

# Potomac ALMANAC

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PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

JULY 29 - AUGUST 4, 2015

ONLINE AT [POTOMACALMANAC.COM](http://POTOMACALMANAC.COM)



## OPINION

# Reforming Liquor Control in Montgomery County

By ROGER BERLINER  
COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER

**T**oday [July 28] the County Council unanimously passed a resolution that asks our state delegation to reform a significant part of the county's antiquated liquor control system. For nine years I have asked myself why our county is the only county in the country to have a monopoly in the liquor business. The answer, it seems, is simple: revenue and county employee jobs. I don't find that answer satisfying, even on a day when we are adopting a significant budget savings plan. Why? Because we do not do this business well. Based on answers I got when I sat in on the Ad Hoc Committee meetings, we don't even pretend to think like a business. Other jurisdictions are delivering on 24-hour cycles, while our county businesses wait up to a week or more to get an order corrected. Until the committee brought it to their attention, the Department of Liquor Control (DLC) had not even thought seriously about performance metrics — as any serious business would have.

The testimony that was submitted to the Ad Hoc Committee over these last few months was overwhelming, and carried an unmistakable theme throughout: our DLC is unresponsive and inefficient. These results

are not surprising — we are not a business enterprise. If you combine the absence of business instincts and imperatives with a grant of monopoly power, you have the worst of both worlds. Our county has plenty of experience with monopolies, including those that we created or the state created. Pepco. Our taxi cab industry. We know how poorly these monopolies have served our community. Our liquor monopoly performs no better. And while we focus on the revenue we gain, we have not focused enough on the revenue we lose. Total Wine in McLean estimates that one third of its business comes from Montgomery County. They love us there.

We are the District of Columbia's best friend when it comes to liquor, because our residents shop for their liquor there. If we were to repatriate the dollars that flee our county, we would plug a good portion of the revenue we are concerned about. I have heard the arguments that our monopoly helps both public health and public safety. I don't accept them. I don't think our county residents are healthier than residents in the rest of the United States by virtue of our liquor monopoly. I don't accept that we consume less alcohol, as our county statistics would suggest, because our county statistics by definition don't incorporate all the dollars spent in D.C., Prince George's

County and Virginia. And I don't accept that we lose our ability to control to whom and by whom liquor is sold if we were to get out of the business.

Public safety is not at stake in the debate over DLC's future role in the marketplace. I do appreciate that our county employee union has jobs at stake. That is true. It is also true that other unions, such as the Teamsters, would gain jobs as a result. And it is also true that privatization efforts in other jurisdictions, such as Washington State, have demonstrated that more jobs are created: 91 percent more jobs. More jobs, not less jobs. Let me be clear: For years I have championed the recommendation embodied in this resolution. I have met with restaurant owners and heard their stories; and I have convened meetings with DLC and our restaurants to bridge the communications gap. The bottom line is equally unambiguous: Our restaurants have been hamstrung and harmed by the operations of the DLC. Restaurants do not come here

for this very reason. But the record is mixed as to whether these reforms will in fact be realized. Wholesalers must participate for these reforms to be meaningful, and we have heard from major wholesalers that participating in this system is simply not worth it. Moreover, the resolution leaves discretion to DLC as to what qualifies as a special order, and allows DLC to decide whether a special order is now a "stock" item that must be bought from the county. While I voted for the resolution, and appreciate the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, it should only be the first step toward ending this monopoly for good. We should not stop here as though we have put this issue to bed. The public testimony was replete with pleas to go further. We must chart a path that leads us out of a business that no other county in the country is in. We are not good at it; it harms our reputation; it damages our economy; it robs us of jobs; it hurts consumers. It's time to develop a phased exit strategy.

### COMMENTARY

### BULLETIN BOARD

Email [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com).

#### MONDAY/AUG. 3

**Public Hearing.** 7-9 p.m. at the Department of Technology Services, Cable Office, 100 Maryland Ave., Suite #250, Rockville. This is a public hearing on the renewal of the county's contract with Comcast Cable. Registration is

required, do so by calling 240-777-3762.

