

Potomac ALMANAC

Enjoying The Outdoors

SPRING FUN, PAGE 4

Farnoush Alemansour swings her son Daniel on Saturday, March 22. "We are just happy to be outside finally," she said.

Spring's Must Do List

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SPRING FUN



Chef Dara Yaffe Lyubinsky, the founder of Tastes Like More Personal Chef Service, enjoys creating spring dishes like Creamy Asparagus and Leek Soup. She also uses spring fruit to create fresh desserts.

New Food for Spring

Local chefs offer suggestions for using spring vegetables in cold weather.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

When Dara Yaffe Lyubinsky was growing up in Potomac she always enjoyed cooking, whether it was with her family and friends, or for her synagogue. Today, she's passionate about cooking fresh, seasonal meals.

Lyubinsky, like many chefs and culinary enthusiasts, is looking forward to strolling through farmers markets and creating fanciful spring dishes with the season's freshest bounty, especially as she prepares to return to D.C. from New York.

However, she and other chefs are making the most of the available spring produce even if warm weather seems a like a distant dream.

"Since it's still so chilly outside, and the forecast is still calling for snow, we're incorporating some of spring's newest produce into some heartier, cold weather dishes," said Lyubinsky, a professional personal chef and the owner of Tastes Like More Personal Chef Service (www.tasteslikemoreDC.com), a boutique culinary service.

She's also a graduate of the Institute of Culinary Education and the University of Maryland, as well as a 2001 graduate of Thomas S. Wootton High School in Rockville.

One meal that melds comforts of winter with the freshness of spring is vegetable risotto. She combines green, spring vegetables with cool, creamy aioli, which she flavors with ramps

"...We've been slowly dipping our toes into lighter fare influenced by the beautiful produce that is slowly becoming available as spring tries to fight its way through this seemingly everlasting winter."

— Chef Dara Yaffe Lyubinsky

SEE CHEFS, PAGE 6

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SPRING FUN

POTOMAC ALMANAC EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
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Spring's Must Do List

Mark the calendar for fun things this spring.

COMPILED BY KEN MOORE
THE ALMANAC

Friday-Sunday, March 28, 29 and 30 — Potomac Theatre Company's Swan Song: Annie

The Potomac Theatre Company's 25th Silver Anniversary Season will also be its last.

"We're going to have to close our doors," said board member Carole Dell. "It's really quite sad."

The local theatre company will raise and lower its curtain for its final performances with its production of "Annie."

"It's bittersweet because some of us have been working on this the entire time," said Elie Pizarra Cain. "We're all broken hearted, but we have to look at it realistically. ...It's been a wonderful run."

Potomac Theatre Company's final production takes place this Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in the Blair Family Center for the Arts at the Bullis School, 10601 Falls Road. Call 301-299-8571. Visit www.potomactheatreco.org for more.

Saturday, April 5 Potomac Watershed Cleanup

The Potomac Watershed Cleanup is sponsored annually by the Alice Ferguson Foundation. This year's cleanup event is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m.-noon. Last year, 14,586 volunteers cleared 624,000 pounds of trash from the river and riverbanks, including 193,800 beverage containers; 314 tires; 27,400 cigarette butts; and 27,200 plastic bags. Volunteers helped at 633 sites, many here in Potomac. Visit www.fergusonfoundation.org.

Saturday, April 26 Canal Pride at Great Falls

The Annual C&O Canal Pride Days, a joint effort between the park and C&O Canal Trust, brings hundreds of volunteers into the park to conduct maintenance projects. Work at C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls (Md.) and other sites along the Potomac River and C&O Canal towpath from April to June.

Space is limited at events, so sign up early to ensure your spot. Groups, families, individuals, and businesses are all welcome and encouraged to participate. Call the Canal Trust at 301-714-2233, www.canaltrust.org, or visit the park website at www.nps.gov/choh.

Friday, April 11-Monday, April 14 Bethesda Literary Festival

The Bethesda Literary Festival has been held annually in April. Features poets, authors, journalists, novelists, poetry slams, essay contests and youth book parties. Literary events take place in downtown Bethesda's bookstores, galleries and retail businesses, as well as the library and elementary school. Visit www.bethesda.org/



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Annie (Annie Coulson) and Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks (Ed Spitzberg) in Potomac Theatre Company's final performances. "Annie" will stage final performances Friday, March 28-Sunday, March 30.

specialevents/litfest/litfest.htm

Sunday, April 27 Pike's Peek 10K

Pike's Peek 10K runs along Rockville Pike from Shady Grove Metro to White Flint Mall on April 27, 2014. The road race is one of Montgomery County Road Runners Club's premiere racing events. Celebrate at the finish area with food, family activities, music and exhibits. Visit the Montgomery County Road Runners Club website at www.mcrcc.org or pikespeek10k.com.

Friday, May 2-Sunday, May 4 Azalea Festival & Mark's Run

The 61st annual Landon Azalea Garden Festival is scheduled for May 2-4, 2014 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Perkins Garden on the Landon campus, 6101 Wilson Lane in Bethesda. The annual festival dates back to the mid-1950s when Landon's founders, Paul and Mary Lee Banfield opened the newly acquired azalea garden to the pub-



PHOTO BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT/THE ALMANAC

Dick Hagen, honorary whipper-in for Potomac Hunt, and his horse, "Hawaii," were the heroes of the day at the 2013 Potomac Hunt races held. This year's hunt will take place Sunday, May 18.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Michael Herman and Lori Arguelles hold a shoe and a computer found during 2013 cleanup day in the parks. This year's Potomac Watershed Cleanup will take place Saturday, April 5.

lic. Call 301-320-3200 or visit www.landon.net.

Mark's Run 5k and one-mile fun run is held each year in memory of Landon alumnus Mark Vaughn Ferris '94, who lost his battle with juvenile diabetes on Dec. 13, 1999. In May 2013, hundreds of runners participated in the annual Mark's Run, raising more than \$50,000 for the Mark Ferris Scholarship Fund at Landon, and giving, in partnership with the Stewart Trust, \$75,000 to the Joslin Diabetes Center. This year's race is scheduled for May 4 at 8 a.m.

May Farmers Market Opens

The Potomac Village Farmers Market sprouts from May through October (and sometimes into November), Thursdays, 2-6:30 p.m. at Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 South Glen Road at corner of Falls Road and Democracy Boulevard. Call 301-792-6054.

