

Potomac ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

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Audrey Harris, Caroline Rogers, Elena Pelligrino, Melina Sequeira and Chris Bond work together during the 8th annual C&O Canal Pride Days.

C&O Canal Clean-up

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APRIL 22-28, 2015

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C&O Canal Clean-up

Cathy Henniger, Vivian Henniger, Elizabeth Bailey, Carol Bailey and Cindy Camp from Girl Scout Troup 4891 work on projects at the C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls.



Roberta Williams, one of the volunteers at the C&O Canal Clean-up on Saturday.

PHOTOS BY
DEBORAH STEVENS
THE ALMANAC



Volunteers from around the community spent the morning of April 18 restoring and revitalizing the C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls on Saturday, April 18.

Bullis 5K Run/Walk/Buddy Run Returns

Events raises funds for local causes.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

“Stepping Towards a Better Future — Come Run ... Come Walk ... Come Change a Life” is the theme of the 7th annual “Bullis Gives Back” 5K Run/Walk and Buddy Run — a theme that Bullis students embrace through doing.

Students from Bullis are paired with a developmentally or physically challenged buddy from The Diener School or from Kids Enjoying Exercise Now (KEEN). Many of these pairings blossom into friendships — and the Bullis students do “change a life” through making their new buddy feel accepted, appreciated and encouraged.

Lois McCabe, Head of School at The Diener School, said, “We look at our students’ social and academic needs while building self-esteem for them to feel empowered about the future. Having Bullis students work and play with our kids is an important opportunity for friendships and new experiences. The heart of Diener is seeing the pride on our student’s faces when they feel socially confident and academically successful.”

The “Bullis Gives Back” run will take place on Sunday, May 3, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The event will feature a cross-country 5K course, and 2.5K walk, music, food, carnival games, and a 400-meter wheelchair accessible track run and inflatable obstacle course for the special athletes. Last year’s race attracted 1,100 participants

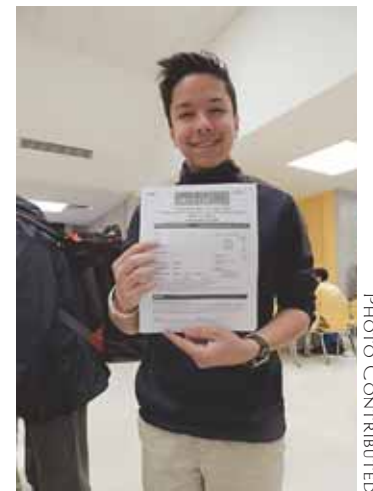


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Pedro Petcov – Race Ambassador.

and raised \$45,000. Event organizers Barbara Guterman and Michelle Benaim are hoping for an even bigger crowd this year. “Every year the race continues to grow and we can make a bigger impact with our donations. This year, 100 percent of our funds will be shared among KEEN, The Diener School, Habitat for Humanity, and the Bullis Student Activity Fund for Education (SAFE) — a fund that covers student activity fees and textbooks for Bullis students in need,” said Benaim.

“Bullis has the largest number of students on scholarship of any private school in our area,” said Guterman. “Whenever a student can’t afford textbooks or activity fees, SAFE will provide payment. Therefore, every student can attend an event or purchase his/her books.”

Fifth graders Demi Fragoyannis

SEE ‘BULLIS GIVES’, PAGE 5

RW Restaurant Group Purchases Tavern at River Falls

Tavern’s new menu will debut this May.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Tavern at River Falls has been acquired by the RW Restaurant Group — partners Robert Wiedmaier, Frank Shull, Joe Lively, and Brian McBride — who own and operate 10 other restaurants that span Washington, D.C., Virginia and Maryland. The newly-painted, more

contemporary Tavern will feature revamped wine and craft beer selections, nightly specials and brunch on Saturday and Sunday.

“We are very excited to be here,” said Shull, who lives within walking distance of the restaurant. “We have plans to update the décor, and present an entirely new menu. We want Potomac residents to feel they can come here for a casual family dinner or a date night with fantastic cocktails and a great bottle of wine without leaving the neighborhood. We will keep our prices moderate — the Tavern should be a place where people can dine several times a week without digging deep into their pockets.”

The restaurant will continue to feature American cuisine sourcing quality ingredients — burgers, steaks, crabcakes, freshly caught seafood specials, and the signature dish at all Wiedmaier’s restaurants that pay tribute to Chef Robert’s heritage: mussels.

Chef Robert and his RW Restaurant Group own Mussel Bar & Grille in Bethesda, Ballston, Va., and Baltimore; Marcel’s in D.C.; Wildwood Kitchen in Bethesda; Brasserie Beck in D.C. and the Kentlands; Urban Heights (the former Roof Restaurant) in Bethesda; and Brabo Restaurant in Alexandria, Va. Wiedmaier is an award-winning chef who was born in Germany, attended

cooking school in the Netherlands and then relocated to the D.C. area in the 1980s. He opened his first restaurant, Marcel’s, in 1999 and his RW Restaurant Group has expanded across the tri-state area and beyond. Wiedmaier’s key culinary advisor, corporate chef Brian McBride and Chef Dean Dupuis, will be leading the change of Tavern’s menu that will debut this May to bring innovative items and signature dishes.

Shull said, “We will offer homemade desserts, an expanded wine list, craft beers on tap, and a wider selection of top shelf liquors and cocktails. We are also planning

SEE NEW OWNER, PAGE 4

Inspiration Day Brings Empowering Speakers to Potomac

MoverMoms to host event.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Inspiration Day is an event that gives our community a chance to come together, connect, and feel inspired,” said Salma Hasan Ali, chief inspiration officer (CIO) of MoverMoms. “It’s a day when we invite our members along with the larger community to take a pause from their busy lives, listen to three amazing speakers — and leave feeling fulfilled, empowered and motivated.” Salma added that since this year they have their first teen speaker, it’s a great opportunity to also invite teenagers to attend and feel inspired.

