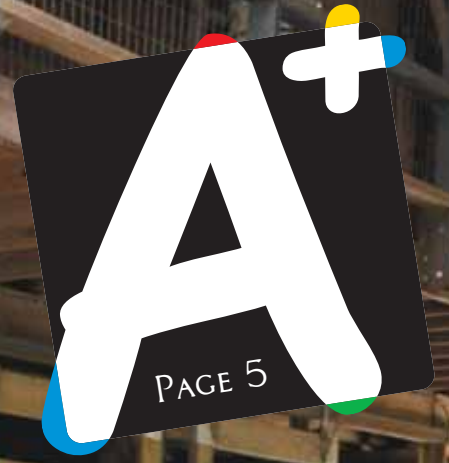


Potomac ALMANAC



From left: Gia Grigorian, Katie Fuller, Gabriellah Davis and Sofia Viola at summer horse camp at the Potomac Horse Center.

Summer Horse Camp

Local Blog Explores
Spiritual Understanding

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Of Betty Dunham

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The Power
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NEWS BRIEFS

Anderson To Lead Planning Board

The Montgomery County Council selected Casey Anderson as the new chair of the county Planning Board. He follows Francoise Carrier, whose term expired on June 14. She did not apply for reappointment.

Anderson, who is currently a member of the Planning Board, was appointed by an 8-1 vote. Council President Craig Rice, Vice President George Leventhal and Councilmembers Phil Andrews, Roger Berliner, Cherri Branson, Nancy Floreen, Nancy Navarro and Hans Riemer voted in favor of his appointment. Councilmember Marc Elrich was opposed.

The council set a salary of \$200,000 for the position of chair.

Anderson is a Silver Spring resident. An attorney and community activist, he was appointed to the Planning Board in June 2011. Previously, Anderson served on the boards of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, the Citizens League of Montgomery County and the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and the Committee for Montgomery.

Anderson is a former vice president of the Woodside Civic Association and executive vice chairman of the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board. He holds undergraduate and law degrees from Georgetown University and a graduate degree in journalism from Columbia University.

Kelble To Lead Potomac Riverkeeper

Jeff Kelble has been named president of Potomac Riverkeeper, Inc., effective July 14. The non-profit conservation organization is dedicated to stopping pollution and restoring clean water throughout the Potomac Watershed.

Kelble served for over eight years as Shenandoah Riverkeeper and also served on the national board of Waterkeeper Alliance since 2012. During his tenure as Shenandoah Riverkeeper, Kelble has conducted research on the threats to the Shenandoah, and worked to preserve the river, along with the wildlife and recreation it sustains. Kelble has gone after major polluters, worked to reform regulations and government behavior, taking legal action when needed, and worked with local land owners to mitigate the effects of agricultural activity on the health of the river.

NEWS



Snapshot

A deer with its fawn stopping by the River Falls neighborhood on Monday, July 14.

PHOTO BY
DEBORAH STEVENS
THE ALMANAC

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

SIGN SWEEP

The county's **Department of Permitting Services** is conducting a "sign sweep" to get rid of signs posted illegally in county right-of-ways. Call 311 to report signs in the public right-of-way for removal.

THURSDAY/JULY 17

Green Democrats. 7 p.m. at Ted's

355 Diner, 895 Rockville Pike, Rockville. New meeting location. Free. Call 301-340-0088 for more.

MONDAY/JULY 21

Proposal Deadline. County Executive Isiah Leggett is seeking proposals to create a kitchen incubator that would support local entrepreneurs who need licensed commercial kitchen space, technical assistance and business training. Email sarah.k.miller@montgomerycountymd.gov.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

Grief and Healing Discussion.

1:30-3 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Join a drop-in discussion about grief and healing for anyone mourning the death of a loved one. Free and open to all Montgomery County residents, registration required. Call 301-921-4400 to register.

Guided Imagery for Grief and Healing.

6:30-8 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Learn how to use imagery to help cope with grief. Free and open to all Montgomery County residents, registration required. Call 301-921-4400 to register.



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Summer Horse Camp

Enjoying summer camp at the Potomac Horse Center are, from left, Josh Shcherbelis, Norman the horse, Lily Singh, instructor Kristen Shaupe, Encor the horse, Victor Singh, Flynn Synder, Cordoba the horse, and Alice Anystautas.

Nivedita Ravi, Willy the horse, and Katherine Teitelbaum. The children ride, clean, and learn all about horses, play games, and have lunch at the summer horse camp which runs through Aug. 22.

PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC



Mourning loss Of Betty Dunham

The heart of Dunham's Motor Service.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

It was 1948. Much of River Road was not paved, farming was a way of life in Potomac, people hitched their horses to a post at the crossroads of River and Falls – and Dunham's Motor Service, Mitch Mitchell's gas station, the Perry Store, and a bar pretty much made up the businesses of "downtown" Potomac.

Al and Betty Dunham were the team that made certain that Dunham's ran smoothly. Al Dunham and his staff repaired cars, pumped gas and installed horse trailer hitches. Betty Dunham answered the telephone, kept the books, handled customer service and scheduled the appointments – all while raising five children, and managing the household and their farm. All of the Dunham sons worked at the shop, shoulder to shoulder with their mom and dad. Terry Dunham is still employed as a mechanic at Potomac's BP station and his brother Lou manages an auto repair shop in S.C.



Betty Dunham

"There are still some people around Potomac who will only let a Dunham repair their cars," Terry Dunham said.

Betty Dunham died from heart failure on June 24, 2014 at Frederick Memorial Hospital. The Jefferson resident was 88 years old. Born in Washington, D.C. to

SEE BETTY DUNHAM, PAGE 6

Local Blog Explores Spiritual Understanding

Salma Hasan Ali reflects on Ramadan.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Four years ago, Salma Hasan Ali began writing a blog called "30 Days, 30 Deeds" to share the essence of the month-long Muslim holiday Ramadan with her children (www.30days30deeds.com). Her writings reveal a heartfelt exploration of Ramadan, but also give insight into the life of a mother seeking to inspire her children to understand the true meaning of performing good deeds, expressing gratitude, saying prayers and practicing charity.