Saturday, May 17 Strawberry Festival

Get the best strawberry shortcake in town. The Strawberry Festival at Potomac United Methodist Church, 10300 Falls Road in Potomac, is traditionally held the weekend before Memorial Day. Berries, a silent auction, bake sale, rummage sale, craft fair, dollar items and games and activities for children. The event is sponsored by the Potomac United Methodist women and draws about 1,000 members of the community. The proceeds support the church's mission work. Call the church at 301-299-9383 or visit www.potomac-umc.org.

Sunday, May 18

Potomac Hunt Races

The Potomac Hunt Races is an annual tradition, celebrating the sport of steeplechase racing and benefiting local charities. Race day festivities include steeplechase racing, thoroughbreds and festival tailgate parties, a car show, mounted police demonstrations, pony rides, moon bounce and more. Visit www.potomachuntraces.com. The event takes place on the fields of the Kiplinger estate, 14401B Partnership Road, in Poolesville. Gates open this year at 11 a.m. and the activities start at noon.

And More

❖ Spring Festival at the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George, Friday-Sunday, May 2-4, 2014, 7701 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. The annual festival includes traditional Greek cuisine, outdoor/indoor dining, Greek dancing, church tours and Greek pastries. Call 301-469-7990 or visit www.stgeorge.org.

❖ Mule-Drawn Canal Boat Rides, Great Falls Tavern, May -October. Call the C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls visitor center, 301-767-3714 or visit www.nps.gov

❖ Potomac Horse Center Annual Spring Open House, visit www.PotomacHorse.com for more.

❖ Run Aware 5K, Cabin John Regional Park, Westlake Drive, Sunday, May 11, organized by Montgomery County Road Runners Club. Race through woods, trails, and, if lucky, mud. Along with the 5K (Cross Country Series) race, there will be a 1K (Junior Participation Series) race. Visit www.mcrcc.org.

❖ Monday, June 23-Sunday, June 29, Tiger Woods Foundation tournament at Congressional. Quicken Loans is replacing AT&T as the title sponsor of the PGA's annual golf tournament at Congressional Country Club. Visit www.tigerwoodsfoundation.org.

SPRING FUN

Spring Days Bring Outdoor Fun

Taking advantage of a sunny day.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Potomac residents are feeling the need to escape the confines of home, the drudgery of shoveling snow and the cold wintery days. Spring is upon us, and when we get a warm day like Saturday — children and adults alike

just can't wait to get outside to enjoy the sunshine, fresh air and springtime temperatures. Soon the trees and flowers will be bursting and beautiful and eventually the heat and humidity. But for now residents were thrilled with the day — they dusted off their bikes, took the dog for a longer walk, hit the golf course or basked in the sunshine.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC



Dianne Wawrzusin walks her dog Ginger through the Avenel park. "I am looking forward to not having to wear a winter jacket when I walk Ginger," she said.



Siamak Alemansour, with sons Daniel and Neema, said, "We are enjoying relaxing in the sun after Neema's soccer practice."



Bicycle riders from the Washington Area Bike Club take a water and rest break in Potomac Village before biking to the Swedish Embassy for a spring party.



Jeff Samit and Evan Katz practice their golf swings at Bethesda Country Club. "I'm working hard on my game with lessons, coaching and practicing," said Samit, a golfer who sports a 3 handicap. Katz, who's handicap is a 0, said, "I try to practice every day."



Jan Shafer and Noreen Marcus are ready to hit the links. "I can't wait for summer," said Shafer.



Bethesda Country Club pros Pat Bedingfield and John Scott Rattan give instruction to golfers in a spring putting clinic.

SPRING FUN

Virginia Bluebells: Native Spring Beauty

Carpets of bluebells coming soon to a park near you.

BY DONALD SWEIG

The Virginia Bluebells are coming. In early Spring, these native wildflowers will burst into bloom profusely throughout much of the Washington area. Botanically named *Mertensia virginica*, one of a number of species of *Mertensia*, Virginia Bluebells can be found in many moist, woodland areas, especially along streams and rivers.

Depending on the weather, they first appear in early April as light pink buds, and then open into several shades of pink, blue and even white. In some areas along the local rivers they bloom in stunning profusion, creating a veritable carpet of color.

After perhaps 10 days to two weeks, the blossoms will fade and not appear again until the following Spring. They are not difficult to find in season and most wildflower enthusiasts have a favorite Bluebell haunt.

They are easy to find along the floodplain of the Potomac River at Turkey Run Park, a National Park Service site, on the George Washington Memorial Parkway, just inside the beltway in McLean.

There are also large and popular stands of Bluebells at the Bull Run Regional Park, a Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority site.

Look for them also at Great Falls National Park in Virginia, or along the C&O Canal in Potomac. Take your binoculars; bluebells often grow on the islands in the



© Donald M. Sweig

PHOTO BY DONALD SWEIG

Classic Virginia Bluebells in full bloom. There are many local places to enjoy these native Virginia wildflowers, including Riverbend Park in Great Falls, Bull Run Park in Centreville and the C&O National Historical Park in Potomac.

middle of the river.

Bluebells grow best, and most profusely, in the sandy soils of the floodplain along the local rivers. A particularly stunning and easily accessible stand of Bluebells is in Fairfax County's Riverbend Park, where one can walk the paths both up and down river from the visitor center with copious bluebells on both sides of the path. It's a sight to behold. One might also notice other Spring wildflowers along the various trails, along the river floodplains and in the nearby woods.

The annual appearance of the Virginia Bluebells is a treat too sweet to miss. Take your camera to preserve the memory, but please don't pick the wild bluebells; they are very fragile and will soon wither if plucked.

If you are interested in growing these flowers yourself, they like moist to wet soil in part or mostly shaded areas, according to the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia: "Best planted at the edge of a woodland path or by a shaded pond." Bluebells appear to be both deer and rabbit resistant.

Where to Look for Virginia Bluebells

Depending on the weather, early to mid-April is the best time to find them in full bloom. Try these public places for reliable stands of Bluebells:

❖ Turkey Run Park, National Park Service, George Washington Memorial Parkway. Visit <http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/planyourvisit/turkeyrun.htm>

❖ Great Falls National Park, 9200 Old Dominion Dr, McLean, VA 22102

Call 703-285-2965 or visit <http://www.nps.gov/grfa/index.htm>

❖ Bull Run Regional Park, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, 7700 Bull Run Dr, Centreville, VA 20121. Call 703-631-0550 or visit https://www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run

❖ C&O Canal National Historic Park, 11710 MacArthur Blvd, Potomac. Call 301-582-0813 or visit

<http://www.nps.gov/choh/index.htm>
Look for the bluebells on the floodplain between the canal and the river or on the islands in the river.

