical. Through Sunday, June 2, see "Big Nate" at Adventure Theatre MTC, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. \$19. Visit www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org or 301-634-2270 for showtimes.

Art Exhibit. Through Monday, June 10, see "Accidental Architecture: Depictions of Demolition," a photography exhibit by Julie Miller at Photoworks Gallery in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Open Saturdays from 1-4 p.m., Sundays from 1-8 p.m., and whenever a class is in session. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org for more.

Creative Crafts Council. Through Thursday, June 13, browse a crafty collection featuring works by local artists. Free. At Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. Visit strathmore.org.

Spectacular Saturday Fun. Every Saturday through August there will be a new media for a child to try at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Sign up for one or for all, it is not a series. Visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200 to register for a class.

Group Bike Ride. Thursday nights through September at 7 p.m. enjoy a bike ride. Meet at Freshbikes

Bethesda store, 7626 Old Georgetown Road. All abilities welcome. Free. Visit www.freshbikescycling.com for more.

ARTS8 is a group of eight **Artists in Residence** at the Stone Tower Gallery, Yellow Barn, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. They can be visited while working and showing their art, during May and June. Open to the public Tuesday to Sunday, noon-5 p.m. The art runs the gamut from purely abstract to representational. Visit www.glenechopark.org/ARTS8.

MONDAYS THROUGH JUNE 17

Art Class. 7-9:30 p.m. at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Work in oils or acrylics to paint a series of still life setups. \$200 for eight-week class. Visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 8

Art Exhibit. 9 am.-4:30 p.m. at Glenview Mansion Art Gallery, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. See works from Rockville Art League. Free.

Siblings — A Unique Perspective. Parenting a child with special needs can be challenging. The impact on the family, specifically the siblings, can be profound. Ms. White will share her knowledge and provide resources to help you support your children. Call 301-468-9343.

Pizza Night for McPaw. 4-9 p.m. at Potomac Pizza, 9812 Falls Road. Help raise money for a new animal shelter. Tell the server that you want to support them. Visit www.mcpaw.org for more.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. Sixteen-year-old Daisy Castro will perform Gypsy jazz. \$15. Visit www.strathmore.org for more.

THURSDAY/MAY 9

Free Thursday Concert. 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park, corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues, Bethesda. Hear Irish rock music from Lloyd Dobler Effect. Visit www.bethesda.org or 301-215-6660.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Herbert Hoover Middle School, 6300 Tilden Lane, Rockville. See "The Pirates of Penzance" presented by the middle school. \$5 at the door. 301-469-1010.

Music Performance. 7:30 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701

Rockville Pike. Mak Grgic will perform. \$30. Visit strathmore.org.

Blues Dance. 8:15-11:30 p.m. at Ballroom Annex, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Capital Blues presents blues dancing. \$8. Visit www.capitalblues.org for more.

Preschool Story Time. 10:30 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Stories, songs and rhymes for 3-6 year olds. Free. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries or 240-777-0690.

FRIDAY/MAY 10

Bela Fleck and Marcus Roberts Trio. 8 p.m. Fleck brings a brilliant collaboration with one of today's most lauded jazz ensembles, with Marcus Roberts on piano, Jason Marsalis on drums and Rodney Jordan on bass. The Music Center at Strathmore 5301 Tuckerman Lane. Visit www.strathmore.org.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Herbert Hoover Middle School, 6300 Tilden Lane, Rockville. See "The Pirates of Penzance" presented by the middle school. \$5 at the door. 301-469-1010.

Opening Reception. 6:30-8:30 p.m. see "Accidental Architecture: Depictions of Demolition," a photography exhibit by Julie Miller at Photoworks Gallery in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

Opening Reception. 6-8 p.m. see "Color Chronicles" by J. Jordan Bruns in the Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free. Visit www.jjbruns.com for more.

Art Walk in the Park. 6-8 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Resident artists will open their studios, enjoy demonstrations, silent auction and more. Visit www.glenechopark.org/art-walk-park or 301-634-2222.

Contra Dance. 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Music by Glen Echo Open Band. \$10. Visit www.fridaynightdance.org.

Salsa Dance. 8 p.m.-midnight at Ballroom Annex at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$12. Visit www.oohsalsa.com for more.