#### TUESDAY/AUG. 4

**Writing a Successful Business Plan.** 9 a.m.-noon at Maryland Women's Business Center, 51 Monroe St. Plaza East 20, Rockville. Attend an interactive workshop about the principles of a business plan. \$35. Visit [www.marylandwbc.org](http://www.marylandwbc.org).



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**POTOMAC  
ALMANAC**





PHOTOS BY MATT KIMM/THE ALMANAC

The recently renovated basketball courts at the Potomac Community Recreation Center.

## Center's Courts Renovated

And grand opening of Potomac Adaptive Sports Court set for mid-September.

BY MATT KIMM  
THE ALMANAC

**T**he Potomac Community Recreation Center now features new outdoor basketball facilities. The two basketball courts were recently renovated with new baskets and a new colorful finish on the court, an improvement compared with the old blacktop courts from a few months ago.

While the courts themselves are ready for public use, the Montgomery County Department of Parks is "currently providing ADA

accessibility improvements to the tennis and basketball courts and the playground so individuals with disabilities can use these amenities," with construction estimated to finish in August, according to Melissa Chotiner, the media relations manager for the department.

The newly renovated courts are located at the Potomac Community Recreation Center, which also features tennis courts, an athletic field, pool tables, an arcade, a gymnasium, a weight room, and coming soon, a new sports court using an old outdoor

**The Potomac Adaptive Sports Court still needs work, with the opening scheduled for mid-September.**



**Construction of a handicap-accessible ramp to the tennis courts, basketball courts, and the playground at the recreation center is still underway.**

roller rink.

Like the other courts at the Potomac Community Recreation Center, the Potomac Adaptive Sports Court is being designed to accommodate individuals with disabilities. The court's "smooth surface will provide easier access for individuals who use wheelchairs, walkers or other assistive ambulatory devices" and "the Recreation Department

will be scheduling programming for children and adults with disabilities," according to Judy Stiles of the Montgomery County Department of Recreation.

The Potomac Adaptive Sports Court is currently undergoing renovations, with the grand opening scheduled for mid-September. The Potomac Community Recreation Center is located at 11315 Falls Road.

### NEWS BRIEFS

## Helping Low Income Renters

The County Council on Tuesday, July 28, unanimously established a County Renters' Property Tax Relief Supplement for residents who qualify for a payment from the state "Renters' Tax Credit Program."

The state payment to renters is modeled after the Homeowners' Tax Credit — referred to as the "Circuit Breaker" — and is based on the premise that a portion of rent paid by renters is attributable to property tax paid by the owner of the property. The purpose of the state payment is to return some of that money to renters in the same way it is returned to homeowners through the Circuit Breaker payment.

Eligibility for the county supplement would be tied to eligibility for the state payment. The county supplement would be 50 percent of the state payment, which is capped at \$750. Renters will have until Sept. 1 each year to apply for the credit.

The tax credit is available to eligible renters at least 60 years old; those who are permanently and totally disabled; or those under the age of 60 with a gross income below the poverty threshold, at least one dependent under the age of 18 living in the household and who are not receiving federal or state housing subsidies or residing in public housing. See [tinyurl.com/p5fjs4y](http://tinyurl.com/p5fjs4y).

## Senior Connection Seeks Volunteers

Equipped with RideScheduler, a web-based system for scheduling transportation to seniors in Montgomery County, Senior Connection's 136 volunteer drivers have given 5,636 rides at no charge to 387 clients since last August.

These volunteers have devoted 6,040 hours of their time driving 45,143 miles.

The RideScheduler system has increased

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, PAGE 6



PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

## Game of Strategy

**From left: Mark Chen, Amber Tien looking on, and Nathaniel Tessema, play a game of chess on Saturday, July 25 at the Potomac Library. Their game ended in a stalemate. The Potomac Chess Group invites participants of all ages to play chess at the library on Saturdays from 3 to 5 p.m.**



# ENTERTAINMENT

Email community entertainment events to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto: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

**Children's Storytime.** Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda Listen to employees read children's stories. Free. Visit [www.store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/4824850-21](http://www.store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/4824850-21).