❖ Riverbend Park, Fairfax County Park Authority, 8700 Potomac Hills St, Great Falls. Call 703-759-9018 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/>
Riverbend is a particularly easy place to see a stunning display of

Bluebells. The park is open every day, admission is free. Try calling the park to check when the bluebells are in full bloom. Visitor center closed on Tuesdays.

Spring is wildflower time. Many species of spring ephemerals grace the river banks from March to June. Take a walk between carpets of Virginia Bluebells and Spring Beauties, and look for Wild Ginger, Dutchman's Breeches and Trout Lilies.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

The Changing Face of the Luxury Home

The economic changes and housing meltdown of the last decade means that there's a whole new set of attitudes prevailing in the luxury home market. "McMansions", once en vogue, are a thing of the past. No longer is square footage the standard in defining a luxury home—today's luxury homeowner trends towards smaller spaces whose amenities are tailored to suit a variety of hobbies, individual needs, lifestyles and values, as well as placing convenience and function at a premium. Home ownership attitudes have also changed across the board. Susanne Tauke, president of New American Homes, believes "The number of luxury buyers is definitely down. Those who are in the market today are not as interested in the investment value of their homes as they were a few years ago. Today's buyers expect to live in their homes for longer periods of time and have no illusions about making a 'killing' on the resale." What does this mean for luxury home sellers? It means that the luxury home sales market is catering to a new kind of buyer—one who still asks for top-notch luxury, but in a modern way. Some important elements to consider in the modern luxury homes market include:

- Community amenities. What else does your property offer? Golf courses, marinas, community fitness centers and tennis courts are all draws for "lifestyle luxury buyers"
- Personalized Home Amenities. From bathroom spas to boat slips, bedroom kitchens to porte cocheres and garage car lifts, discriminating luxury buyers are looking for rooms that make the most of the square footage available, rather than square footage that defines the quality of luxury available in the home.
- Distinctive Styling. Luxury buyers are in the market for a one-of-a-kind living space, not a "cookie cutter" mansion like all the others on the block. Take the time to spend with an architect and make sure there's a distinctive element that sets your home apart from other like it.
- Automation. Whether it's the lights or heating/cooling system, the security system, the entertainment center or the kitchen appliances, automatic controls are making a splash in luxury home buying.
- Outdoor Space. The square footage outside is becoming as important as the square footage inside! Lanais, screened-in porches, infinity windows and walled off gardens connecting to master bedrooms are ever-increasingly popular options that give luxury homes a distinctive flair.
- Jack & Jill Bathrooms. The "his and hers" bathroom layout is not only practical, but one that is hotly trending nowadays. Oversized master bedrooms are passé; today's modern emphasis is on individual grooming areas—not to mention the settling once and for all of the argument regarding the proper way to squeeze the toothpaste tube!
- Easy Maintenance. From floors and countertops to exteriors and landscaping—less is more. Luxury homeowners today don't want have to employ a small army to maintain their home. Low-key is the ultimate luxury!
- Flexibility of Space. Can the rooms in your home do double-duty? Compound rooms, or rooms that connect to one another, are a fantastic way to make a floor plan unique, functional and luxurious. Kitchen bedrooms, libraries with attached baths or master bedrooms that open into smaller entertaining areas are all sure-fire ways to make your home's blueprint singular and memorable.
- Casual Planning. Formal dining rooms aren't advantageous to today's modern lifestyle, so why include rooms whose function is limited in your layout? The more casual and comfortable the design of the rooms appears, the more interest your buyer will have in making it their own.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying and selling real estate, call:

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SPRING FUN

The Wood Frogs Are Calling

One of the sure signs of Spring is hearing the duck-like calls of numerous Wood Frogs from a little puddle or vernal pool. On a recent Saturday in just such a puddle on the north side of the C&O canal towpath, just past Seneca Creek at Riley's Lock, folks were stopping to listen to a dozen or more calling and swimming and jumping Wood Frogs.

Wood Frogs (*Lithobates sylvaticus*) are found throughout Maryland and much of the eastern states as far south as Georgia. They often breed in vernal pools, like this one on the canal, as protection from predators, such as fish in larger bodies of water. Listen for them on warm afternoons and evenings. There were also some Spring Peepers (*Pseudacris crucifer*) calling at the puddle at Riley's, and you can listen for them as well.



PHOTO BY DONALD SWEIG
Wood frog in vernal pool near Riley's Lock in Potomac.

Chefs Discuss Spring Vegetables

FROM PAGE 2

to combine the best flavors of both seasons.

Although Lyubinsky often cooks for athletes, media personalities, and financiers, her favorite people to cook for are families who simply want to eat more wholesome, carefully-curated, good-for-them food at home.

"We've been slowly dipping our toes into lighter fare influenced by the beautiful produce that is slowly becoming available as spring tries to fight its way through this seemingly everlasting winter," said Lyubinsky.

Among Lyubinsky's most savory transitional meals is a winter recipe makeover: spring vegetable pasta fagioli with pea pesto crostini. She trades winter root vegetables like butternut squash for spring's zucchini and fava beans in this classic soup.

COMBINING THE BOLDLY DIFFERENT tastes of fennel and citrus is also a favorite of Arlington, Va., based chef and instructor Kristen Robinson of The International Culinary School at The Art Institute of Washington.

"Fennel: I like to shave [it] thin and prepare a salad of shaved fennel and grapefruit over arugula dressed with lemon juice and olive oil," she said. "I love to fry artichokes and serve [them] with a mint pesto and currants and pine nuts, or braise the artichokes with saffron and dried cherries."

Robinson uses fava beans and peas in spring salads, but she also finds heartier uses for them: "I also like to purée them and use them as a substitute for potatoes and add herbs like parsley or chives." She recommends serving her fava and pea purée with chicken or fish.

In spring, asparagus can often be found roasting in Robinson's kitchen. "I like to roast it in the oven and eat it with ricotta cheese with lemon zest and black pepper," she said. "Sometimes I add a poached egg and call it breakfast."