The blog and her subsequent blogs were created initially for family and friends but now have attracted thousands of readers, Muslim and non-Muslim alike, from around the world. Ali is planning to gather the blogs into a book — or a series of her writings, along with the meaningful responses that have emanated from "FOS" — "Fans of Salma."

Ramadan, the Arabic word for "scorching heat", is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar. The Quran (Holy Book) was revealed to Prophet Muhammad during this month. During the 30 days of Ramadan, Muslims are required to fast from dawn to sunset. In addition to fasting from food and water, Muslims are supposed to "fast" from other negative behaviors. The idea of Ramadan is to focus on prayer and redirect oneself from worldly activities towards more spiritual reflection. The fast cultivates compassion, generosity and good deeds.

"Ramadan makes you calm down and understand and appreciate all that you have," said Ali. "When you don't eat for almost 16 hours, that first bite is so delicious. Fasting is difficult, but it teaches you patience and self-restraint. It truly makes you understand how those who live with constant hunger must feel, and makes you grateful for all that you have. Ramadan is about compas-



Salma Hasan Ali and her son Zayd.

sion, doing good, and being mindful of your attitude and interactions with others.

"I first started the blog to teach and to remind my children that they should do a good deed each day for the 30 days of

Ramadan. We discussed how it does not have to be a grand gesture. Sitting down and talking with grandparents is a good

SEE BLOG, PAGE 7

GETTING AROUND



A Honda Civic crashed through the right side of Hunter's Bar and Grill on July 12.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

An Errant Automobile Strikes Again

BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT
THE ALMANAC

Has Hunter's Bar and Grill, long a favorite Potomac dining establishment, become a drive-thru restaurant? For the second time in four months a car driven by a customer has jumped the curb and crashed inside the building.

"I was at the bar having a cheeseburger," co-owner Murray Berman said. "I thought the ceiling was falling in. The whole place was shaking."

On July 12, a lunchtime crowd had gathered for traditional Saturday, half-price burgers, when a Honda Civic automobile driven by an 80-year-old woman jumped the curb. It continued on to wipe out the fencing and flower boxes, smashing up tables, chairs and umbrellas on the patio before crashing through the glass front on the right side of the restaurant. After sending shards of glass in all directions, the car with its two occupants came to a screeching halt inside the Polo Room, up against a

heavy wooden wall.

After making sure the Bethesda couple was not injured, Murray said he was able to talk with her. "She said the car just kept going even though she tried to stop it."

He estimated, at the time, there were about 60 people in the restaurant, located at 10123 River Road, adjacent to Mitch & Bill's Exxon.

Although the driver and her husband were not injured, two cyclists were. They were among a group who had stopped for lunch. "There were no life-threatening injuries," Capt. Paul Starks of the Montgomery County Police said. Both cyclists were transported to Suburban Hospital, one with glass in a leg, the other had glass in a hand. "It was very fortunate no one was seriously injured," Starks said.

Arriving soon after the crash, Fred Berman, Murray's brother and co-partner of the restaurant they have owned for nearly 12 years, said the couple are regular customers. After the crash, she ironically told Fred Berman that when she drove up "she had been pleased to have found a parking

spot out front."

Fred Berman also mentioned that following the March crash into the barroom side of the restaurant, adjacent to the Polo Room, he and his brother requested a guard railing of some sort to be installed in front of Hunter's Bar and Grill.

"They need barriers to prevent automobiles coming through our windows and injuring our customers. It's about time. It was agreed upon with the owners of the shopping center, but they would not do it until August," Fred Berman said.

"I can't believe this has happened again. Three times," said Cathy Kate, manager of Hunter's Bar and Grill. It had previously happened once when she was with the former owner of the restaurant. "That was on a Saturday also," she recalled. "I'll never get used to this. I just hope there is not another accident before we get some protection."

She was stationed behind the bar on this occasion and recalled, "It sounded like a train coming through."

By 6 p.m. a professional clean-up crew had scooped up buckets of broken glass and vacuumed the carpeting, although skid marks and a small hole could still be seen. A few tables that were still in one piece had been set with linens and cutlery ready for dinner in the Polo Room.

A large temporary board replaced the glass window. The regular staff, including Mario, Daniel, Janine, Edgar, Peiris and numerous others, all of whom have become good friends with many of the customers, were ready and waiting. By 7 p.m., there was nearly a full house.

When Murray Berman was asked what he will do next for excitement he responded, "I hope I won't have any more. It's getting to be a regular thing here."

Perhaps McLean Grant had the best idea when he suggested to manager Cathy Kate, "Maybe they should change the name to Hunter's Bar and Auto Grill."



PHOTOS BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT/THE ALMANAC

Fred Berman, (left) and his brother, Murray, look at the remains of their Hunter's Bar and Grill patio, following the July 12 auto crash into their Potomac restaurant.



Guests were seated in what was once a fenced-in patio at Hunter's Bar and Grill prior to a driver failing to stop her car, jumping the curb, and entering the Polo Room. Two guests were injured. One of the tables not crushed can be seen inside the Polo Room.



Following a massive clean up, the Polo Room was restored and ready for Saturday evening guests by 6 p.m.

The Power of Friendship

Local group pairs teen mentors with special needs children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

One of the highlights of 8-year-old Sophie Gottfried's week is spending time with her 17-year-old friend Allie Wiener. Despite their age difference, the two girls have an extraordinary bond.

"For Sophie, it has been life altering," said her mother, Cindy Gottfried. "She has multiple disabilities, physical and communication disorders. She has friends at school, but she can't meet up at the park for a play date. She doesn't get invited to birthday parties or have the social opportunities that most kids take for granted."