**Adult Single Night.** Saturdays, 9 p.m. at at Benny's Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. Find a DJ, open dance floor, and other singles. No cover charge. Visit [www.bennysbargrill.com](http://www.bennysbargrill.com).

**The Bethesda Big Train.** Through August. Shirley Povich Field in Cabin John Regional Park, 10600 Westlake Drive. The collegiate league baseball team 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](http://www.bigtrain.org) for more.

**Home Tour.** Through Aug. 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 12-5 p.m. on Sundays, at the Home of Distinction by Halco Homes, 8601 Nutmeg Court. Tour the "Home of Distinction," a \$4.2 million house, and help support the Tourette Association of America. \$10 at the door. Visit [www.tsagw.org](http://www.tsagw.org) for more.

**Bugs Bunny Programs.** Aug. 1-16, Saturday and Sunday, at 11:30 a.m. at the AFI Silver Theatre, 8633 Colesville Road. Bugs Bunny programs presented by AFI. Tickets are \$5. To view show schedule, visit [www.afi.com/silver/](http://www.afi.com/silver/).

**D.B. Stovall: Photographs of the American Vernacular Exhibit.** Through Aug. 16, during gallery hours at Gibbs Street Gallery. 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Take in the photography of D.B. Stovall and Kim Llerena. Their work focuses on of the American landscape and environment from specific conceptual and physical vantage points. Free. Contact the VisArts at Rockville at 301-315-8200 or [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**Bobby Coleman Art Exhibit.** Through Aug. 16, during gallery hours at Common Ground Gallery, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. View Bobby Colemans art exhibit, which will feature paintings of deconstructed objects, colors and symbols found within an urban landscape. Free. Contact VisArts at Rockville at 301-315-8200.

**"Garfield, The Musical With Cattitude."** Various times and days through Aug. 23 at Adventure Theatre, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Garfield the Cat sings and dances in a child-friendly production. Tickets are \$19.50 for children 1 and up. Visit [www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org](http://www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org).

**Art Exhibition.** Through Aug. 30, Saturdays, 1-4 p.m., Sundays, 1 p.m.-8 p.m. at Photoworks Gallery & Photography School, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. View diverse artwork. Free. Visit [www.glenechophotoworks.org](http://www.glenechophotoworks.org).

**Friday Night Live.** Fridays through Sept. 4, 6:30-9 p.m. at Rockville Town Square. Find diverse music each week. Local restaurants will be selling food outdoors. Free. Visit [www.rockvilletownsquare.com](http://www.rockvilletownsquare.com) for a full schedule.

**Nando's Spicy Saturday Nights.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Saturdays through Sept. 26 at Fountain Square Plaza. Local bands perform. Free. Visit [www.downtownsilverspring.com](http://www.downtownsilverspring.com).

**Yoga on the Plaza.** 7 p.m. on Wednesdays through Sept. 30 at

Fountain Square Plaza. Take a mixed-level vinyasa flow yoga class from Grace Yoga instructors. Free. Visit [www.downtownsilverspring.com](http://www.downtownsilverspring.com).

**Butterfly Exhibit.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily from through Oct. 25 at Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallen Ave., Wheaton. Free. Visit [www.montgomeryparks.org](http://www.montgomeryparks.org) for more.

**Art Walk in the Park.** First Fridays through October. 6-8 p.m. Glen Echo Park. Enjoy pottery, calligraphy, glass work, and much more. Visit [www.glenechopark.org](http://www.glenechopark.org) for more.

**Paint Night.** 5:30-8 p.m. on first and second Mondays of the month through December at Sweet Frog, 100 Lexington Drive, Silver Spring. Spiritual Unicorn art sponsors a night of painting. Tickets are \$10 for children and \$15 for adults. Visit [www.spiritualunicornart.com](http://www.spiritualunicornart.com).

**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](http://www.visartsatrockville.org/cocktails-and-canvas) for more.

**Thang Ta.** Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. at Sutradhar Institute of Dance and Related Arts, 1525 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring. Learn the ancient art of the sword and spear. The cost is \$25. Visit [www.dancesidra.org](http://www.dancesidra.org).

**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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.pgip.org) for more.