Nancy Pollard of La Cuisine in Old Town Alexandria, Va., said, "One of the first things I do with spring produce is make some ... risotto. In the next week or so, we'll start seeing more asparagus at farmers markets. I love doing risotto with whatever I can find at the farmers market like asparagus, peas or ramps," she said. "It is great served with grilled fish or grilled meat."

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Late Night Comedy. Fridays (open mic night) and Saturdays (established comedians) at Benny's Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. Benny's is open 8 a.m.-1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Visit www.BennysBarGrill.com for more.

Art Exhibition. Classes are taught year-round for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. Fridays 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sundays noon-4 p.m. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Call 301-634-2273 or visit www.artglasscenteratglenecho.org.

Glassworks. Saturdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Glassworks is the area's first glass school. Classes are taught year-round for both new and advanced students. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Call 301-634-2280 or visit www.innervisionglassworks.com.

Photoworks. A resource for both student and professional photographers to develop their talents through classes, workshops, and exhibitions. Open Saturdays 1-4 p.m., Sundays 1-8 p.m., and during all scheduled classes and workshops. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Call 301-634-2274 or visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

Drop in Art Activities. Every Saturday from 9:30 a.m.-noon in the Candy Corner Studio at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., parents and children can explore a new art form or theme. \$10/child, parent combo. Drop-in only. Visit www.pgip.org for more.

Art Exhibit. See "Love is in the Air" at Photoworks Gallery in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Exhibit runs Feb. 21-March 31. Features images from more than 35 amateur and professional photographers living and working in the Washington Metropolitan Area. Hours are Saturdays 1-4 p.m. and Sundays from 1-8 p.m. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

Theater Performance. See "Inside Out" at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Runs March 1-April 6. Performances are Tuesdays-Fridays at 10:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m., and Saturdays-Sundays at 10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. The story tells of two children who use their imagination and dress-up to turn their room into a wonderland of mess. Interactive show appropriate for ages 1-5. Tickets are \$10-12 with a \$5 lap seat for children under 12 months. Tickets can be purchased at www.imaginationstage.org, at the box office or 301-280-1660.

Art Exhibit. See "Expressions in Glass" in the Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Glassworks resident artist Paul Swartwood will exhibit works in blown glass, along with artists Mark Hill, Carol Hurwitch, Allan Jaworski, and Kevin Lurie, with whom he collaborated. Free. Hours are Saturdays and Sundays from noon-6 p.m. Runs March 22 through April 7. Visit www.glenechopark.org or 301-634-2222.

Theater Production. See "The Great American Trailer Park Musical" presented by Rockville Musical Theatre at the Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road, Gaithersburg. Runs April 4-20. Visit <http://www.r-m-t.org/> or 301-258-6394.

Art Exhibit. "Seeing it in Black and White" is on exhibit at Gallery Har Shalom in Congregation Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road, March 2-April 28. The exhibit features prints, photography, glass jewelry and more. Hours are Monday-Thursday from 9

a.m.-5 p.m., Fridays from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m.-noon. Free. 301-299-7087.

Kaplan Gallery. See "Abstraction: Finding the Thread" through Sunday April 20, at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Some of the artists include, Timothy App, Dan Dudrow, Dennis Farber, Carol Miller Frost, Bill Schmidt, Jo Smail, and Michael Weiss. Visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200.

Group of Four. See large format photography exhibit, on March 29-May 4, at River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda. The exhibit features the work of George L. Smyth, Barry Schmetter, D. B. Stovall, and Scott Davis. The exhibit can be viewed Monday-Friday, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.rruuc.org.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

New Classes. Photoworks, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, is holding new classes. Visit <http://glenechophotoworks.org/gallery/> or 301-634-2226 for a list of classes and to register.

THURSDAY/MARCH 27

Blues Dance. 8:15 p.m. lessons start, dancing from 9-11:30 p.m. in the Back Room Annex, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. \$8. Capital Blues presents the dances. Visit www.capitalblues.org for more.

FRIDAY/MARCH 28

Theater Performance. Wootton High School is putting on "Hairspray" at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium, 2100 Wootton Parkway, Rockville. \$10/general; \$15/reserved. E-mail carla_a_ingram@mcpsmd.org or 301-279-8550.

Contra Dance. 7:30 p.m. lessons start; 8:30-11:30 p.m. dancing at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Figmets provide music. \$10/adult; \$5/17 and under. Visit www.fridaynightdance.org for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 29

Book Conference. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Bethesda Marriott, 5151 Pooks Hill Rd, Bethesda. Sponsored by the Washington Independent Review of Books, BOOKS ALIVE! is for writers and book lovers of all types. Includes an opportunity for aspiring authors to pitch their work to a roster of 17 literary agents. It also features industry and author panels covering marketing, platforms, publicity, mystery, fiction, self-help, cooking, politics, and children's books. Visit www.wirobooks.com for more.

Blues Workshop. Noon-5 p.m. in the Back Room Annex, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Admission to be determined. Capital Blues presents the dances. Visit www.capitalblues.org for more.

Theater Performance. 7:30 p.m. Wootton High School is putting on "Hairspray" at in the auditorium, 2100 Wootton Parkway, Rockville. \$10/general; \$15/reserved. E-mail carla_a_ingram@mcpsmd.org or 301-279-8550.

Celebration of Music. 8 p.m. at Westmoreland Congregational UCC Church, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Faculty members of the Washington Conservatory will perform to raise funds for scholarships for young music students. Free, but donations accepted. Visit <http://washingtonconservatory.org> for more.

Blues Dance. 8 p.m. lessons start, dancing from 9 p.m.-midnight in the Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. \$17. Capital Blues presents the dances. Visit

www.capitalblues.org for more.

SUNDAY/MARCH 30

Fundraiser. 1-5 p.m. at Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad, 5020 Battery Lane, Bethesda. The squad's alumni association is holding an all-you-can-eat shrimp and oyster feast fundraiser. \$45/person. Advance purchase required, 301-977-6634. Visit www.bccrs.org for more.

Dramatic Narrative. 1-3 p.m. at River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda. Anthony Cohen will perform "The Underground Railroad." \$30/adult; \$15/youth age 13-18; families are \$60. Proceeds benefit college scholarships for minorities. Visit www.rruuc.org or 301-229-0400.