Sophie and Allie, who lives in Potomac, are part of Friendship Circle, an international Jewish organization that pairs teen volunteers with special needs children. The program is designed to encourage friendships with children who often experience isolation and loneliness because of physical and developmental disabilities. At the same time, the teen volunteers get a first-hand look at community service.

Rabbi Mendel Kaplan and his wife, Chana, of Potomac, founded Friendship Circle Maryland in 2007 as a way of giving back. "We both grew up in the Chabad [Lubavitch] movement and it is very much



PHOTO COURTESY OF CINDY GOTTFRIED

Friendship Circle teen volunteer Allie Wiener plays with her buddy Sophie Gottfried.

about reaching out to other Jews, taking responsibility for others and being inclusive of others," said Mendel Kaplan.

"It has been an amazing journey," said Chana Kaplan. "We've met incredible people. I've been touched by how the teens have shared with us how this has changed their lives."

Ally Greenzaid, 16, a junior at Winston Churchill High School in Potomac, has been a Friendship Circle volunteer for three years. The experience has helped her overcome her misconceptions about those with special needs. "I've always been scared of people with disabilities, so I was tentative about volunteering," said Ally. "But that

changed when I saw the way that the kids look at life. It is different than how we look at life. The kids are so happy and always positive and always happy to be someplace."

Not only are the children given opportunities to develop friendships and escape the loneliness and isolation that often come with having special needs, the teen volunteers learn about the power of benevolence and the importance of friendship in everyone's lives.

"It's impossible to measure who it benefits more, the kids with special needs or the teen volunteers," said Chana Kaplan.

Chana Kaplan recruits volunteers through local Jewish day schools and youth groups, Jewish Community Centers (JCC) and elsewhere. Every volunteer undergoes an interview process and is required to provide references. "We try to do the best we can to vet the teens because if the teen commits to volunteering once a week with a child and doesn't show up, the special needs child is very disappointed. But because we're in a community, people know each other."

She also makes sure the teens and children are compatible. "A lot goes into creating the match," said Chana Kaplan. "We consider the personalities. The match has to work geographically. Do they live close to each other? Sometimes there is a waiting list, but we've had a 99.9 percent success rate. You create one match and it can

last up to four years."

The Kaplans say that Friendship Circle continues to grow and touch lives throughout the area. "The concept and need have been proven," said Mendel Kaplan. "We're at the point of having the right people involved and good talent on board that will take us to next level."

"We started with one or two families and a handful of volunteers," he continued. "Today we have 230 volunteers and more than 100 children, teens and young adults."

In addition to the weekly home visits, Friendship Circle offers other programs such as monthly group birthday parties for children; the Torah Circle, where the children and their teen friends spend time together learning about Jewish traditions through lively activities like music and fitness, and Friendship Shabbat where the families of both the volunteers and the special needs children spend time together during Shabbat dinners.

For Gottfried, who also has a 5-year-old son, seeing her daughter smile and play is priceless. "Even though Sophie doesn't have a typical life, she is observant and she sees that her brother gets to have play dates," she said. "When Allie comes, Sophie knows that Allie is there just to play with her. Allie is definitely part of our family. It's a really positive connection."

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Betty Dunham: The Heart of Dunham's Motor Service

FROM PAGE 3

Louis J. and Louise Wahl, the former Elizabeth Wahl grew up working in her parents' business, the Wahl's Department Store at 7th and H Streets in N.E. Washington. She attended Georgetown Visitation Academy before marrying Alvin F.X. Dunham in January 1944.

After Al Dunham returned from serving with the Army in WWII, they bought a farm on Glen Road in Potomac in 1947 and he opened Dunham's Motor Service in 1948. The family moved from Glen Road to the "Top of the Mornin" farm in Jefferson in 1971 but they continued to commute to Potomac until the business was sold following Al Dunham's death in 1998.

"My mom was my co-worker for 23 years, my commuting buddy – and my best friend. She was the glue that held us all together. She kept the business organized and was able to manage everything through the good times as well as the bad times," Terry Dunham said. "She always found a way to squeeze out money even when times were bad. She married my dad at age 17, so never finished high school. However, at the age of 60 she went back to school and earned her G.E.D. She was so proud that she finally did it. We were proud of her too."

The comfortable garage was a welcoming place for residents to gather while awaiting their car repairs.

Everyone knew everyone in Potomac and Rockville, so it was not unusual for custom-

ers to hang out and visit there. The dachshund that never left Betty Dunham's side was "Miss Mouse."

The shop cat was named "Balance." She often sprawled on the counter, purring and awaiting for attention and petting by the customers. One day a customer called to say that he had driven his car home, only to find Balance in the back seat. "I got a little more than I paid for," he said when he returned the cat.

In the early days, Dunham's "was an Amoco before Amoco was Amoco," Al Dunham said to Joe Klein in an interview for the Potomac Almanac. Mitch Mitchell of Mitch and Bill's cited that the two businesses often "shared our knowledge, our parts, and our tools. We were very happy to have them

as our neighbor. The knowledge of those Dunham men was phenomenal."

Dunham's was an institution in Potomac for 50 years. Many Potomac Villagers most likely remember the smile on Betty Dunham's face as she greeted customers and long-time friends. When the business became Cherner's Automotive, Betty Dunham was sorely missed by the many who knew her and were used to seeing her familiar face in and around Potomac Village.

Survivors include four sons: Michael F.X. Dunham of Surfside Beach, S.C., Louis W. Dunham of Rockville, Terry Dunham of Jefferson and Alvin "Buddy" F.X. Dunham II of Walkersville; one daughter, Molly Dunham Glassman of Towson; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

COMMENTARY

Sharing Vision of the Future

The following statement was made Tuesday, July 15, after the County Council named Casey Anderson as new chair of the County Planning Board.