MAY 10 THROUGH JUNE 9

Art Exhibit. See "Color Chronicles" by J. Jordan Bruns in the Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Hours are noon-6 p.m. Free. Visit www.jjbruns.com for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 11

Bethesda Fine Arts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. in downtown Bethesda. Artists from around the country will showcase painting, drawing, photography and more. Will feature entertainment, children's

Mercy Health Clinic Fundraiser

5th Annual 5k Run/Walk at Mercy Health Clinic, Features screenings and health information booths. \$30/early bird; \$35/on site; \$25/youth. Saturday, May 18 at 8:30 a.m. The event will also feature health tables with medical professionals offering screenings and information. Visit mercyhealthclinic.org.

The Company of "James and the Giant Peach" at Imagination Stage. From left: Megan Graves as the Mayor's wife, Phillip Reid as Earthworm, Eric Messner as Centipede, Lauren Du Pree as Miss Spider, Sean Silvia as James, Leigh Jameson as Ladybug, Matthew Schleigh as Grasshopper, and Joe Brack as the Director.



PHOTO BY MARCOT SCHULMAN

Roald Dahl Takes Over at Imagination Stage

"James and the Giant Peach," the Roald Dahl story returns to Imagination Stage and teams up with the world premiere of "The Magic Finger," one of Dahl's lesser known stories. Both shows, performed on the same stage and using the same set and cast, run in repertory in Imagination Stage's Annette M.

and Theodore N. Lerner Family Theatre through May 26. Best for ages 4-10, tickets are \$12 to \$25, and may be purchased online at www.imaginationstage.org, at the Imagination Stage box office, or via phone at 301-280-1660. Group rates are available.

activities and more. Visit www.bethesda.org.

Grateful Shred VI. 9 a.m.-noon at Clara Barton Community Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John. Clean out old files and shred them. \$5/box of paper. 240-777-4910.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. at Herbert Hoover Middle School, 6300 Tilden Lane, Rockville. See "The Pirates of Penzance" presented by the middle school. \$5 at the door. 301-469-1010.

Opening Reception. 3-7 p.m. see a painting collection by Sayeh Behnam, at 10116 Lloyd Road. It is an exhibition of color, harmony and rhythm. Free. RSVP to 202-276-9419.

Solar & Green Home Expo. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Bethesda Green, 4825 Cordell Ave. Free event with presentations, displays and more. Visit www.bethesdagreen.org.

Free Bird Walk. 8-10 a.m., meet at Lockhouse 22 at Pennyfield Lock. All levels welcome. Free, but RSVP to curtis@canaltrust.org.

Book Sale. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Sponsored by Friends of the Library. Most hardbacks are \$1 and most paperbacks are \$.50. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries or 240-777-0690.

Family Days. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Lockhouse 25. Families can participate in hands-on programs to learn about the C&O canal. Free. Designed for children in grades K-6.

SUNDAY/MAY 12

Bethesda Fine Arts Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in downtown Bethesda. Artists from around the country will showcase painting, drawing, photography and more. Will feature entertainment, children's activities and more. Visit www.bethesda.org.

Zydeco Dance. 3-6 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Dance with Preston Frank and Big Daddy Zydeco. \$18. Visit www.dancingbythebayou.com.

Family Dance. 3-5 p.m. at Ballroom Annex at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. All ages welcome. \$5, age 4 and older. Visit www.fsgw.org.

Argentine Tango. 6:30-11 p.m. at Ballroom Annex, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. DJ Rene Davila will mix the music. \$15/person; \$10/dance only. Visit www.glenechopark.org.

Contra Dance. 7-10:30 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$13/nonmember; \$10/member; \$5/17 and under. Visit www.fridaynightdance.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 15

Great Strides Event. 7 p.m. at Bethesda Row through the Capital Crescent Trail. Enjoy a fun 2-mile walk to benefit Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Register at www.cff.org/great-strides. Check-in starts 6 p.m.

Book Club. 1 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Discuss "The Tiger's Wife" by Tea Obreht. Visit

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries or 240-777-0690.

THURSDAY/MAY 16

Free Thursday Concert. 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park, corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues, Bethesda. Hear alternative country music from the Walkaways. Visit www.bethesda.org or 301-215-6660.

Blues Dance. 8:15 -11:30 p.m. at Ballroom Annex, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Capital Blues presents blues dancing. \$8. Visit capitalblues.org.

Potomac Toddlers. 10:30 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Children ages 12-36 months. Free. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries or 240-777-0690.

FRIDAY/MAY 17

Cultural Dance and Cuisine. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road. Enjoy

dance performances by local groups while tasting appetizers from a variety of cultures. 240-777-6870 to request special accommodations.

Contra Dance. 7:30-11:30 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Music by Swallowtail. \$10; \$5/17 and under. Visit www.fridaynightdance.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 18

Art Show. See "Radiate" by graduating high school artists Isabella Gatti and Grace DeWitt at Yellow Barn Gallery in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. from noon-7 p.m. Reception 5-7 p.m. Free. Visit glenechopark.org or 301-371-5593.