Theater Performance. Wootton High School is putting on "Hairspray" at 2 p.m. in the auditorium, 2100 Wootton Parkway, Rockville. \$10/general; \$15/reserved. E-mail carla_a_ingram@mcpsmd.org or 301-279-8550.

Waltz Dance. 2:45-6 p.m. in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Dance to live music by The Figmets. \$10. Visit www.waltzimedances.org for more.

Music Performance. 3 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Performance by Peter Minkler and Jeremy Gill. \$25. Visit www.strathmore.org or 301-581-5100 for tickets.

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

Contra Dance. 7 p.m. lessons start; 7:30-10:30 p.m. dancing in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The Figmets provide music. \$13/nonmember; \$10/member; \$5/age 17 and under. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

FRIDAY/APRIL 4

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut St., Gaithersburg. More than 250 American artisans will show and sell their handcrafted work. Browse pottery, sculpture, glass, fashion, metal, fine art and more. Food, demonstrations, children's activities and live music will also be available. \$8/online or \$10/door for adults; children under 12 are free. Visit www.sugarloafcrafter.com or call 800-210-9900.

"Urinetown." 7 p.m. at Winston Churchill High School, Gertrude G. Bish Auditorium, 11300 Gainsborough Road, Potomac. Winston Churchill Drama Department presents "Urinetown," a satirical musical. In a dystopian future ravaged by drought water is more valuable than gold and every drop must be preserved — even drops that come out of the body. Excreting anywhere but in government sanctioned urinals owned by an evil corporation is a crime. The punishment? Banishment to the worst place in the world: Urinetown. \$15 at the door. Appropriate for ages 10 and older.

Theater Performance. Wootton High School is putting on "Hairspray" at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium, 2100 Wootton Parkway, Rockville. \$10/general; \$15/reserved. E-mail carla_a_ingram@mcpsmd.org or 301-279-8550.

SATURDAY/APRIL 5

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Montgomery County

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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OPINION

Working Towards a County Budget

BY ROGER BERLINER
COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER (DISTRICT 1)



The County Executive has released his recommendations for the fiscal year (FY) 2015 operating budget. I wanted to let you know some of the highlights that were in it, as the County Council begins our business of working to approve a final budget.

The recommended budget stays within the charter limit and totals \$4.97 billion for FY 2015, which begins July 1. The budget funds education beyond what is required by the State Maintenance of Effort Level law, puts more police on the beat, and reduces the County's property tax rate.

Some of the main budget highlights include:
❖ An unprecedented County contribution of \$1.5 billion for MCPS, 99.3 percent of the Board of Education's request and \$26 million over the State-required Maintenance of Effort level;

❖ An \$11 million increase for the Police Department that will add 23 sworn officers and two forensic scientists, and double the number of School Resource Officers assigned to

County high schools;

❖ A property tax credit of \$692 for each owner-occupied residence to limit the burden on homeowners;

❖ Holding the line on property taxes at the Charter limit with a drop in the property tax rate from \$1.01 per \$100 of assessed value to 99.6 cents;

❖ \$37.2 million for library funding, a 6.7 percent increase from FY 2014 and a 30 percent increase since FY 2012. In addition, the budget would fund increased hours by five percent at the following branches in District 1: Davis, Potomac, Chevy Chase, Kensington Park, and Little Falls;

❖ Additional funding for the developmental disability supplement and nurse monitoring services for more than 2,000 senior and disabled clients; raising the adult foster care reimbursement rate; adding funds for adult protective services, adult day care, and caregiver support;

❖ More than \$400,000 additional funding for the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County;

❖ Full funding of the County's Retiree Health

Benefits at \$105.1 million; and

❖ A 5.2 percent increase in tax-supported funding for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

These are just some of the highlights of the budget. To view the full budget and read through its individual sections, please visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov.

Just know that in order to produce a final budget that best reflects our community's priorities and values, we need to hear from you. Please reach out to my staff at 240-777-7828 or councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Also, if you wish to make your voice heard before the entire Council, we are holding public hearings on April 8, 9, and 10. To sign up to testify, please call 240-777-7803.

Finally, if you can't make any of these full Council hearings, I will be hosting a Town Hall meeting next Wednesday evening, March 26, beginning at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be at Cabin John Middle School (10701 Gainsborough Rd, Potomac). Come out with your comments. I'll be ready to listen.

Enjoy the first evening of Spring. Look forward to hearing from you soon.

COMMENTARY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protect Drinking Water

To the Editor:

If we don't put chemicals on our yards they will not be in our drinking water.

Our yards, when added together, constitute most of the land in Montgomery County. We can all work together and make vast improvements to our water quality and our health simply by not using conventional weed killers, pesticides and fertilizers on our yards and gardens. Each year in America, about 80 million pounds of pesticides are used on 30 million acres of lawns. When we put these chemicals on our lawns and gardens some are absorbed into our ground water aquifer, and some are carried by rainwater as run-off pollution. The chemicals are then washed into our streams and lakes and reservoirs — that together compromise the sources of our drinking water. Tests show that lawn chemicals are in much of our water supply.

The first national rivers and streams assessment performed by the EPA and released in 2013 found enough fertilizer in more than half of the water nation-wide and up to 71 percent in the East and Mid-West, that it was deemed of poor quality to support life. The USGS also released a study in 2013 that revealed that all of the streams, rivers, lakes and fish and one-half of the well water all had pesticides. So in essence, by contaminating the water we drink these chemicals find their way into our own bodies as well as our children's.

In a recent study, 44 percent of the people tested had the weed killer glyphosate (the active ingredient in Roundup) in their blood. We now know that very small amounts of pesticides can adversely affect human health, causing problems as diverse as autism, ADHD, diabetes and cancer. None of us would put these

chemicals directly in our children's drinking water, but in effect, that is what we are doing. The answer is simple: if we do not put these chemicals on our yards, they will not be in our drinking water. Together we can make a difference.

Barbara Hoover
Potomac

Time To Plan and Build

To the Editor:

Potomac. Home to one of the oldest elementary schools in our sprawling 155,000-student MCPS system.

Potomac ES was built in 1949, for a maximum of 415 students — 65 years ago. It now includes five "portables," down from a high of nine portables when enrollment exceeded 600 a decade ago, when my three children attended.

Montgomery Public Schools are among the most highly rated in the country, and we are rightly proud of our students, and of the teachers, staff and administrators who deliver these results and help our region to thrive.