The event is sponsored by MoverMoms, a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization whose goal, as stated on their website www.movermoms.com is: “To inspire and enable busy moms and families to actively participate in community service by organizing and facilitating a variety of short-term volunteer projects and educational programs that address some of the most urgent needs in our society. Our projects focus on poverty, hunger, the environment, health, emergency relief, and tolerance.”

Inspiration Day will be held at the River Falls Community Center, 7915 Horseshoe Lane, Potomac on Sunday, April 26, 2015 from 1-3 p.m. The event will include lunch provided by Whole Foods, a silent auction, time for conversation and camaraderie and the speakers’ messages. Men’s and women’s



Sixteen-year-old Sareana Kimia will be speaking about how the challenges in her life have inspired her to be involved and successful.

trial-size toiletries will be collected. The cost is \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door, and tickets can be bought at www.movermoms.com. All proceeds will go to organizing MoverMoms’ service projects.

Each of the speakers will present her own personal story of struggles and triumphs. The speakers are: Sareana Kimia, a 16-year old high-school student, political activist and national youth advocacy organizer, who was homeless for some time; Asma Hanif, a nurse, community health activist, domestic violence advocate, and professor who has dedicated her life to serving marginalized communities; and May Rihani, a pioneer in the field of girls’ education and women’s empowerment, who has worked on these issues in more than 40 countries.

Although Sareana Kimia is only 16 years old, according to her mother, “she has always had a different capacity for doing things.” She holds a student seat on the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee. She served as field director for the 2014 primary campaign of Del. Will Smith (D-Montgomery) and youth outreach coordinator for the gubernatorial run of Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown. She works part-time at a law firm, founded an advocacy group



Speaker May Rihani will be speaking on the commonalities among cultures and signing her book “Cultures Without Borders.”

called Youth for National Change, home-schools herself as a junior in high school while attending classes at UMD, and was honored with the Prudential Spirit of Community Award in 2011.

Asma Hanif is the founder of Muslimat Al-Nisaa, the only known shelter in the country that exclusively serves Muslim women. She also runs a free holistic health clinic for women who are homeless, uninsured or victims of domestic abuse and coordinates a food pantry for Baltimore’s poor. Her inspiration is her grandmother, who never turned away a person in need. Hanif is a nurse-practitioner who was married and raised four children. Now she lives in the shelter with 50 women who need her help and support. Every year for the past 20 years, on Super Bowl Sunday, she serves chili to the homeless. She has been recognized for her work by the Baltimore Ravens, appeared on MSNBC and invited to forums at the White House and United Nations.

May Rihani has designed and implemented programs to advance girls’ education and women’s rights all over the world. She was co-chair of the United Nations Girls Education Initiative, senior vice president for the Academy for Educational Develop-



Asma Hanif is the founder of Muslimat Al-Nisaa, the only known shelter in the country that exclusively serves Muslim women.

ment, and contributor for the film “Girl Rising.” Through her travels to more than 70 countries, she learned how much cultures have in common, and will be talking about the importance of understanding this common ground. Her new memoir is “Cultures Without Borders,” and she will be signing her book at the event.

“We all need a dose of inspiration,” said Salma Hasan Ali. “These women are doing amazing work, overcoming tremendous challenges, and living life with tenacity and compassion. We need to hear these stories and take sustenance from each other.”

The silent auction is unique because many MoverMoms’ members have donated their personal talents. “My mother will be offering a ‘Samosa Making Workshop’, teaching a group of 8 - 10 how to make samosas and mango lassi drinks — she makes fantastic samosas.” Others will be teaching resume writing and offering babysitting services. There are also restaurant, spa and salon gift certificates. These silent auction items can be seen on-line at www.32auctions.com.

All are welcome to come to Inspiration Day. To register, to learn more about the organization, or to join MoverMoms, go to www.movermoms.com.

New Owner

FROM PAGE 3

to offer \$1.25 oysters for Happy Hour.”

The RW Restaurant group bought the Tavern from John Grolig, father of Jeff Grolig who was the previous owner of the Tavern and the River Falls Market. The Market has been sold to Potomac residents James McWhorter and Yasmin Abadian — and the RW Group took ownership of the Tavern on March 5.

Most of the former staff will be retained with new recruit Melissa Foster serving as manager. Shull explained that the restaurant will rent out for private parties — and will also offer a catering menu. “We will feature a special each night, from half-priced wines all evening to specialty-priced cocktails or menu items on another night. We are excited to be here and want the Potomac residents to feel this is their neighborhood spot when they do not feel like cooking at home.”

The Tavern at River Falls is located in the Potomac Place Shopping Center in the heart of Potomac Village. Its address is 10128 River Road. To make reservations, call 301-299-0481.



PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

The Tavern at River Falls has been purchased by Robert Wiedmaier’s restaurant group.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

History Lessons

Ralph Buglass speaks at the Potomac Library on Monday, April 13, on the history of Potomac.



Tenth Graders Lauren Chmara and Valerie Moninex said it was fun to be buddies last year.



Fifth Graders Demi Fragoyannis and Jillian Cohen sign up to be buddies in the Bullis Gives Back Run with parent volunteer Kate Latimer.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

'Bullis Gives Back'

FROM PAGE 3

and Jillian Cohen were signing up for "Bullis Gives Back." Demi said, "I liking helping the student that I'm paired with and seeing him or her have a lot of fun." Jillian said, "I feel good about raising money to help others."