BY ROGER BERLINER
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER

The selection of the chair of the Planning Board is an important responsibility of the County Council — and of mine. One I take very, very seriously. The Planning Board is one of the most important institutions in our county government. Its guidance on the

future of our county and the manner in which it performs its responsibilities play a key role in shaping our quality of life.

The next chair arrives at a critical juncture for our county. Our capacity to meet the challenges of the future — and we have them — is inextricably linked to our capacity to achieve sustainability in its fullest sense — environmentally, economically and socially. Our goal should be nothing less

than being a true national model for being a green, prosperous and culturally and economically integrated community.

And we can. We have terrific assets — among the finest residential neighborhoods anywhere; a nationally recognized school system and community college; a great park system; a vibrant cultural life; great urban "nodes"; an extraordinary agricultural reserve; a smart, educated workforce; home to NIH, FDA, NIST, DOE; and on the nation's doorstep. All assets of an extraordinarily diverse county — itself one of our great strengths.

To realize our full potential, we will need to build on these assets. From a planning perspective, I am among those that believe that means prioritizing making our urban "nodes" all they can and should be. Enlivened, environmentally sustainable and technologically innovative spaces where walking, biking and a state of the art transit system make it less necessary to own or drive cars. Urban nodes that offer great and green public spaces. Nodes with a broad range of citizens from different economic, cultural and generational backgrounds living together among office workers and diverse retail establishments. That is what seniors, millennials, empty nesters, businesses and many residents say they want.

And that vision is consistent with the wise decisions made years ago to preserve so much of our county's land — one-third of it for agricultural uses. We must turn aside from the temptation to promote sprawl that harms the environment, increases traffic and puts pressure on our agricultural reserve. Instead, our future depends on bringing about high quality "infill development" that transforms the acres of asphalt that characterize the strip malls of the '50s into a greener, more environmentally sustainable, enlivened communities. And we can do that while protecting the many established neighborhoods in our county.

But we do have work to do to bring this vision about. First and foremost, we must be "all in" on bringing about the next generation of transit. If we change the conversation about Montgomery County from one

where traffic is always an issue to one where we are talking about having the finest transit system in the country, we will have done more to improve the quality of life and our future than any single action we could take. We have a "plan" on how to do it. And now we need to move into implementation. With urgency. Secondly, we must roll up our sleeves and figure out how we can do more to provide and retain more affordable housing throughout our county. If we properly attend to these issues as we focus on our infill opportunities, we will make our county an even better place to live, work, and play. And finally, we must ensure that we have sufficient school capacity in the down county as we focus on infill development, which means we must succeed next year in our effort with the state legislature to obtain the funds our growing school system needs. ...

When I assessed the candidates for chair that our council met with and interviewed, a uniformly strong and impressive group, I concluded that Commissioner Anderson came closest to holding the vision I have for our County's future. And I say that as a member of the council that has not always agreed with Commissioner Anderson on some issues. But make no mistake about it, he is a strong proponent of smart and sustainable growth, served by world class transit. These are the key components of a strong future for our county.

While each of us has our own experiences, my experience of Commissioner Anderson is that he has consistently demonstrated a thoughtful, well-reasoned, and respectful approach to issues guided by core principles. In those conversations, he has always affirmed his commitment to preserving both the integrity of our residential neighborhoods and the agricultural reserve. What is more, he is a person of great intellect and passion for his work, two qualities that will serve him well as chair. ...

I have a strong and positive belief in our county's future. We can have it all if we work at it — together. My deliberations over who should lead Planning Board as the next chair were guided by that vision for our future.

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Blog Explores Spiritual Understanding

FROM PAGE 3

deed, helping a parent or sibling is positive – in our faith, even a smile is a form of charity. Through these experiences I’m hoping my children will have a better understand of the meaning of Ramadan, and become closer to their faith. Hopefully, by reading simple, honest, personal stories, other readers will also get a better understanding of our faith and values.”

One of her most devoted followers is Gayle Damelin, who comments, “I’m Jewish but anxiously await Ramadan each year so I can follow this blog because I know that I will revel in it, learn a lot and have my soul strengthened and rejuvenated.”

A Muslim reader from Houston, Shazma Matin wrote, “The blog has become a staple part of my ‘diet’ every Ramadan.”

Each year, Ali changes the theme of her blog. Three years ago, it was “30 Days, 30 Gratitudes.” The following year it was “30 Days, 30 Duas” (Prayers) and this year it is “30 Days, 30 Traditions.” In this year’s blog, she is asking “guest bloggers” to share family traditions that make their Ramadan more meaningful and unique. Next year, her topic will be “30 Days, 30 Inspiring Stories.”

Ali has been encouraged by the reception the blog has received. She was invited to talk about the blog on a panel on social media at the United Nations. The blog has also received media attention, including through Karen Armstrong’s Charter for Compassion. But the most rewarding part, Ali says, has been receiving emails from people of different faiths, in the U.S. and around the world, expressing their understanding of how much we all have in common, no matter what faith we practice.

Ali moved to the U.S. from Pakistan at an early age. She majored in political science at Columbia College and did her Master’s degree at Columbia’s School of International and Public Affairs in New York City. She worked as a writer, editor and communications expert for international organizations in Geneva, Paris and Stockholm. She is currently a freelance writer, contributing editor of The Islamic Monthly and author of many articles for journals and magazines, including “Pakistan on the Potomac” for Washingtonian magazine (<http://www.washingtonian.com/articles/people/pakistan-on-the-potomac>) and “Not My Mother’s Ramadan” for More magazine (<http://www.more.com/news/womens-issues/not-my-mothers-ramadan>.) In this article she describes the holiday, “This annual spiritual journey is boot camp for my soul.” She is also chief inspiration officer for MoverMoms, an active service organization in Montgomery County. She is married to Arif Ali and they have two children, Saanya and Zayd, and a large extended family in the area.