PHOTOS BY SARAH VOISIN OF VOISIN PHOTOGRAPHY



## 'Park After Dark' Tickets on Sale

The C&O Canal National Historical Park in Potomac will host its 5th Annual Park After Dark celebration benefitting the parks' many programs. Guests will find food, drinks, a silent auction, a visit from Canal mules, a bonfire, and more at The Historic Great Falls Tavern on Saturday, Sept. 19. Tickets are now available for \$175. Visit [www.canaltrust.org/park-after-dark](http://www.canaltrust.org/park-after-dark) for more.

### THROUGH AUG. 14

**"The Parent Trap."** Various times at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Twins raised separately by divorced parents meet at summer camp and trade places. Tickets are \$10. Visit [www.imaginationstage.org](http://www.imaginationstage.org) for more.

### JULY 3-31

**"Off the Wall"** Gallery hours at Washington ArtWorks, 12276 Wilkins Ave., Rockville. Purchase art work for less than \$500 from an open call sponsored by the Washington School of Photography. Free to attend. Visit [www.washingtonartworks.com](http://www.washingtonartworks.com).

### THROUGH AUG. 1

**"Benthos."** Tuesday-Saturday 12-6 p.m. at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Artist Nikki O'Neill uses glass, raw mineral compounds, metals, salts, and oxides to explore her visual interpretations of the origin of life. Free. Visit [www.waverlystreetgalery.com](http://www.waverlystreetgalery.com) for more.

**"Abstraction II."** Wednesday-Saturday, 12-6 p.m. at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Painter and printmaker Michael Gross works in Abstract Expressionism. Free. Visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).

### JULY 9-30

**Backyard Theater for Children.** Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. at Outdoor Backyard Theater Stage at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville. Entertaining and educational concerts occur twice a day. Tickets are \$8. Visit

[www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org).

### JULY 15-AUG. 16

**"Rust Sun Bible Corn."** Gallery hours at Gibbs Street Gallery at VisArts Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Photographer Kim Llerena has documented rural towns for this exhibit. Free. Visit [www.visartsrockville.org](http://www.visartsrockville.org) for more.

### JULY 24-AUG. 16

**Adventure Theatre MTC Presents: "Oliver."** Fridays at 7 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Round House Theatre, 4545 East-West Hwy, Bethesda. Based on the classic Charles Dickens' story, "Oliver" chronicles the life of a young orphan in 19<sup>th</sup> century London. Tickets are \$35 for students and \$45 for adults. Visit [www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org](http://www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org) or call the box office at 301-634-2270.

### WEDNESDAY/JULY 29

**"Cheatin'."** 7 p.m. at the AFI Silver Theatre, 8633 Colesville Road. Animated film by Bill Plymptom about love, adultery, and revenge. General Admission \$12, Senior \$10, Child \$7. Visit <http://silver.afi.com/Browsing/Movies/Details/m-0100000003> to purchase tickets.

**VMA's Faculty and Alumni Band Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Enjoy a night of jazz with the Virginia Music Adventure's faculty/alumni band and their special guest, The Doc Dikeman Band. Tickets are \$15. Visit <http://bethesdabluesjazz.com/>.

**Rise Against.** 8 p.m. at The Fillmore,

8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Melodic hardcore band from Chicago perform live. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$38. Visit [www.fillmoresilverspring.com](http://www.fillmoresilverspring.com).

**Open Mic Night hosted by Brian Weber.** 8-11 p.m. at Villain & Saint, 7141 Wisconsin Ave, Bethesda. Sign up to perform at this rock 'n' roll music hall or sit back and enjoy listening to undiscovered talent. Free admission. Visit [www.villainandsaint.com/shows/](http://www.villainandsaint.com/shows/).

### THURSDAY/JULY 30

**Jason Masi Band.** 8 p.m. at Villain & Saint. 7141 Wisconsin Ave, Bethesda. Ages 21 and over are welcome to the folk-rock sound of singer/songwriter Jason Masi. Doors open at 6 p.m. \$12 admission. Visit [www.villainandsaint.com/shows/](http://www.villainandsaint.com/shows/).