"Bullis is a school of opportunity – and opportunity includes helping others," said Guterman. "Kids Helping Kids" benefits all the youths. KEEN and Bullis students have a year-long relationship in which they do activities together twice a month and students at The Diener School have permanent Bullis buddies. Bullis will be collecting new and gently used soccer balls and cleats for KEEN at this year's run.

Robyn MacKenzie and Gabrielle Whittleton designed this year's race logo. They decided to keep the heart from past years' logos because "the race is the heart of Bullis."

"The day is a wonderful family activity day," said Benaim. "We will have free ice cream provided by Friends and Farms. Bullis students will team up with their buddies and help them through the inflatable obstacle course and Bullis athletes will be playing lacrosse, track, softball and baseball with younger children. Other activities will include pony rides, face painting, tattoos, inflatable slides and more."

Beata Okulska, executive director, KEEN Greater DC, said of the 2014 event: "It was delightful to watch how attentive and caring the Bullis buddies were. They gave all their attention to the KEEN athletes throughout the event; they were patient, thoughtful and kind to everyone. They took our special needs kids by the hand or pushed their wheelchairs across the finish line with pride. They were all winners. It was an unforgettable event that brought lots of smiles and joy to all participants." buddies were. They gave all their attention to the KEEN athl

To register on-line, go to www.bullis.org. Bullis students are \$10 and general registration is \$30. Diener and KEEN athletes are free. Sponsorships are also available on the website.



Co-Chairmen Michelle Benaim and Barbara Guterman display the 2015 Bullis Gives Back logo.



Bullis students sign up for "Bullis Gives Back."

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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

MAY

5/6/2015..... McLean Day Pullout

5/6/2015..... Mother's Day Dining & Gifts II

5/6/2015..... Wellbeing
Mother's Day is May 10

5/13/2015..... HomeLifeStyle

5/20/2015..... A+ Camps & Schools, Proms, Summer Planning
Memorial Day is May 25

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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

“Jack and the Beanstalk.” Through May 3, at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The Puppet Co. presents “Jack and the Beanstalk,” the classic children’s tale about the boy that doesn’t know beans about trading, but still manages to climb his way to the top. Jack finds that happiness lies in helping others rather than mere personal gain. Told with rod puppets and some surprising twists, Jack has long been a favorite of The Puppet Co. audiences.

Visit www.thepuppetco.org/ for more.

“Mirror to the World.” Through June 1, 1-4 p.m. on Saturdays; 1-8 p.m. on Sundays at Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Find five picture stories highlighting people from all over the world. Admission is free. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

VisArts Cocktails and Canvas Class. at VisArts in the Painting & Drawing Studio, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Price \$40. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/cocktails-and-canvas 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 capitalblues.org for more.

Weekly Swing Dance. Saturdays, 8 p.m.-midnight. The DC Lindy Exchange presents a swing dance with live music in the Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Beginner swing dance lesson at 8 p.m., followed by dancing until midnight. Admission \$16-\$18, age 17 and under \$12. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Argentine Tango with Lessons. Most Sundays, 6:30-11 p.m. in the Back Room Annex at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. 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. For 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 for more.

Contra and Square Dance. Fridays and Sundays 7-10:30 p.m. in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. The evening can include square dances, mixers, waltzes and other couple dances. All Contra and Square dances are taught, no partner necessary. Lessons at 7 p.m., followed by the called dance with live music at 7:30. \$13 for nonmembers, \$10 for FSGW members, \$5 ages 17 and under. Visit www.glenechopark.org or call 301-634-2222 for more.

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.

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.

Mommy & Me (& Daddy, Too).

Third Tuesday each month. 10 a.m. at Rockville Town Square. Meet for a morning out with active learning and creative play with lunch specials, story time, arts and crafts, sing-a-longs, prizes and more. Visit rockvilletownsquare.com/events/mommy-and-me.

Live Music & Dancing. Fridays and Saturdays, 7-11 p.m. in Margery’s Lounge, Normandie Farm Restaurant 10710 Falls Road. Dance to the music of Barry Gurley. Call 301-983-8838 or visit www.popovers.com for more.

Glen Echo Park Films. Saturdays and Sundays. Arcade Building, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Films about the Park’s history are shown on rotation in the lobby. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

SilverWorks Studio & Gallery. Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. SilverWorks Studio & Gallery is a working silversmith studio and includes an ongoing exhibition, as well as sales of the work of artist-in-residence Blair Anderson. Free. Visit www.silverworksglenechopark.com.

Art Glass Center at Glen Echo. All day Wednesdays; Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sundays, noon-4 p.m. Art Glass Center, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Ongoing exhibitions feature work of Resident Artists Christine Hekimian, Sue Hill, Michele Rubin, Sherry Selevan, Bev and Zayde Slep and Janet Wittenberg. Sculpture, vessels, functional art and jewelry are for sale. Classes are taught year-round for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. Visit www.artglasscenteratglenecho.org for more.

Glen Echo Pottery. Through December, Saturdays and Sundays, 12-5 p.m. Glen Echo Pottery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The Gallery shows the work of 29 individual potters and instructors at Glen Echo Pottery. Wheel-throwing demonstrations are offered most Saturdays and Sundays, noon-2 p.m. Children are welcome. Visit www.glenechopottery.com/gallery for more.

Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery. Saturdays and Sundays, 12-5 p.m. The Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery presents free exhibitions of emerging artists’ work. Each weekend features the work of a different artist. Most artwork is also for sale. Visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com for more.