Below are two entries from Ali’s blog that explain why her writing gives so much insight to so many:

Day 12: Caring 101 (from 30 days 30 deeds)

Aug. 12, 2011

“Be conscious of God wherever you are, follow up a bad deed with a good one and it will wipe it out, and treat people well.” Hadith



Saanya, Salma, Arif and Zayd Ali

Before we left home, I had a long conversation with my 9-year-old Zayd. I explained to him that we were going to Staples to shop for school supplies for deserving children in Montgomery County. I asked him gently to please not ask for anything for himself, that this trip was about doing something good for someone else. I reminded him that I’ve already ordered his school supplies and that they would be sitting on his desk on the first day of school. And of course I told him that he really didn’t need any more pens or pencils – our house is overflowing with them. So what happens within the first minute of walking into Staples. “Mama, pleeeeee, I really need the mechanical pencils with the extra thick lead that never break.” Deep breath.

Zayd was in charge of selecting the supplies. I showed him the sale circular, so he could choose more items for the \$20 we had planned to spend. We walked aisle by aisle. He selected notebooks, loose leaf paper, pencil boxes, pens, pencils — stopping to ask if he could get this or that every time something exciting caught his eye. Deep breath. How do we explain to our children to not want everything, all the time. How do we teach them that most of the children in the world have far less, and are far more content. We managed to make it to the cash register with just items to donate in our trolley.

As I reached for my credit card, Zayd pulled out a \$20 bill from his pocket. “I’d like to buy this with my Eid money, mama.” Smile. Day 12: Deed 12: Back to school shopping for kids in need. <http://30days30deeds.com/2011/08/12/day-12-caring-101/>

Day 19: Our Own Paths to God (from 30 days 30 duas)

July 27, 2013

Three years ago, I got a Facebook message from someone I didn’t know, but who had read a piece I had written in MORE magazine about a day in the life of our family during Ramadan.*

The reader wrote, “Please accept my intrusion on your privacy, but I read about you online and I read your article ‘Not My Mother’s

Ramadan.’ I am a Catholic woman with a 19-year-old daughter who told me two weeks ago that she is in the process of converting to become a Muslim. With that sentence, I will tell you that I am afraid, concerned, confused, cautious, curious and searching for answers and direction.”

She wrote that she is a devout Christian and head of religious education at her church. Her family life centered around the church. Her daughter sang in the choir, was a teen leader in the youth group, and taught religious classes to the younger children. She said that all she knew about Islam was what she heard on TV or read in the newspapers. That she was scared.

We started an online conversation, which continues today, although we’ve never met. I tried to answer her questions, provide some resources and contacts. We journeyed together as her daughter converted to Islam; met a Muslim man; got married.

Recently I got this message from her: “My recent trip to Turkey for my daughter’s Nikkah was an amazing experience. Every day there was something new to learn and to experience about Islam. I can honestly say I am at peace with my daughter’s decision. She will no longer be my Catholic daughter. Yet somehow I realize and accept that we can follow our own paths to God.”

My dua, that we try and understand one another, respect one another, make space for one another.

And in the words of a wise, devout, loving mother, “realize and accept that we can follow our own paths to God.”

Day 19, Dua 19: Respect one another

PS: The reader now shares her experience with the Islam she has come to understand with her church group, the media and others. She wrote, “I think that in a very small way I too have been working at dispelling misperceptions.” Ameen.

*<http://www.more.com/news/womens-issues/not-my-mothers-ramadan><http://30days30deeds.com/2014/07/02/day-5-not-my-mothers-ramadan/>

Follow Salma Hasan Ali’s blog at www.30days30deeds.com.

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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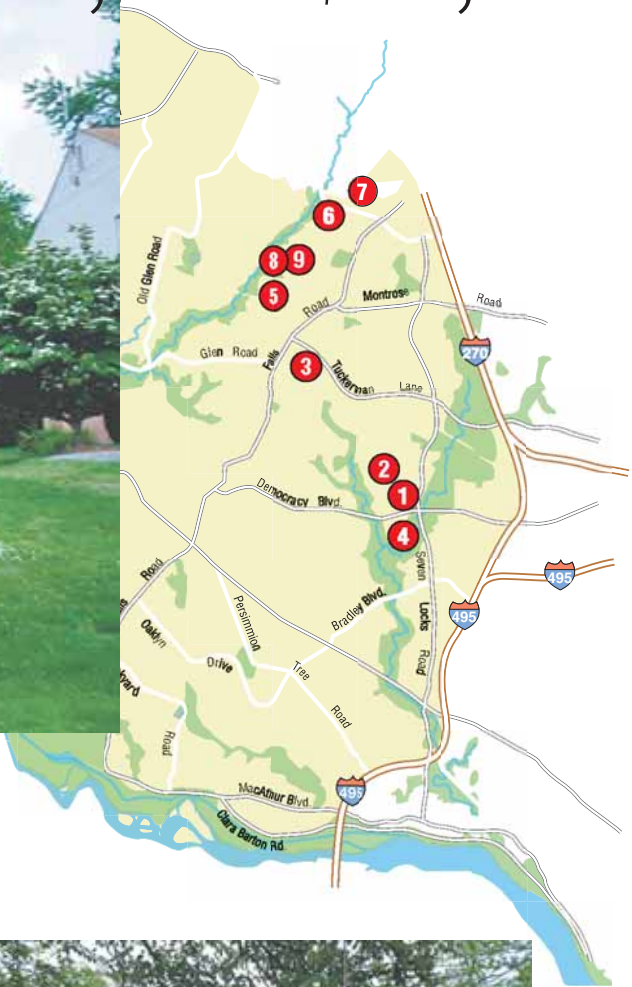
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SPORTS

Bullis Grad Stucky To Play Lax for Boston U

Joe Stucky, a 2014 Bullis graduate, will play lacrosse for Boston University.

Stucky was a four-year varsity athlete for the Bulldogs. He was an Under Armour Underclassmen All-American as a junior. As a senior, he was a team captain and earned Bullis' Hustle Award.