### FRIDAY/JULY 31

**The Songs of Johnny Mercer.** 8 p.m. at the AMP by Strathmore, 11810 Grand Park Ave., North Bethesda. Linda Purl from "The Office" and award-winning recording artist Lee Lessack sing their way through the music of Johnny Mercer. Doors open 90 minutes prior to show. Tickets \$35-45. Visit [www.ampbystrathmore.com/live-shows](http://www.ampbystrathmore.com/live-shows).

**The Skip Castro Band Concert.** 8 p.m. at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Enjoy a night of swing, blues and rock n' roll with celebrated blues artists The Skip Castro Band. Tickets are \$15. Visit <http://bethesdabluesjazz.com/>.

**Deftones.** 9 p.m. at The Fillmore, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Doors open at 8 p.m. Sacramento-based

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# ENTERTAINMENT

alternative metal band perform live. Tickets start at \$47.50. Visit [www.fillmoresilverspring.com](http://www.fillmoresilverspring.com).

**Johnny and the Head Hunters.** 9 p.m. at Villain & Saint, 7141 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Ages 21 and over are welcome to spend the evening listening to bluesy rock 'n' roll. Doors open at 6 p.m. \$7 admission. Visit [www.villainandsaint.com/shows/](http://www.villainandsaint.com/shows/).

## SATURDAY/AUG. 1

**Pottery Sale.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, 4301 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Clearance sale from Kiln Club of Washington. Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted. Free. Visit [www.kilnclubwdc.com](http://www.kilnclubwdc.com).

**Storytelling by Janice Curtis Greene.** 1-2 p.m. at Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Janice Curtis Greene is an accomplished storyteller who tells African, African American and Multicultural stories. The event is sponsored by The Friends of the Library, Davis Chapter. Free. Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/davis.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/davis.html) or contact sonha.mason@montgomerycountymd.gov

**"Little Patuxent Review" Launch.** 7-9 p.m. at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St. Editors and writers published in Little Patuxent Review celebrate the release of the new issue. Readings will be followed by a reception. Free. Visit [www.writer.org](http://www.writer.org).

**"Too Marvelous for Words: The Songs of Johnny Mercer" Concert.** 8 p.m. at AMP by Strathmore, 11810 Grand Park Ave., North Bethesda. Linda Purl and Lee Lessack pay tribute to Georgia musician Johnny Mercer. Tickets are

\$35-45. Visit [www.ampbystrathmore.com](http://www.ampbystrathmore.com).  
**Dance Night.** 8 p.m. at Bethesda Blues and Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. This dance party features musical guests Anson Funderburgh, Mark Hummel, and Little Charlie with Golden State-Lone Star. Tickets are \$20. Visit [www.bethesdabluesjazz.com](http://www.bethesdabluesjazz.com).

## AUG. 1-SEPT. 30

**Seasonal Walk.** 7 a.m.-7 p.m. at Safeway, Downtown Silver Spring, 909 Thayer Ave. Walk the sidewalk trails through residential and retail areas of Silver Spring and into Takoma Park. Follow either the 5 km or the 10 km routes. Trails suitable for wheelchairs and strollers. Free. Register at [www.sugarloafers.org](http://www.sugarloafers.org).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 2

**Geared Up Benefit Concert & Fashion Show.** 1 p.m. at The Fillmore, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. \$13 admission. Visit [www.fillmoresilverspring.com](http://www.fillmoresilverspring.com).

**Waltz Dance.** 2:45-3:30 p.m. (workshop), 3:30-6 p.m. (dance) at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Music performed by Mountain Air. No partner required. Admission is \$10. Visit [www.WaltzTimeDances.org](http://www.WaltzTimeDances.org) or contact Joan Koury at 301-634-2222.

**The Ladies of Rhythm and Blues Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues and Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. The concert features singers Maxine Brown, Baby Washington, The Jewels and Shirleta Settles. Tickets are \$35. Visit [www.bethesdabluesjazz.com](http://www.bethesdabluesjazz.com).