Acoustic Open Mic. Wednesdays, 7-11 p.m. at Benny’s Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane. Everyone welcome to perform. Wine bottles are 50 percent off. Visit www.bennysbargrill.com.

Downtown Bethesda Concert Series. Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park. The Bethesda Urban Partnership produces concerts each summer with a diverse offering of music. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Registration Open. The spring issue of the Montgomery County Guide for Recreation and Parks Programs features a variety of classes and programs designed to help participants stay active and have fun, including aquatics, sports, therapeutic recreation services and active adult senior programming. Registration is available online, by mail or in person at the Montgomery County Recreation Administrative Offices at 4010 Randolph Road,



Stuart Rick is Atticus Finch and Sydney Q. Lauricella-Reed is his daughter Scout in Rockville Little Theatre’s “To Kill a Mockingbird.”

‘To Kill a Mockingbird’ Closes Little Theatre’s Season

Rockville Little Theatre will close its 67th season with an adaptation of Harper Lee’s “To Kill a Mockingbird.” Taking place in rural 1930s Alabama, “To Kill a Mockingbird,” details the story of a poor black man accused of rape. Being a staple in classrooms all over the country, the directors and producers at Rockville Little Theatre have secured a grant from the Montgomery County Arts and Humanities Council that will be used to subsidize a special, reduced-price, school day matinee for local middle and high school students. The play will run April 24-May 3 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. Evening performances are at 8 p.m., Sunday matinees are at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$20 for seniors and students. Visit www.rlt-online.org.

Silver Spring, or by fax at 240-777-6818. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec or call 240-777-6840 for more.

VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville, offers a variety of camp sessions for spring and summer. Visit www.visartscenter.org or call 301-315-8200.

♦ Summer Camps

One-week and two-week sessions offered June 15-Aug. 21, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Before care and extended care is available.

Young Artists. One-week sessions that nurture the budding talents of students with age-appropriate visual art projects in an assortment of media (ages 5-6).

Artistic Adventures. Two-week sessions that promote creativity as children experience an assortment of visual art media and are exposed to gallery exhibitions (ages 7-12).

Art Quest. One-week sessions that promote creativity as children experience an assortment of visual art media and are exposed to gallery exhibitions (ages 7-12).

Lola’s Lab. June 29-July 2 or Aug. 17-21. A performance art camp where imagination flows through interactive stories, expressive arts, and fantasy (ages 5-10).

♦ Teen Camps

One-week half-day sessions offered July 6-31, 8:30-11:30 a.m.; 12:15-3:15 p.m.

Teen Art Institute. Teens explore fused glass, painting and drawing. Camp will be held at VisArts (ages 13-18).

Teen Art Institute. This ceramic class gives teens the opportunity to explore clay in depth with handbuilding and the wheel. Camp will be held in the art ceramic at Richard Montgomery High School (ages 13-18).

2015 Musical Theatre Intensive

Summer Camp. For actors, dancers and singers ages 13-18. The program will run for two weeks from July 12-25 at the Sandy Spring Friends School in Sandy Spring, Md. Campers can participate in daytime or overnight camp. The daytime camp will feature students in a final showcase the last Friday of camp. Students who participate in the overnight intensive camp will take part in a full production of the musical “Once on this Island!” Visit www.youngartistsamerica.org for more.

Art Explorers Open Studio. Every Saturday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at The Candy Corner Studio, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Art activities for parents and children. Activities change weekly and there is no pre-registration; \$10 per child. Vist www.glenechopark.org/saturday-art-explorers for more.

Ceramic Classes. Various dates and times. VisArts, 155 Gibbs St, Rockville. An opportunity to try the new ceramic workshops. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/ceramics for a list of class dates, times.

THROUGH MAY 24

“Edge of the Forest.” Various times at Gibbs Street Gallery, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Artist Stephanie Garmey has crafted an exhibit of paper, wood, and glass to explore the solitude of travel and memory of natural environments. Free. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/galleries/gibbs-street-gallery.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 22-26

“The Servant of Two Masters.” 8 p.m., 2 p.m. on Sunday at Robert Parilla Performing Arts Center, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Montgomery College presents an

18th century comedy centered around an eager servant named Truffaldino. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for seniors, and \$5 for students. Visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 22

Jouvence Aveda Earth Day Fundraiser. 8:30 a.m.- 8 p.m. at Jouvence Salon, 130 Gibbs St., Rockville. Patrons may make donations in return for a haircut or facial. Haircuts are \$75 and facials are \$45. Visit www.jouvencesalons.com.

Earth Day at Dawson’s. 8 a.m.-9 p.m. at Dawson’s Market, 225 N Washington St., Rockville. The market will have eco-friendly demonstrations and tastings. Free to attend. Visit www.dawsonsmarket.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 23

Freda Payne. 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Jazz Singer Freda Payne, who came to fame in the ‘70s for her song “Band of Gold,” will perform. Tickets are \$30-40. Visit www.bethesdabluesjazz.com.

FRIDAY/APRIL 24

Rummage Sale. 9 a.m-8 p.m. at St. James’ Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. Visit <http://www.stjamespotomac.org>.
#SoCozyKid Styling Event. 2 p.m. at Make Meaning, 4809 Bethesda Ave, Bethesda. Children’s hair product company So Cozy is looking for their next “So Cozy Kid.” Children may have their hair styled, be photographed professionally and participate in other activities. Free. RSVP with SoCozyMD@hs-pr.com.

ENTERTAINMENT

Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Gibbs Street Gallery, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Artist Stephanie Garmey will discuss her new exhibition, "Edge of the Forest," an exploration of travel and memory. Free. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/galleries/gibbs-street-gallery.