"Strut Your Mutt" Dog Parade and Festival. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in downtown Bethesda. Browse more than 40 exhibitors and sponsors. Proceeds benefit the Montgomery County Humane Society. Visit www.strutyourmuttbethesda.org or 301-523-7794.

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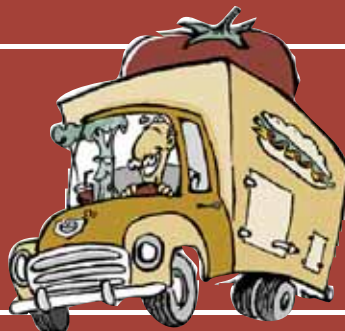
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Manifest Destiny

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Are the miscellaneous symptoms I'm feeling, physically, the cancer manifesting itself or rather is it simply yours truly aging semi gracefully and realizing my "Star-Trekkian" destiny: Living long and prospering (I equate above average/unexpected good health with prospering), despite my less-than-encouraging, original NSCLC (stage IV) diagnosis and subsequent "terminal" prognosis? Or am I, as I have said many times before, "a victim of soy-cum-stance?" Not one to ever look a gift horse in the mouth or not quote/invoke/refer to Star Trek, The Three Stooges, M*A*S*H or Seinfeld whenever possible; nevertheless, as you regular readers have come to realize about this or perhaps any "terminal" patient with whom you've had any interaction: Being able to control what we think and in turn how we sometimes behave; selfishly, irrationally, illogically; and dare I admit, incoherently, is a bit unrealistic. Although, we try to try; more often than not, we fail (at least I do). Being diagnosed with a type of cancer for which there is, at present, no known cure leads to a sort of emotional incontinence (my made-up phrase): everything doesn't exactly come out as planned and there may not be a Depends-type of solution for it.

I'm not suggesting or implying that "terminal"/diagnosed-with-incurable cancer patients are unable or even unwilling to censor themselves or act reasonably, responsibly, intelligently, etc., in the face of presumptive certain death, it's more that when something (a normal life expectancy) is adversely affected – through the randomness of life, the impact on your brain/thought processes is incalculable. It's akin to attempting to describe the taste of milk: You know what you're supposed to do, but you just can't do it. And what makes this circumstance even more challenging – to me, is the longer I live, post-diagnosis, the less I'm inclined to even care about trying to "do it." When your future/destiny is snatched away from you – unfairly or not, all bets are off and predicting any kind of consistent behavioral adherence to societal norms from us lucky-to-be-alive survivors might be expecting a bit too much.

Oh sure, we'll have our moments – and manners and mores where it appears as if the cancer is having a minimal effect; however, at the end of the day – and night, during those private, only-you-know-what-you're-feeling bouts of depression, control or rather your lack thereof, will likely rear its ugly emotional head. It's not so much traumatic as it is familiar and surely enough, as the old saying goes: This familiarity definitely breeds contempt.

And so it becomes a constant battle. Not exactly good versus evil but more so: What's fact and what's fiction? What's truth and what's a consequence? And most importantly, what's cancer and what's simply being the age you are. I always default to the latter – for obvious reasons, but for all I know, it could be the former.

I suppose at this juncture, given the recent death of Allan Arbus, who played psychiatrist Sidney Freedman on the long-running television show, M*A*S*H, perhaps I should follow his most famous advice: "Pull your pants down and slide on the ice." And chill. Life's too short. (Don't I know it!)

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

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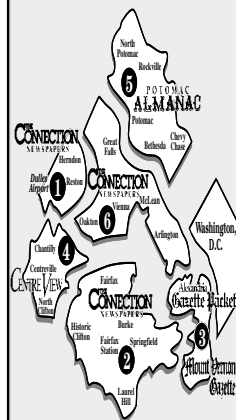
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Wootton Softball Enters Playoffs as No. 4 Seed

The Wootton softball team closed the regular season with a pair of lopsided victories, but head coach Alton Lightsey would have preferred a more competitive conclusion.

The Patriots defeated Wheaton 15-0 in five innings on May 4. Wootton head coach Alton Lightsey sat most of his starters, with the hopes of not disrupting their timing at the plate by facing slower pitching. Two days later, the Patriots beat Kennedy 15-2 in five innings.

“We’re going to have to ramp up the intensity when it comes play-off time,” Lightsey said after the Wheaton game. “[The Patriots] are playing well. These are the types of games I don’t necessary want to play right before the playoffs.”