First-Place Big Train To Be Well Represented In All-Star Game

The first-place Bethesda Big Train had at least 10 members selected to the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League all-star game, according to the league Web site. The game will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 16 at Shirley Povich Field in Bethesda. Gates open at 3:30 p.m. and the home run derby is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. Wes Rea will represent the Big Train in the home run derby.

Bethesda players selected to the South All-Star team are: Tony DiLeo (catcher), Justin Morris (catcher), Stephen Alemais (middle infield), Bran-



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Bethesda Big Train catcher Tony DiLeo was selected to play in the 2014 Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League all-star game.

don Lowe (middle infield), Logan Farrar (outfield), Cody Brown (outfield), Kevin Tatum (outfield/third base), Josh Thorne (pitcher), Jacob Billingsley (pitcher) and Sean Labsan (pitcher).

Entering Tuesday's action, Bethesda was in first place in the CRCBL with a 24-6 record, 5.5 games ahead of the second-place Baltimore Redbirds.

Lowe was tied for the league lead with 23 RBIs. Pitcher Kit Scheetz was tied for the league lead in wins with four.

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Between Halves

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



At present, July 12th, I'm halfway, approximately, between my last CT Scan which showed a previously unseen silver-dollar sized growth in my lower left lung and my next CT Scan scheduled for August 6th, one month earlier than my usual three-month interval in order to make an evaluation sooner rather than later; to determine if this is new growth or nothing more than old growth that is now visible due to the combination of shrinking tumors and dissipating fluid opening up the viewing area, so to speak. Apparently, the chemotherapy drug, Alimta, with which I've been infused every three weeks since last September appears to be doing its hoped-for job: shrinkage.

My reaction to this new finding in late May was not negative. At worst, it was neutral, at best, it was positive; something seen for the first time because previously there was too much of other unhealthy stuff in the way for it to be seen at all. Less clutter, if you'll allow a lay person's description to suffice. And for all my oncologist knows, this growth may have been there all along and is not the least bit a cause for concern, quite the opposite in fact. But we don't know enough yet, so he decided not to wait three months. Heck, this growth could even be smaller than it was originally (affected by the Alimta also) and smaller even on this next scan. But we won't know definitively, we'll only know comparatively – between late May and early August.

To say I'm looking forward to the results would be a bit overstated. Curious, I'll allow. Moreover, I don't want to express any real confidence about my prospects, because so much of what cancer does it will do, regardless of what I think or hope or pray. But two things/symptoms my oncologist advised me to e-mail him about: pain in the area of the "new" growth and/or a persistent cough, neither of which I've experienced in the slightest. Now he didn't give me a timeline as to when I might feel something, but six weeks out, I haven't felt a thing. (I know better than to ask him hypotheticals; presumably patients feel symptoms differently, manifest symptoms differently and tolerate/notice symptoms differently, so feeling/not feeling might mean something or nothing; it varies. Uniformity is hardly at play here.) Still, I suppose I would have to go along with my brother Richard's encouragement: "It's better not to feel anything, KB, isn't it?" Heck yes! But it's hard not to worry. It's cancer, after all.

Following the calendar and chemotherapy schedule, I will have one more infusion before my next – and final – CT scan before I see my oncologist to discuss the results and dare I say, treatment options. On or about August 15th, I will once again know the tale of the tape. I will learn if my life goes on as it sort of is, with relative calm, or if I'll be thrust into the unknown vortex of clinical trials/N.I.H-type studies and the educated hands of researchers.

I've been extremely fortunate so far, diagnosis-to-date. And I'd like to think (wishfully, naively) that my luck will continue to be exceptional. Although, I realize I may be beginning to bump up against some shorter odds here, having survived five-plus years already (only 16 percent of stage IV NSCLC survivors live beyond five years). Nevertheless, I'm thrilled to be an aberration. In fact, I can't think of anything I'd rather be called.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

Email community entertainment events to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Looking Back. Through July 21 at Photoworks Gallery and Photography School, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Photography from Vincent Ferrari and Patricia Smith. Free. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org or call 301-634-2274.

Collegiate Baseball League. Through Saturday, July 26, the Bethesda Big Train plays its season at the Shirley Povich Field in Cabin John Regional Park, 10600 Westlake Drive. The Big Train plays in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League, a wooden-bat collegiate league that has sent athletes to Major League Baseball. Visit www.bigtrain.org for more.

Art Gallery. Through Sunday, July 27 at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Exhibition hours 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Wednesday. Closed Monday. "Sweet Indulgence," solo exhibition of oil paintings by Maryland artist Jennifer Kahn Barlow. Free and open to the public. Visit www.strathmore.org/fineartsexhibitions.

Theater. Through July 27. Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. A rendition of "The Music Man." Adults: \$22; seniors and students: \$20. Visit <http://rockville.ticketleap.com/the-music-man/> to buy tickets.

Glen Echo Park's Summer Concert Series. Through July 31, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. in the Bumper Car Pavillion at Glen Echo Park. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Through Aug. 8. "Botanica 2014: The Art & Science of Plants" at the Brookside Gardens Visitors Center, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton. Drawings and paintings by students and teachers in the Brookside Gardens School of Botanical Art & Illustration. Exhibit is free, although most works are available for purchase.

Children's Theater. Through Sunday, Aug. 10, Imagination Stage presents "The BFG" at the Lerner Family Theatre, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Best for ages 5-10. Based on Roald Dahl's book about the big friendly giant, this play incorporates puppetry, visuals and storytelling. Tickets start at \$10. Visit www.imaginationstage.org.

Faculty Invitational Exhibition. Through Aug. 10. Saturdays and Sundays, noon-6 p.m. at the Popcorn Gallery and Stone Tower Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Features works by Glen Echo Park Faculty members. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org.