Veteran Art Exhibit and Performance. 7-9 p.m. at Chevy Chase Cars, 7725 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Participants in the Combat Paper art workshop will display their work and the "Warrior Writers" will perform spoken word. Free. Call 908-725-2110.

"Roaring '20s Speakeasy." 8 p.m. at AMP by Strathmore, 11810 Grand Park Ave., North Bethesda. Jazz vocalist Michael Mwenso will be joined by "The Shakes." Tickets are \$10-14. Visit www.ampbystrathmore.com.

APRIL 24-MAY 3

"To Kill a Mockingbird." Various times at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. The classic play set in Alabama during the great depression dealing with race and politics will close the Rockville Little Theatre's 67th season. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$20 for seniors and students. Visit www.rlt-online.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 25

Rummage Sale. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. Visit www.stjamespotomac.org for more.

Amazing Amphibians. 12-4 p.m. at Locust Grove Nature Center, 7777 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Children are invited to visit the wetlands, meet

tadpoles, and engage in frog-themed arts and crafts. Tickets are \$5. Visit www.montgomeryparks.org.

Bug Bonanza. 1-4 p.m. at Brookside Nature Center, 1400 Glenallan Avenue, Silver Spring. Visit the nature center's insect "hotel" and get an up-close look at a honeybee hive. Free. Visit montgomeryparks.org.

Adult Pastel Class. 2-3 p.m. at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave. #E, Bethesda. In honor of Artist Lorian Signori's exhibit "a quiet suspension of time," 15 people may take a pastel painting class. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org/bethesda/gallery-b.

An Evening with Julie Andrews. 5:30 p.m. at The Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville. "The Sound of Music" actress Julie Andrews will attend the Strathmore's 10th anniversary Spring Gala. The evening will include a Q&A and discussion. Gala ticket packages can be purchased by contacting The Sorelle Group at 202-248-1930 or Strathmore@sorellegroup.com. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 25-26

VisArts Family Workshop. 2 p.m. at VisArts Rockville, 155 Gibbs Street, Rockville. Use under-glaze to decorate a ceramic 6 x 6 plate. Tuition is \$15. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 26

Book Talk. 11 a.m. at Beth Shalom Congregation, 11825 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. Dr. Benjamin Ginsburg, professor of political science at Johns Hopkins University

will discuss his latest book, "How the Jews Defeated Hitler." Free. Contact library@bethsholom.org for more.

Jazz Brunch. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Dawson's Market, 225 N Washington St., Rockville. Find an all-you-can-eat brunch buffet with hot bar, salad bar, bagel and lox station and more. The Howie Jung Trio will provide live music. Tickets are \$14.99 for adults, \$6.99 for kids 4-10, and free for children 3 and under. Visit www.dawsonsmarket.com.

Paws in the Park. 12-4 p.m. at Bohrer Park at Summit Hall Farm, 506 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg. The 17th annual Paws in the Park event will feature a one-mile dog walk, pet contests, vendors, micro-chipping, rabies shots, food, music, and more. are \$25 and \$55. Visit www.mchumane.org/paws15.shtml.

Author Reading. 2 p.m. at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. Barbara Klein Moss reads from "The Language of Paradise," and Judith Bowles will read from "The Gatherer." Reception and book signing to follow. Free. Visit www.writer.org.

Book Talk. 3 p.m. at Barnes & Noble, 12089 Rockville Pike. Anthony Pitch will discuss his book, "Our Only Crime was Being Jewish." Free. Email anthonypitch39@gmail.com.

Productive Aging Award Dinner. 5:30 p.m. at Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road, Rockville. Actor and director Alan Alda and his wife, photographer and write Arlene Alda are scheduled to be honored with the Sylvia Blajwas Productive Aging Award by the Jewish Council for the Aging. Sylvia Greenberg will also be honored. Tickets start at \$300 per individual. Visit www.accessjca.org.

APRIL 27-29

Festival of the Arts. 12 p.m. on April 27; 6-8 p.m. on weekdays, Winston Churchill High School, 11300 Gainsborough Road. Winston Churchill High School presents their annual festival of the arts. Find live music, a fashion show, silent auction, sidewalk chalk competition, and food. Free. Visit www.wchart.com.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 29

Networking Event. 4-6 p.m. at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road, Potomac. The Potomac Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event. \$10 for members, \$15 for nonmembers. Visit www.potomacchamber.org.

Artist's Reception. 6-8 p.m. at Winston Churchill High School, 11300 Gainsborough Road, Potomac. The best in show at the school's "The Festival of the Arts" will be announced. Free. Visit www.wchart.com.

APRIL 29-MAY 23

"The Merry Month." Wednesday-Saturday 12-6 p.m. at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave. #E, Bethesda. Find colorful artwork from Liliane Blom, Cynthia Ferrell Johnson, Donna McGee, Carol Vorosmarti, Kathryn Wiley and Patricia Zannie. Admission to the gallery is free. Visit www.bethesda.org/bethesda/gallery-b.

MAY 1-JUNE 1

"Rare Plants and Lunatics." Library hours at Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda. Artist

Sandra Perez works with neo-primitive ink to create images of folk tales and magic. Free. Visit www.sandraperezramos.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 1-3

Spring Dance Concert. 8 p.m., 2 p.m. on Sunday at Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. The Montgomery College Rockville Dance Company presents work produced by students and faculty. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for seniors, and \$5 for students. Visit www.montgomerycollege.edu.

SATURDAY/MAY 2

Kentlands Day Festival. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Potomac Pizza parking lot, 625 Center Point Way, Gaithersburg. The 7th annual Kentlands Day festival will feature a parade, car show, games, and food. Free. Visit www.kentlandsday.com.