But we need to ask hard questions: why is MCPS operating 26 high schools plus their feeder elementary and middle schools, with more than 450 portables for our children to sit in day after day? It speaks to a mismatch between new residential growth being approved, and school funding and planning. MCPS is currently taking in over 2,000 more students each year — one high school's worth. In the past six years MCPS saw an increase of more than 14,000 students.

The county and our PTAs have worked hard to make the case to Annapolis that the state needs to step up with construction funds, to help us keep up with the growth in enrollment.

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Potomac Almanac is published by Local Media Connection LLC

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This year's request is for the county to put up bonds for \$500M, to be matched with state bonds of \$250M. But even if we get the full amount requested, that would only pay off the "sins of the past" — it would not prevent us from returning to the same pattern going forward, if we continue to draw new families to the county.

We need to change that pattern, and that means the County Council must require closer alignment between approved projects on one hand, and the supporting infrastructure on the other. After all, on top of school crowding and maintenance problems, we have significant road and transit issues festering too, and unresolved and underfunded.

Our County Council has not done the job we need, to keep our county a desirable destination for families and businesses. Our schools and roads are simply overcrowded.

Elections, like the Primary on June 24, are about accountability — that means being held responsible for having done a good job, or a poor job.

And that's why I am supporting an exciting first-time candidate for County Council At-Large: Beth Daly. On the nine-member council there are four At-Large seats, and the whole county gets to vote June 24, on all four, plus on your individual district member. I urge you to look at Beth's website, www.bethdaly.org, and consider voting for change. Early voting starts June 12 at nine locations, and absentee voting starts May 10. The Primary (which is the election in our heavily-Democratic county) is June 24.

Please, remember to vote June 24. We deserve a responsive democracy.

Diana E. Conway/Potomac

Diana Conway is campaign chair for Beth Daly, candidate for County Council At-Large.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Prekindergarten and Head Start Registration. Walk-in applications are being accepted Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Rocking Horse Road Center, 4910 Macon Road, Room 141 in Rockville. Parents also can register their children at other community locations. Prekindergarten and Head Start for income-eligible children who will be four years old by Sept. 1, 2014, for the 2014-2015 school year. Call 301-230-0676 or visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org.

CAMP REGISTRATION

Summer Camp Registration. Montgomery Parks, part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is offering 88 summer camps in 2014 spanning a variety of interests including ice skating, tennis, golf, gardening, outdoor adventure, nature, and more. Summer camps are available for tots to teens at all skill levels and at hundreds of locations across the county. A \$25 discount is being offered for early registration for a select group of camps. Registration is open at www.ParkPASS.org. A complete list can be found at www.MontgomeryParks.org/camps, where camp searches may be filtered by age, location and key words. The 2014 Summer Camps guide is available online at www.MontgomeryParks.org/guide.

Print copies may be found at select Montgomery Parks' facilities, Montgomery County Recreation centers, government buildings and libraries while supplies last.

Summer Camp Registration Now Open. Photoworks at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., has summer camps children ages 7 and up. Visit www.ssreg.com/glenechopark/classes for a full listing.

COMPUTER COACHING

Jewish Council for the Aging is looking for senior volunteers to teach and coach computer classes at on site in Rockville and Gaithersburg. Classes are designed to help seniors refresh or advance computer skills and learn to use social media. Courses being offered are beginner and intermediate Windows 7, Microsoft Excel, creating photo books and videos, iPad and more. Visit www.AccessJA.org. If interested, contact Robin Blackman at seniortech@accessja.org or 240-396-0916.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 26

Community Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Cabin John Middle School, 10701 Gainsborough Road, Potomac. Montgomery County District 1 Councilmember Roger Berliner invites residents for informal discussions on issues of interest to local residents. Call 240-777-7828.

FRIDAY/MARCH 28

Recreation Department Job Fair.

11 a.m.-3 p.m. at 14625 Bauer Drive, Rockville. The Montgomery County Recreation Department is hosting a job fair for summer camp workers and year-round temporary staff. Call 240-777-6810.

SATURDAY/MARCH 29

School Bullying Symposium. 12:30-3:30 p.m., at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus of Montgomery College, Cultural Arts Center, 7995 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring. Community forum and discussion on prevention and intervention strategies on bullying in schools. The keynote speaker and panel moderator will be national youth advocate Johnnie Williams III. Free. Call 301-777-8454.

BINGO. 3-5 p.m. at Connelly School of the Holy Child, 9029 Bradley Blvd., Potomac. \$8 per person/\$25 per family. Prizes for all winners. Visit www.holychild.org/calendars.

SUNDAY/MARCH 30

Lecture Series. 3-5 p.m. at Bethesda Jewish Congregation at 6101 Bradley Blvd, Bethesda. Marvin Kalb and his daughter, Deborah, co-authors of "Haunting Legacy: Vietnam and the American Presidency from Ford to Obama" speak. A Q&A session follows their presentation. Free, but RSVP to admin@bethesdajewish.org.

TUESDAY/APRIL 1

Parenting Program. 6:30-9 p.m. at JSSA's Ina Kay Building, 200 Wood Hill Road, Rockville. Parents can learn about "Identifying and

feature The Thirteen. A reception will follow. \$20, \$15/seniors and students, at the door. Visit bradleyhillschurch.org/concerts.

satirical musical. \$15 at the door. Appropriate for ages 10 and older.

SUNDAY/APRIL 6

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut St., Gaithersburg. \$8/online or \$10/door for adults; children under 12 are free. Visit www.sugarloafcrafter.com or call 800-210-9900.

Theater Performance. Wootton High School is putting on "Hairspray" at 2 p.m. in the auditorium, 2100 Wootton Parkway, Rockville. \$10/general; \$15/reserved. E-mail carla_a_ingram@mcpsmd.org or 301-279-8550.

"Urinetown." 2 p.m. at Winston Churchill High School, Gertrude G. Bish Auditorium, 11300 Gainsborough Road, Potomac. Winston Churchill Drama Department presents "Urinetown," a

TUESDAY/APRIL 8

CD Release. 7:30 p.m. at Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville. Seán Tyrrell, www.seantyrrell.com, releases his new CD "Moonlight On Galway Bay." Tickets \$19-\$25. All tickets are general admission. Call 301-960-3655 or visit www.imtfolk.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 10

Spring Fashion Show. 11 a.m. at Norbeck Country Club, 17200 Cashell Road, Rockville. Boutique opens at 11 a.m., lunch at noon and fashion show at 1 p.m. Proceeds benefit BNC Sustaining the Mind: Research for Neurodegenerative Diseases. \$35, reservations required by March 31. Contact Sheila at 301-924-0006 or jaxshe@aol.com.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 7

Fairgrounds, 16 Chestnut St., Gaithersburg. \$8/online or \$10/door for adults; children under 12 are free. Visit www.sugarloafcrafter.com or call 800-210-9900.