Kids Night. Wednesdays through Aug. 20. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Rockville Town Square, 30 Maryland Ave., Rockville. Musical performances and magic shows. Free. Visit <http://rockvilletownsquare.com/events/kids-night>.

Family Game Day. Tuesdays, through Aug. 28, 3 p.m. at Potomac Library. Bring the family and enjoy a family game day. Children 5 and up and their families. Free. Visit montgomerycountymd.gov.

Pinkalicious Show. Through Aug. 31. Most shows on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays at Adventure Theater, 7300 MacArthur Blvd Glen Echo. Pinkalicious can't stop eating pink cupcakes and ends up turning pink. Visit <http://www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org> for more.

Weekly Blues Dance. Thursdays 8:15-11:30 p.m. in the Back Room Annex at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Capital Blues presents rotating DJs and instructors with beginner workshop 8:15-9 p.m., no partner necessary. \$8 for all. Visit <http://capitalblues.org>.

Argentine Tango with Lessons. Most Sundays 6:30-11 p.m. in the Back Room Annex at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Tango Brillante DC offers Argentine Tango lessons followed by a Milonga most Sunday evenings. Beginner lesson 6:30-7:30 p.m. and intermediate lesson 7:30-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$15/lesson and includes the Milonga that follows. For dancers who wish to attend just the Milonga, cost is \$10 and the open dance with DJ runs 8:30-11 p.m. No partner required. Visit www.glenechopark.org or call 301-634-2222.

Contra and Square Dance. Sundays 7-10:30 p.m. in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. The Folklore Society of Greater Washington presents traditional

American contra dancing. The evening can include square dances, mixers, waltzes and other couple dances. All Contras and Square dances are taught, no partner is necessary. There is a lesson at 7 p.m., followed by the called dance with live music starting at 7:30. \$13 nonmembers, \$10 FSGW members, \$5 ages 17 and under. Visit www.glenechopark.org or call 301-634-2222.

Drop in Art

Activities. Every Saturday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 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.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 16

Truly Tomatoes Cooking Demonstration.

Noon-1:30 p.m. at Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton. Enjoy prepared samples and easy-to-follow recipes to try at home. Course # 272653. Fee: \$35 FOBG: \$30. Registration required at www.ParkPASS.org. Call 301-962-1451 or visit www.brooksidegardens.org for more.

Live music. 7 p.m. at Gudelsky Concert Pavilion, the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. The Barefoot Movement plays as part of the Strathmore Free Summer Outdoor Concert Series. Visit www.strathmore.org for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 17

Story Pirates. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Strathmore Backyard Theater, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. The Strathmore Backyard Theater for Children presents a performance by a children's improv group, the Story Pirates. Tickets are \$8. Visit www.strathmore.org/education/currentprograms.asp for more.

Outdoor Concert. 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park, at the corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues. Speakers of the House play variety and dance. Free. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 18-SUNDAY/AUG. 17

Conor McPherson's "The Veil." Fridays and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. Adults: \$30; Senior and Students: \$20. Visit <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/722006> to purchase Tickets.

FRIDAYS/JULY 18-NOV. 28

New Friday Market. 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Wisconsin Avenue at Elm Street. New vendors in the Bethesda Farm outdoor market, as well as food trucks and local vineyards. Free admission. Visit www.farmwomensmarket.com for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 19

Rockville Rotary Twilight Runfest. 8:45 a.m. 8k Road Race and 1k Fun Run at the Rockville Town Center. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov for more.

Low Tunnel Construction Demonstration. 9-10:30 a.m. Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton. Hands-on workshop for food gardeners to learn how to build and maintain a low tunnel. Fee: \$22 FOBG: \$20. Registration required at www.ParkPASS.org. Call 301-962-1451 or visit www.brooksidegardens.org for more.

Great Outdoors Festival. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Little Bennett Campground, 23701 Frederick Road, Clarksburg. Features live music, hayrides, hikes and more. Free. Visit www.MontgomeryParks.org/GreatOutdoors.

SUNDAY/JULY 20

Family Jazz Day. 3-7 p.m. at The Bumper Car

FOOD & DRINK

Potomac Village Farmers Market. Thursdays, 2-6:30 p.m. at Potomac United Methodist Church, at Falls Road and Democracy Boulevard. Visit www.potomacvillagefarmersmarket.net for more.

Bethesda Farm Women's Market. Year-round, every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., at 7155 Wisconsin Ave. Visit www.farmwomensmarket.com for more.

Rockville Farmers Market. Through Nov. 22, Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in Rockville Town Center. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/events/farmers.htm for more.

Wednesday Market at Dawson's. Through Sept. 24, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., 225 N. Washington St. in front of Dawson's Market. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov for more.

Pike Central Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., near the Shriver Aquatic Center in the bus parking lot at the intersection of Old Georgetown Road and Executive Blvd. (enter on Executive Blvd.). Visit www.centralfarmmarkets.com/ for more.

Kensington Farmers Market. Year-round on Saturdays, 8 a.m.-noon. at Kensington train station parking lot on Howard Avenue. Visit <http://tok.md.gov/events/farmers-market> for more.

Pavilion in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. A concert featuring youth jazz ensembles and the U.S. Army Blues. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Concert. 8 p.m. at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Rock and roll and blues from John Hiatt and the Combo & The Robert Cray Band. Tickets \$32-\$68. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org for more.

TUESDAY-SATURDAY/JULY 22-26

Bethesda Outdoor Movies. 9 p.m. Takes place at corner of Norfolk and Auburn avenues. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org for movie schedule.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 23

Live music. 7 p.m. at the Gudelsky Concert Pavilion, the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Conjunto Chappottin plays as part of the Strathmore Free Summer Outdoor Concert Series. Visit www.strathmore.org for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

Tim & The Space Cadets. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Strathmore Backyard Theater for Children, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. The children's musical group Tim and the Space Cadets will perform songs at the Backyard Theater Stage. Tickets are \$8. Visit www.strathmore.org/education/currentprograms.asp for more.