Fountain Season Opening Party. 3-6 p.m. at Downtown Silver Spring. Celebrate the reopening of the interactive fountain with games and live music. Free. Visit www.downtownsilverspring.com.

Opening Reception. 4-6 p.m. at Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda. Sandra Perez fetes the launch of her new exhibit "Rare Plants and Lunatics." Free. Visit www.sandraperezramos.com.

Pianist Christopher Taylor Performance. 8 p.m. at The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Pianist Christopher Taylor will perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21. Tickets are \$28-84, ages 7-17 are free. Visit www.nationalphilharmonic.org.

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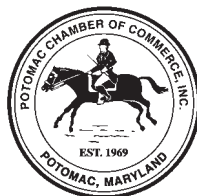
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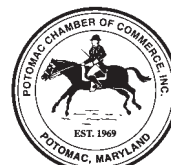
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Trendy Bathroom Transformations

Designers share the hottest ideas in lavatory design.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

Imagine stepping into a resort inside the comfort of your own home. Contemporary, spa-like bathrooms with clean lines and features such as floating vanities, open shelving, innovative storage and low-maintenance materials are on trend this year in bathroom remodeling projects.

When the main level master bathroom in a 1970s-era Reston home got a major facelift earlier this year, Dean Turner, of Evolution Design & Build in Reston, Va., was tasked with addressing structural issues as well updating the entire space.

"This bathroom had a sunken tub and shower combination that was leaking into the basement below," said Turner. "They wanted me to solve their water problems ... update their bathroom, and they were very interested in a floating vanity."

The floating, walnut piece was made a by a local cabinetmaker and hovers 12 inches above the floor, and Turner was able to give the homeowners an abundance of storage by incorporating cabinetry into the vanity. A simple touch of the fingertip opens and closes its drawers and doors, eliminating the need for visible hardware. Motion detecting, LED lighting under the vanity is



PHOTO BY JESSE SNYDER

Modern art in bold colors pops against pale tile in this Potomac bathroom-turned-spa retreat.

another convenience.

"If you have to use the bathroom in the middle of the night, you don't have to fumble with a light because it can sense

activity," said Turner.

Turner's team removed the existing wall and floor tile, replacing it with scratch- and stain-resistant porcelain tile that has the

appearance of natural stone, while the wall tiles were made in the image of natural wood.

"When you look at it," said Turner. "It looks just like hardwood flooring on the wall."

Meanwhile, a Potomac bathroom is a serene retreat with a touch of glamour and an unexpected jolt of color. Nadia Subaran of Aidan Design hung a statement-making painting with orange and yellow hues against a backdrop of pale green walls, which ties together the contemporary aesthetic. A glass-enclosed shower makes the space undeniably serene.

"The owners wanted a spa-like bathroom, especially with a steam shower," said Subaran. "They wanted modern, but inviting. ... They love art and were thrilled with a space in the bathroom to display it."

Open, built-in shelves above the tub offer plenty of space for storing additional art and practical items like towels and toiletries.

AFTER MOVING into a retirement community, an empty-nester couple decided to overhaul the builder-grade bathroom that came with their home. They enlisted the help of Stephanie Brick, of Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths in Springfield, Va., who

SEE TRENDY, PAGE 10



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REAL ESTATE

Staged to Sell

Real estate agents give the lowdown on getting your home ready for the market.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

When a Burke, Va., family hired E. Diane Neustrand to sell their home, she did her standard walk-through of the house to assess it, but when she reached the dining room, she stopped cold.

"It was painted with three different shades of orange and accessorized with black, white and gold furniture," said Neustrand, a real estate agent with Long and Foster Real Estate, Inc. in Burke, Fairfax Station and Clifton, Va.

First on Neustrand's chopping block: a pair of zebra print chairs. The boisterous wall colors were next.

"It wasn't harmonious at all," said Neustrand, who also works as a professional home stager. "We had to calm that down because orange is not a color that sells well. You want neutrals in paint and furniture, so potential buyers can visualize their own items in your home."

Residential real estate staging, the practice of preparing a home to go on the market for sale by making it aesthetically appealing, is credited with giving homes an advantage over the competition.

Staging can range from rearranging furniture, decluttering and painting the walls to furnishing a home in which the seller no longer resides.

The National Association of Realtors' 2015 Investment & Home Buyers Survey showed that staging can have a positive impact on the number of days a home sits on the market and the amount of money potential buyers are willing to offer for the home.

"**STAGED HOMES** traditionally present themselves better than the competition by being clean, clutter-free and ready to show to prospective buyers," said Mona Bekheet, a real estate agent with McEneaney Associates, Inc. in McLean, Va. "Home staging is decluttering, depersonalizing and preparing a seller's home to look like a model home so the potential buyers can see themselves living in the home."

The survey showed that 49 percent of agents say most buyers are affected by home staging, while a 2013 study by the Real Estate Staging Association showed staged homes sold 83 percent sooner than houses that weren't staged.

Realtors also believe buyers usually offer a 1-5 percent increase on the value of a staged home.

"Staged homes take less time on the market and they sell at the best price," said Bekheet. "Buyers view them as well cared for properties and appraisers are more likely to appraise staged homes at a full or higher value."

That increase can offset the expense of having a home professionally staged. Services, including consultations and furniture rental, can cost \$250 to \$2,000. Neustrand uses as many of the homeowners' possessions as she can to minimize out-of-pocket expenses.

"Since staging gives a home a clean, fresh, current look, it makes a home more attractive to buyers," said Betsy Schuman Dodek of Washington Fine Properties in Potomac.