Despite a 1-3 start, Wootton finished the season 11-5 and earned the No. 4 seed in the 4A West region. The Patriots will host Magurder on Thursday, May 9 in the opening round of the playoffs.

Wootton also finished 5-0 in the 4A South division, captured its second consecutive division title and fifth in program history.

“I’m proud of that accomplishment,” said Lightsey, who has won three division championships in 11 seasons with Wootton. “The division is a goal that we have, it’s a trophy in the trophy case, but the ultimate goal is the region and that’s really what we’re shooting for.”

Last season, Wootton entered the playoffs as the No. 2 seed in the 4A West region, but lost to Clarksburg in the quarterfinals.

“We’ve done well,” Lightsey said, “but we want to take that next step.”

Toria Yan has led the way offensively for Wootton this season. The



Wootton's Gracie Gesiskie pitches against Wheaton on May 4.

sophomore left fielder through 14 games led the Patriots in batting average (.533), hits (24), extra base hits (8), RBIs (20), runs (21), on-base percentage (.593) and slugging (.822).

Dana Barbaro was batting .353, Niki Boyd was hitting .319 and Haley Rolfes had a .310 average.

In the pitcher's circle, Haley White led the team with 69 2/3

innings. She posted an 8-4 record with a 2.81 ERA.

Boys', Girls' Lacrosse Playoffs

The Maryland Public Secondary School Athletic Association re-



Wootton's Kelly Regan bats against Wheaton on May 4.

leased its boys' lacrosse brackets, with Churchill and Wootton receiving first-round byes in the 4A/3A West region.

Churchill earned the top seed and will face the winner of No. 8 Blake and No. 9 Einstein. Wootton in the No. 3 seed and will face the winner of No. 6 Paint Branch and No. 11 Whitman.

In girls' lacrosse, Wootton received the No. 4 seed and a first-

round bye in the 4A/3A West bracket. The Patriots will take on the winner of No. 5 Bethesda-Chevy Chase and No. 12 Walter Johnson.

Churchill received the No. 10 seed and will travel to face No. 7 Kennedy at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 8. Whitman is the No. 8 seed and will host No. 9 Einstein at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Jason Fish was recognized at an Honors Day Ceremony held by the School of Business Administration at the University of Vermont earlier this spring. Fish received the Senior Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship presented by the UVM School of Business.

Six Montgomery County Public Schools seniors from four high schools have been awarded corpo-

rate-sponsored National Merit Scholarships financed by corporations, company foundations, and other business organizations. The winners, their intended field of study, and sponsors are:

Sharon Shuwan Chen from Montgomery Blair High School, statistics, CSC.

Neil G. Shekar from Winston Churchill High School, computer engineering, Northrop Grumman.

Srihari Devaraj from Richard Montgomery High School, electrical engineering, CSC.

Fiona V. Lam from Richard Montgomery High School, mathematics,

Mary E. Beyerle Trust.

Ankit K. Sarkar from Richard Montgomery High School, finance, Mary E. Beyerle Trust.

Benjamin A. Bouvier from Walt Whitman High School, biochemistry, Lockheed Martin.

Marlena Abramowitz and **Krishna Murti** were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Abramowitz was initiated at University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Murti was initiated at University of Maryland University College.

Register for Bike to Work Day

On Friday May 17, Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association will co-sponsor the region's annual Bike to Work Day.

There will be more than 70 pit stops throughout the Washington area, of which 17 will be in Montgomery County. Six of the pit stops will be sponsored by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, Commuter Services and these include Silver Spring - Discovery, Friendship Heights, Bethesda - Reed Street (Woodmont and Bethesda avenues), North Bethesda, Rockville Town Center and, in partnership with the City of Rockville, Fallsgrove.

Registered participants will receive a free tee shirt and refreshments at the stops and will have the opportunity to enter a raffle for a free bicycle and other prizes.

The pit stops in Montgomery County are:
❖ Bethesda, Naval Support Activity

- ❖ Bethesda, National Institutes of Health, Building 1
- ❖ Bethesda, Reed Street (Woodmont and Bethesda avenues)
- ❖ Friendship Heights
- ❖ Gaithersburg
- ❖ North Bethesda, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- ❖ Rock Spring Business Park
- ❖ Rockville - Fallsgrove
- ❖ Rockville - Tower Oaks/Wootton
- ❖ Rockville - Town Center
- ❖ Rockville - Twinbrook
- ❖ Silver Spring - Discovery Place
- ❖ Silver Spring - East/West Highway
- ❖ Takoma Park - Downtown/Old Takoma
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