"Urinetown." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Winston Churchill High School, Gertrude G. Bish Auditorium, 11300 Gainsborough Road, Potomac. Winston Churchill Drama Department presents "Urinetown," a satirical musical. \$15 at the door. Appropriate for audiences 10 and older.

Artist Roundtable. 2 p.m. at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Featuring artists, from "Abstraction: Finding the Thread." Free. Visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200.

Opening Reception. 3 p.m.-6 p.m. at River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road Bethesda. Opening reception for Group of Four featuring the work of George L Smyth, Barry Schmetter, D. B. Stovall, and Scott Davis. Call 301-229-0400 before attending. Visit www.rruuc.org for more.

Meet the Artists. 6-10 p.m., meet the artists of "Expressions in Glass" in the Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Glassworks resident artist Paul Swartwood will exhibit works in blown glass, along with artists Mark Hill, Carol Hurwitch, Allan Jaworski, and Kevin Lurie, with whom he collaborated. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org or 301-634-2222.

Theater Performance. Wootton High School is putting on "Hairspray" at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium, 2100 Wootton Parkway, Rockville. \$10/general; \$15/reserved. E-mail carla_a_ingram@mcpsmd.org or 301-279-8550.

Chamber Music. 7:30 p.m. at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. The Bradley Hills Presents Concert Series will

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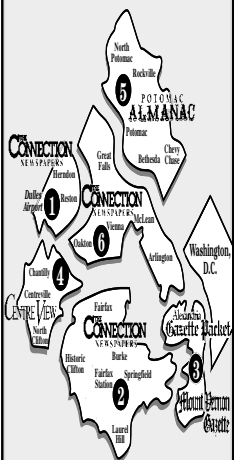


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SCHOOLS

Another Milestone



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

March 30, 2014. My age 59 and a half (9/30/54 is my date of birth). The age at which money deposited into an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) can be withdrawn without incurring a 10 percent early-withdrawal penalty from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Not that I'm retiring. I am remembering though when this cancer-centric life of mine began.

I was diagnosed – in person – on February 27, 2009. Coincidentally around the time of the year when I contribute to my/our previous calendar year's IRA. On that fateful February day, I was age 54 and nearly one half, approximately five years away from having penalty-free access to my own "qualified" money. Having just received a "13 months to two years" prognosis by my oncologist, decision-making on subjects A-Z and/or everything in between – from the sublime to the ridiculous – was challenging at best, and practically impossible at worst. Throw in a time consideration – such as the future – to factor into your planning, and topsy-turvy becomes turvy-topsy.

Now complicate the process further by introducing financial issues – past, present and future – along with the incredible uncertainty of a totally unexpected terminal diagnosis (stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer, NSCLC) and you have inaction, inattentiveness and insecurity overwhelming you at every step – and at every stagger, too; physically and emotionally.

As awkward and unfamiliar as this experience was at the time, I recall pondering the merit of investing money then that I would have limited access to until later, five years later in fact (without penalty that is). I mean, who knew/knows what expenses I might incur during my treatment?

Fortunately I had health insurance, but considering co-pays, deductibles, "reasonable and customary"-type reimbursements leaving a balance to be borne by yours truly, alternative medicines/treatment options available (likely a total out-of-pocket cost), home health care, caregivers, loss of employment/income and miscellaneous expenses I was too clueless and uneducated to even contemplate and prepare for, and once again, you have potential trouble at every turn. Thinking positively and maintaining a good sense of humor can only keep so many wolves at bay. At some point – or certainly you think so, you are going to have to pay the piper, figuratively and most definitely, literally.

Still, I remember thinking even then, in the haze of this terrible diagnosis/set of unbelievable circumstances, that if I didn't act/live as if I had a future, I likely wouldn't have one. But five years seemed like an eternity, and given my prognosis, didn't seem like time I should necessarily plan for. After all, my doctor had suggested that perhaps I "take that vacation I had always dreamed of."

Well, here I am, five years later, having invested every year in my/our IRA, still alive and extraordinarily lucky to be so. In truth, given the facts and feelings I was presented with in late February, 2009, I didn't think I'd live to see this day. But I have. And even though I'm not retiring and not needing to withdraw any funds – prematurely or otherwise – from my IRA, March 30, 2014 is a date, to me, worth acknowledging. Having lived this long, I suppose it's time to pick another date – in the future. If I don't plan for it, I likely won't get there.

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

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

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 30

Writing Contest Deadline. All Maryland 7th- and 8th- grade students can enter a statewide writing contest focusing on the themes of peace and social justice. To enter, students must submit an entry of up to 1,200 words on a specific topic. Entries and accompanying materials must be postmarked no later than April 30 and mailed to Fred B. Benjamin Peace Writing Contest, 310 Riverview Ave., Annapolis, MD 21403-3328. For the topic and required documents, call 410-263-7409 or email mjkeller@att.net.

The following students have been named to the dean's list at the University of Vermont: **Zachary Byers**, a business administration major in the School of Business Administration; **Muriel Enders**, a animal sciences major in the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences; and **Meraz Mostafa**, a geography major in the College of Arts & Sciences.

The following local students were named to the fall 2013 dean's list at Wake Forest University: **Jane Alexander**, **Chi Kit Cheong**, **Allison Durham**, **Jenna Eisenberger**, **Haley Funger**, **Olivia Kleinman**, **Xinlei Li**, **Jonna Rautsola** and **Caroline Warren**.

Genevieve Austin was named to the dean's list at Wheaton College.

Alysha M. Howar, **Rebecca C. Magazine**, and **Remy S. Marcus** were named to the dean's list at The University of Mary Washington.

Nicholas S. O'Brien, of Potomac, has been named to second honors on the Clark University dean's list.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Churchill Spring Sports Update

The two-time defending 4A/3A West region champion Churchill boys' lacrosse team won its first two games of the season in convincing fashion, beating Northwest 20-2 on March 22 and Kennedy 24-1 on March 24.