However, real estate agents say initiating conversations with homeowners about their homes and suggesting changes must be handled delicately.

"You don't want to hurt



Real estate agents suggest using neutrals in paint colors and home furnishings when staging a home for sale.

someone's feelings by telling them that they need to move items or get rid of items like the wrong artwork or too much furniture," said Maria Smith of Arlington Realty in Arlington, Va. "But the homeowner's objective should be to sell the home."

Staging helps when a home is too cluttered, or even if a house is already empty. It's also a good idea

"for those with dated, mismatched furniture or too many pieces in a room," said Realtor Marsha Schuman of Washington Fine Properties. "For homes that don't have a traditional floor plan, staging helps a buyer see how the rooms can be laid out."

"Even if you have a large home, if your closets are over-stuffed or if you have too much furniture, a

prospective buyer can't get a sense of the space and dimension of a room or visualize themselves in the home," said E.J. Stone, a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Alexandria, Va.

REMOVING ULTRA-PERSONAL ITEMS like family pictures or bills is another part of the staging process.

"You want to get a potential buyer to envision their things in the home," said Stone. "Neutrals can help with that. Those are things that a home stager can suggest."

Less is often more in the home staging game, say Realtors. "I tell my clients to take stuff off the walls, rent a storage space and take all the stuff you don't need and put it into a storage unit, so it opens up more space," said Michael Richter, real estate agent for residential preferred properties at the Richter Group in Burke, Va.

Realtors rank the living room as the number one room to stage, SEE HOME STAGING, PAGE 10



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Pins and Needles

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



This column isn't about acupuncture or knitting, any more than last week's column was about nausea. They are, however, both about the same thing: the life of a "terminal" cancer patient (and an extremely fortunate one at that), waiting and wondering – and worrying, hoping and praying – never more than now, not having heard the results of my most recent diagnostic scan, results of which can't come quickly enough and which, in point of fact, don't come quickly at all. More often than not, given that my oncologist wants to see me in person when he delivers the results – to explain and be available to answer any questions/discuss any strategy, etc. – typically, I don't learn my fate (to be honest about how I feel), until the Friday nine days after the previous week's Wednesday scan.

Not that I haven't been able to live with the anxiety and the eternity (again "live" being the operative word) and get accustomed to the ebb and non-preferred flow; I certainly have, it's more that the longer I live, the more it seems the veneer of tolerance and relative/comparative calm I've exhibited/maintained over these past six years and nearly two months, may be weakening. Not that I'm throwing in the towel (although I am doing laundry as I write), it's a simple admission I'm making that, as old as I hope to live, this process is getting older, faster. Now whether this sensation matters to my prognosis/future, who's to say; and I doubt whether my oncologist and/or any medical professionals with whom I interact could enlighten me in any sort of way. I am well aware that the day I received my diagnosis of stage IV, non small cell lung cancer (NSCLC): February 27, 2009, along with its "13 month to two year prognosis," is the day that any and all guarantees for better-than-average, longer-than-expected quality of life ended. If nothing else – as I had been forewarned by other cancer patients – oncologists, generally speaking, don't exactly "blow any sunshine up your skirt" (to quote the late, great McLean Stevenson as Lt. Col. Dr. Henry Blake from the classic, long-running television series M*A*S*H). And at the initial Team Lourie meeting, my oncologist definitely did not. Quite the contrary, I was encouraged, given the rather dire straits in which I now found myself, to "perhaps take that vacation I've always dreamed of," while I could. "What?!", I exclaimed. No more do I exclaim when I receive medical updates or even what I might call "down-dates," (negative, disappointing, dare I say, bad news). I've learned to take it all in stride. Although those strides seem to be getting shorter and less balanced – not a new symptom, just a metaphor. (If "new" symptoms persist for two to three weeks, I am to alert my oncologist.)

Nevertheless, there appears to be little I can do to speed up the flow of information between this doctor and this patient. E-mails do shorten the timeline, but it's the process/doctor's preferred method of communicating (heck, for all I know, legal requires face-to-face rather than computer-to-computer) which may ultimately shorten my timeline. I realize this is not my oncologist's intent (since he's proud of the success we've had together; in fact, he calls me his "third miracle patient"), but unfortunately, the effect may very well be the same. I guess for the time I'm still being, I'm sort of stuck.

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

REAL ESTATE

Trendy

FROM PAGE 8

designed a contemporary space.

"The homeowners were looking for something that was calming and had a spa-like energy," said Brick. "They also wanted more storage, especially open storage for linens and displaying items."

Brick and the Nicely team installed cabinetry with open shelving over the toilet. The vanity has a quartz countertop with veins of blue and turquoise that bears a close resemblance to marble. "Those colors were carried through in an accent piece in the shower," said Brick.

The porcelain tile floor has a marble-like appearance.

"You get the beautiful look of marble, but you don't have the maintenance or the cost," said Brick. "The new bathroom has a much more spa-like aesthetic. It was very bland and vanilla and it needed a face lift."

When the owners of a contemporary home in Burke, Va., decided to remodel their master bathroom so that it matched the style of the rest of the house, they called on designer Cathy Gross, also of Nicely. She used porcelain tile on the walls accented with river rock stone, a material that she also used on the bathroom floor.

"They wanted to continue the calm, zen, contemporary feel in the remodel of their master bath," said Gross, who also designed the home's kitchen five years prior.

Honed marble, a crystal chandelier and clean lines give a lavatory in Arlington, Va., a feel that is at once grand, tranquil and modern. That was the aesthetic that remodeler Bruce Case of Case Design/Remodeling had in mind when he overhauled his master bathroom during a remodel of his entire home.