Outdoor Concert. 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park, at the corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues. Texas Chainsaw Horns play classic R&B and soul. Free. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

BEGINS THURSDAY/JULY 24

"Little Red & the Pigs." Through Aug. 31. at The Puppet Co., 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The Big Bad Wolf tells his story through rap. The show has lots of audience participation. Visit <http://www.thepuppetco.org> for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Grow it, Eat it Open House. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Montgomery County Extension Agriculture Park, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood. Learn about starting or continuing a garden, controlling pests, tool maintenance, and more. Registration required for food preservation class. Free, but donations accepted. Visit <http://extension.umd.edu/growit/montgomery-county-vegetable-gardening-classes-and-events>.

Start Drawing and Painting. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Visitors Center Adult Classroom at Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton. Learn how to draw and finish with a page of painted leaves and flowers using our unique color mixing method. Course #271650. Fee: \$165. Registration required at www.ParkPASS.org. Call 301-962-1451 or visit www.brooksidegardens.org for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JULY 26-27

Montgomery County Farm Tour and Harvest Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Help celebrate Montgomery County's agricultural heritage and taste local farm fresh foods. Sponsored by the Department of Economic Development. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov for more.

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INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

POTOMAC FALLS, POTOMAC, MD
Georgian Colonial on 4 groomed acres. Flawless renovation and transformation spans 20,000+ SF of living space. 12' ceilings, sublime millwork, stunning kitchen, elevator, carriage house, tennis court, heated pool with pool house. \$9,800,000
Jeff Wilson 301-442-8533



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

POTOMAC FALLS, POTOMAC, MD
Sellers ready to move west! Exceptional price. 8,400SF custom home, 9'+ ceilings, great open floor plan, chef's kitchen & theater. Private 2 acre setting. 5+ car pkg. Near C&O Canal. \$2,750,000.
Adaline Neely 301-580-2214
Anne Killeen 301-706-0067



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND
Brand new custom home in Somerset on large lot. 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, traditional floor plan, high end design and finishes. 2-car garage. Community Pool Membership. \$2,495,000
Sherry Davis 301-996-3220
Lauren Davis 202-549-8784



INTERNATIONAL OFFERING

FAUQUIER COUNTY, VIRGINIA
Upperville/Delaplane area, 100 acres of open rolling land with pond plus views to the Blue Ridge and Bull Run Mountains. No existing conservation easements. Well protected area. Piedmont Hunt. \$2,000,000
Carole Miller 540-729-7896



POTOMAC FALLS, POTOMAC, MD
Sellers are moving! Great value, redone top-to-bottom including all baths, kitchen, recessed lighting, pool and pool equipment. Fabulous lower level opening to loggia and pool. Two plus glorious acres. \$1,775,000
Adaline Neely 301-580-2214



POTOMAC, MARYLAND
On quiet cul-de-sac in Players Gate. Recent updates and ideal floor plan for entertaining. 2-story foyer, SBR/4.5BA, newly finished 3rd floor with bath and remodeled basement. \$1,695,000
Mark McFadden 703-216-1333
Doc Keane 202-441-2343



CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND
Picture perfect 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home, renovated top to bottom. Gourmet kitchen opens to family room, living room with fireplace, grand DR, plus luxurious master suite. Great outdoor spaces, waterfall feature, 1-car garage. \$1,395,000
Sherry Davis 301-996-3220



POTOMAC, MARYLAND
Rare opportunity! 3.4 plus glorious acres in Potomac near the Village. Renovate and expand or build your dream home in this perfect setting. \$1,295,000
Adaline Neely 301-580-2214



POTOMAC, MARYLAND
Brendan O'Neill Colonial approx. 4500SF + huge lower level. Renovated gourmet kitchen open to family room, idyllic screened porches, cul-de-sac, main level BR & new paint. \$1,295,000
Meg Percesepe 240-441-8434
Alison Shutt 301-219-7671



BETHESDA, MARYLAND
Stately home in secluded close-in neighborhood, convenient to DC & Virginia. Contemporary floor plan invites grand entertaining and comfortable living. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths upstairs. Whitman. \$1,249,000
Traudel Lange 301-765-8302



ST. MICHAELS, MARYLAND
Charming colonial on three waterfront acres on the Miles River; 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath main house. 3-car garage with guest quarters with balcony. Steps to Yacht Club. \$1,095,000
Mark McFadden 703-216-1333
Doc Keane 202-441-2343



POTOMAC, MARYLAND
Beautiful sunlit home with spectacular kitchen, dramatic master bedroom suite with sitting area, new Anderson doors and windows throughout. 3 finished levels, 3 bedrooms and 3 baths. Great setting! \$760,000
Traudel Lange 301-765-8302



DARNESTOWN, MARYLAND
Charming newer home surrounded by nature. Beautiful floor plan with refinished hardwood floors, transom windows, & french doors leading to patio. Four bedrooms and three baths up, family room off country kitchen. \$755,500
Traudel Lange 301-765-8302



HUME, VIRGINIA
Charming 3 bedroom in Old Dominion Hunt on 14+ acres. 1997 residence attached to 1800s log cabin. Patio and gardens. 2-car garage with office and bath. Private. \$675,000
Carole Miller 540-729-7896
Kevin Keane 540-687-2221



GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND
Two years young! 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath single family home in Parklands. Three bedrooms with en-suite baths. Tons of updates including beautiful hardwood floors and recessed lights, shows beautifully. Priced to sell! \$650,000
Lynne Tucker 301-404-0464



GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND
NEW PRICE! Sunny, spacious 3BR/2FBA/2HB, 2-car garage, energy star end unit in Parklands! High ceilings, open floor plan, stunning kitchen, beautifully decorated. Close to I270, Kentlands, Rio Center. Hurry! \$535,000
Lynne Tucker 301-404-0464

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