The Bulldogs will travel to face Damascus at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 28 and will host Einstein at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 31.

The girls' lacrosse team is also off to a 2-0 start, beating Northwest 17-0 on March 22 and Kennedy 20-1 on March 24.

The Bulldogs will host Churchill at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 28 and will travel to face Einstein at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 31.

The defending 4A West region champion baseball team is off to a 1-0 start, beating Magruder 16-6 on March 22.

The Bulldogs' March 25 contest against Wheaton was postponed due to inclement weather. Churchill is scheduled to face Kennedy on the road at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26. The Bulldogs will host Quince Orchard at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 29. The softball team lost to Magruder 11-0 on March 21. Churchill will travel to face Kennedy at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 27.

Whitman Spring Sports Update

The Whitman baseball team opened the



PHOTO BY COLLEEN HEARY/THE ALMANAC

Art To Be Exhibited

From left, St. Raphael School students **Ciara Culligan**, **Grace O'Connor**, **David Tashman** and **Joey Aldridge** show their artwork that will be displayed this weekend at an exhibit hosted by PNC Bank. St. Raphael School students in grades six through eight will display their artwork Friday, March 28 at PNC Bank in Potomac Village 10150 River Road. There will be a reception from 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. RSVP for the reception by March 26 at 301-762-2143.

season with an 11-2 win over Quince Orchard on March 22.

Sean Cook went 2-for-3 with two RBIs for the Vikings.

Ben Castagnetti went 1-for-3 with a double and two RBIs. Seven different players had at least one hit for Whitman.

The Vikings are scheduled to host Gaithersburg at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26. Whitman will travel to face Northwood at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 28.

The softball team dropped its first two games of the season, falling to Quince Orchard 14-4 on March 22 and Blake 16-6 on March 24.

Whitman is scheduled to host Gaithersburg at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26 and to travel to face Northwood at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 28.

The boys' lacrosse team opened the season with a 9-6 loss to North Carolina's Needham Broughton High School on March 22. Whitman is scheduled to travel to Blake at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26 and host Paint Branch at 7 p.m. Friday, March 28.

The girls' lacrosse team lost to Good Counsel 21-1 on March 22. Whitman is scheduled to host Blake at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26.

Wootton Spring Sports Update

The Wootton baseball team split its first two games, losing to Sherwood 1-0 on March 22 and beating Einstein 13-0 on

March 24.

The Patriots, last year's 4A West region runner-up, are scheduled to travel to Blair at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 27.

The boys' lacrosse team will play at Damascus at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 27.

The girls' lacrosse team, led by first-year head coach Shannon Holliday, opened with a 13-6 loss to Bullis. The Patriots will travel to face Glenelg at 5:15 p.m. on Monday, March 31.

The two-time defending division champion softball team defeated Einstein 11-0 on March 24. The Patriots are scheduled to travel to Blair at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 27.

Bullis Spring Sports Update

The Bullis boys' lacrosse team won its first three games before losing to DeMatha 8-6 on March 19. The Bulldogs are scheduled to travel to Severn School at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26.

The girls' lacrosse team won its first three games, beating St. John's 20-12, National Cathedral 19-13 and Wootton 13-6. Bullis is scheduled to host Flint Hill at 4:15 p.m. on April 3.

The baseball team opened with a 9-1 win over Georgetown Day on March 15. The Bulldogs are scheduled to travel to Bishop Ireton on April 1.

The softball team split its first two games and is scheduled to host Holy Child at 4:15 p.m. on April 1.

Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

January, 2014 Sales from \$710,000 to \$895,000

IN JANUARY 2014,
26 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD
BETWEEN \$2,675,000-\$293,000.



1 8902 Liberty Lane — \$895,000



3 9418 Thrush Lane — \$865,000



2 9608 Pinkney Court — \$865,000



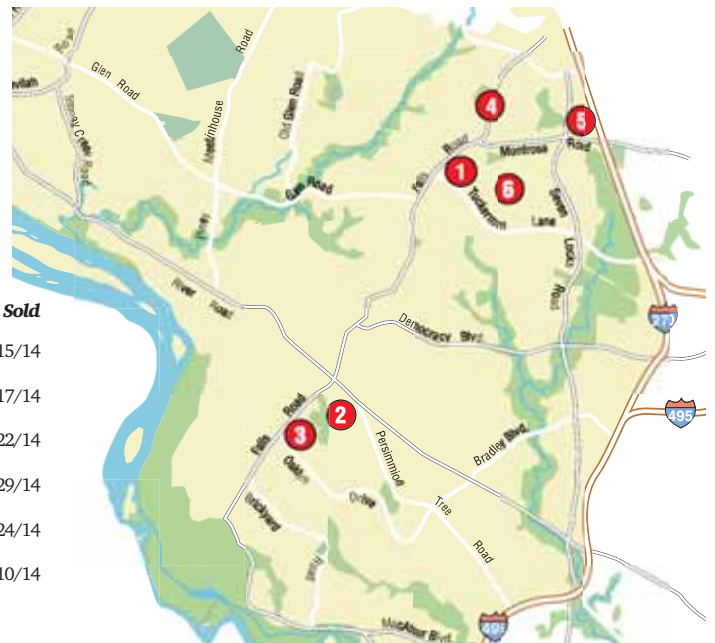
6 11711 Rosalinda Drive — \$710,000



5 12468 Ansin Circle Drive — \$825,000



4 8700 Falls Chapel Way — \$825,000



Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 8902 LIBERTY LN	5	2	2	POTOMAC	\$895,000	Detached	0.72	20854	BEVERLY FARMS	01/15/14
2 9608 PINKNEY CT	4	3	0	POTOMAC	\$865,000	Detached	0.49	20854	CONCORD	01/17/14
3 9418 THRUSH LN	5	3	2	POTOMAC	\$865,000	Detached	0.77	20854	WILLIAMSBURG GARDENS	01/22/14
4 8700 FALLS CHAPEL WAY	5	3	1	ROCKVILLE	\$825,000	Detached	0.25	20854	POTOMAC COMMONS	01/29/14
5 12468 ANSIN CIRCLE DR	3	3	1	POTOMAC	\$825,000	Townhouse	0.03	20854	WHEEL OF FORTUNE	01/24/14
6 11711 ROSALINDA DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	\$710,000	Detached	0.21	20854	REGENCY ESTATES	01/10/14

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