"We wanted to incorporate some classic materials that would complement the age of the home, but use them in a more contemporary way," said Case.

The bathroom features a tankless toilet, a towel warmer and a Schluter-Kerdi shower drain, which eliminates water down the side of the shower floor instead of the middle. "We were drawn to more contemporary elements, but like to soften those with more traditional touches," said Case. "We wanted to create a feeling of serenity while also incorporating beautiful finishes such as the Vermont marble-surround tub and waterfall vanities."

Case says the honed vein-cut marble on the floor complements the vanity's rich finish. "The entire space is crowned with an elegant chandelier," said Case.

Home Staging

FROM PAGE 9

followed by the kitchen. Also in the top five rooms are the master bedroom, dining room and the bathroom.

"Your home should be a model home, like no one lives there," said Neustrand. "The bathroom counters should not have products or clutter. There should not be trash in the garbage can."

SPORTS

Churchill, Wootton To Face Off Thursday

The undefeated Churchill and Wootton boys' lacrosse teams will face one another at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 23 at Churchill High School.

The Churchill Bulldogs are off to a 10-0 start, including a 17-8 win over Poolesville on Saturday. Nine of Churchill's 10 wins have come by a margin of at least nine goals.

The Wootton Patriots were 6-0 entering Tuesday's game against Bethesda-Chevy Chase, including a 13-5 win against Walter Johnson on April 17. Wootton traveled to Sherwood on April 14 and edged the Warriors 12-11.

Churchill defeated Sherwood 19-4 on April 16. Churchill and Wootton met in last year's 4A/3A West region championship game, with the Patriots winning 14-12. The Bulldogs had won the previous two region titles, snapping Wootton's streak of six straight region championships.



Marshall Rhodes and the Churchill boys' lacrosse team are off to a 10-0 start.



Joseph Montesano and the Wotton boys' lacrosse team will face Churchill on April 23 in a matchup of county rivals.

out seven.

Eric Wayman went 4-for-4 with two runs and an RBI for Whitman. Sean Cook and Danny Mills each had two hits.

Wootton is 2-6, including a 10-3 loss to Quince Orchard on Saturday.

Whitman Baseball to Face Wootton

The Whitman baseball team will travel to face Wootton at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22.

Whitman is 5-5. The Vikings defeated Churchill (5-2) and Walter Johnson (8-1) last week before losing to B-CC 8-2 on Saturday.

Whitman pitcher Sam Berson earned the win against WJ, allowing one run on two hits over six innings while walking one and striking

Churchill Softball Starts 6-3

The Churchill softball team won six of its first seven games and entered this week with a 6-3 record.

The Bulldogs have scored double digit runs in each of their six victories.

Churchill will host Poolesville at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22.

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WEDNESDAY/APRIL 22

Forum on Poverty. 6-9 p.m. at East County Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring. The "Raise Your Voice EAST" forum will bring attention to low-income community members with a resource fair and panel discussion. Free. Register at raiseyourvoiceeast.eventbrite.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 23

Public Forum. 7-9:30 p.m. at Montgomery Regional Office Auditorium, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Montgomery Parks will host public forum on future capital improvement projects for parks and recreation facilities. Visit www.montgomeryparks.org.

MONDAY/APRIL 27

Montgomery Serves Awards. 6:30 p.m. at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Community leaders and volunteers will be honored for their service. Free. Visit www.montgomeryserves.org.

TUESDAY/APRIL 28

RESPA and HUD Seminar. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Hilton Washington DC/ Rockville Hotel & Executive Meeting Center, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville. This seminar will educate real estate agents on the new RESPA rules and HUD Disclosure Forms. Tickets are \$25. Visit www.tinyurl.com/easterntitle to register.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 29

Networking Event. 4-6 p.m. at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road, Potomac. The Potomac Chamber of Commerce is hosting a networking event. \$10 for members, \$15 for nonmembers. Visit www.potomacchamber.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 30

Tour the Pepco Watershed. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at WaterShed, 201 West Gude Drive, Rockville. Tour the solar-powered home that interacts with the environment. The tour is free for Leadership Montgomery members, \$15 for nonmembers. Visit www.leadershipmontgomerymd.org/event/pepco-watershed-tour.

FRIDAY/MAY 1

"It Takes a Village" Awards Breakfast. 7:30-9:30 a.m. at Bethesda Marriott Pooks Hill, 5151 Pooks Hill Road, Bethesda. The Nonprofit Village is honoring Pain

Connection and YMCA Youth and Family Services, for their work in the community; as well as Discovery Communications (for-profit company) and Steve Mandel (individual), board member of Crossroads Community Food Networks (Takoma Park). Tickets are \$75. Visit www.thenonprofitvillage.org/annual-breakfast.

Walt Whitman High School 50th.

The Class of 1965 will celebrate, with something for everyone. Two days of activities planned, including a tour of the new campus, happy hour meet and greet, a hike and picnic, an afternoon "fireside" discussion remembering the 60s and a cocktail reception with dinner, live music and dancing. Advance reservations are required. Visit www.waltwhitmanclassof1965.com or call 240-669-4996.

SATURDAY/MAY 2

Bicycle Ride Benefit. 9 a.m. at Johns Hopkins University Montgomery Campus, 9601 Medical Center Drive, Rockville. The third annual Tree House Tour de Cookie challenges bicyclists of all ages to bike 14 or 40 miles to raise money to benefit the Tree House Child Assessment Center, dedicated to victims of physical and sexual abuse. \$50 to register before April 30; \$60 after. Children 12 and under ride free with an adult. Teams receive a discount. Visit www.treehousemd.org/tour-de-cookie/register.

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