**Bone Thugs-N-Harmony.** 8 p.m. at The Fillmore, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Listen to '90s hip-hop

music. \$38 admission. Visit [www.fillmoresilverspring.com](http://www.fillmoresilverspring.com).  
**"Closer Than Ever."** 8-9:30 p.m. at Walt Whitman High School, 7100 Whittier Blvd., Bethesda. Produced by Ophiuchus Rising, a pre-professional theater company comprised of students from Walt Whitman. Adults \$15, students \$10. Visit [www.whitmandrama.com](http://www.whitmandrama.com) or email [whitmandrama@gmail.com](mailto:whitmandrama@gmail.com).

## MONDAY-FRIDAY/AUG. 3-7

**ExtendYoga Kids Camp: World Yoga Tour.** 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at extendYoga, 12106 Wilkins Ave., Bethesda. Kids ages 5-9 will have the opportunity to learn yoga and about other cultures. \$200 per child. Visit [www.extendyoga.com](http://www.extendyoga.com), email [info@extendyoga.com](mailto:info@extendyoga.com).

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 5

**Open Mic Night hosted by Chris Brooks.** 8-11 p.m. at Villain & Saint, 7141 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Sign up to perform at this rock 'n' roll music hall or sit back and enjoy listening to undiscovered talent. Free admission. Visit [www.villainandsaint.com/shows/](http://www.villainandsaint.com/shows/).

## THURSDAY/AUG. 6

**Celebration of Clash by Night.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street. Hear readings from a poetry anthology inspired by The Clash's "London Calling" album. Free. Visit [www.writer.org](http://www.writer.org).

**Outlaws Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues and Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. The Outlaws on their "Rockin' Country Tour" featuring Blackhawk. Tickets are \$40. Visit

[www.bethesdabluesjazz.com](http://www.bethesdabluesjazz.com).  
**Oxymorons.** 8 p.m. at Villain & Saint, 7141 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Classic rock band with bluesy, New Orleans sound. Doors open at 6 p.m. \$7 admission. Visit [www.villainandsaint.com/shows/](http://www.villainandsaint.com/shows/).  
**The Gibson Brothers Concert.** 8 p.m. at AMP by Strathmore, 11810 Grand Park Ave., North Bethesda. The bluegrass group has received awards from the International Bluegrass Music Association. Tickets are \$35-60. Visit [www.ampbystrathmore.com](http://www.ampbystrathmore.com).  
**Machine Gun Kelly.** 8 p.m. at The Fillmore, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Rapper and songwriter MGK performs. \$33 admission. Visit [www.fillmoresilverspring.com](http://www.fillmoresilverspring.com).  
**The Gibson Brothers.** 8 p.m. at AMP by Strathmore, 11810 Grand Park Ave., North Bethesda. The five-member Gibson Brothers band will perform bluegrass classics and original pieces. Tickets are \$35. Visit [www.ampbystrathmore.com](http://www.ampbystrathmore.com).

## FRIDAY/AUG. 7

**Evening Stream Splash and Campfire.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Locust Grove Nature Center, 7777 Democracy Blvd. Bring your own hot dogs to the campfire. S'mores are provided. Wear closed-toe shoes to explore the stream. Ages 4 and up. \$6 per person. Visit [www.LocustGroveNature.org](http://www.LocustGroveNature.org).

**Fine Artists in Residence Class of 2015 Exhibition Opening Reception.** 7-9 p.m. at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Featured artists will include painters, sculptors, printmakers and photographers. Free. Visit <https://www.strathmore.org>.

# LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

## Selling Your Home in a Slow Market

In today's market, Realtors® and sellers are paying more attention to the importance of "thinking outside the box". The real estate market of the 21st century is challenging and changing at the pace of technology—in other words, at warp speed! Gone are the days of simply popping a "For Sale" sign in the yard, creating an MLS listing and placing an advertisement in the Sunday papers. Though that's tradition—and those methods of home sale are certainly still necessary and vital—they're simply not enough to make your home distinct in the real estate market of today. Savvy Realtors® and sellers know that it takes more—much more—to successfully close on a home and maximize on the home's worth. Today's buyer is looking for more than just a place to hang their hat—they're looking for a property that reflects their lives, their values and their lifestyle. It's as much about where your grill will be during the summer months and what kind of garden you'll put in come springtime as it is about having four walls four walls and a roof. Home staging is a perfect jumping-off point. Most buyers can't imagine themselves in a space while it's full of the things that make your house a home—so step one in selling, especially in a slow market, is de-cluttering all the spaces and storing all the home decorations that make it look like "yours". Likewise, keeping the counters clear and the spaces clean and tidy make a world of difference. Next, have a Kodak moment with your house—glossy print magazines, social media and virtual tours are where most home buyers start looking. If they fall in love with a picture of your house, you've got a better chance of them making an offer once they see it in person. There's a number of ways to make the most of a slow market and sell your home for its maximum value—sit down with your Realtor® and start drawing up your plan for success!

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

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SPORTS

Big Train Hits Three
Home Runs in Playoff Win

Bethesda takes 1-0 series lead against Herndon.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

The Bethesda Big Train used the long
ball on Monday night to win the
opening game of its best-of-three
playoff series against the Herndon
Braves.

The Big Train hit three home runs, includ-
ing Tim Yandel's go-ahead two-run bomb in
the sixth inning, and Bethesda won 9-5 at
Herndon High School, taking a 1-0 lead in the
Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League semifi-
nals.

With the score tied at 4-all in the top of the
sixth, Yandel (Tulane) launched a two-run
homer, part of a five-run inning for the Big
Train.

"I went up to the plate and everyone was
yelling 'Tim Yandel special,'" he said. "My swing
had felt good all day. ... I just felt like I put a
really good swing on it."

Zach Kirtley (St. Mary's) and Brandon
Hunley (Sacramento State) also hit home runs
for Bethesda.

"We're swinging the bat at the right time
going down the stretch," Big Train manager
Sal Colangelo said.

The Big Train took a pair of early leads, but
the Braves battled back to tie each time. A two-
run homer by Kirtley gave Bethesda a 2-0 lead
in the top of the first, but a Big Train error and

an RBI single by Herndon's Jake Kuzbel
(Georgetown) tied the score at 2 in the bot-
tom half of the opening frame.

Bethesda took a 4-2 lead in the second in-
ning thanks to a solo home run from Hunley
and an RBI double by Cody Brown (Mississippi
State). Herndon countered with a solo home
run by Andy Mocaabee (West Georgia) in the
third and a bases-loaded walk by Alex Lipman
(Salisbury) in the fourth, tying the score at 4-
all. The Big Train's five-run sixth inning proved
to be the difference, however, as the Braves
managed just one run in the final five innings.

Herndon had the bases loaded with one out
in the fourth and sixth innings, but Andy
Mocaabee grounded into an inning-ending
double play in each frame.

Logan Farrar (VCU), Brown and Kirtley each
had two hits for Bethesda. Alan Mocaabee
(George College), Jackson Martin (Seton Hall)
and Kuzbel each had two hits for Herndon.

Miller Trevvett (Radford) earned the win for
Bethesda, allowing one earned run on three
hits in two innings of relief.

Timmy Wages (Lincoln Memorial) suffered
the loss for Herndon, giving up three earned
runs on one hit in 4 1/3 innings of relief.

The Big Train won their fourth consecutive
CRCBL regular-season title this year, finishing
29-11. Bethesda has lost to the Baltimore Red-
birds in the championship series each of the
last three seasons.



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE ALMANAC

Zach Kirtley hit one of three Big Train
home runs during Bethesda's 9-5 win
over Herndon on Monday in Game 1
of the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball
League semifinals.

Herndon finished the regular season with a
19-21 record, beating the Vienna Riverdogs 6-
5 in 12 innings on the final day to earn a play-
off spot. The Braves defeated the Silver Spring-
Takoma Thunderbolts 5-4 in 12 innings on
Sunday in the opening round of the playoffs.

Game 2 of the semifinals was scheduled for
Tuesday, after The Almanac's deadline. Game
3, if necessary, will be Wednesday night at
Shirley Povich Field in Bethesda.

"[A]ll the people you talk to say it's going to
be [the Baltimore] Redbirds and [the] Big Train
in the championship, but you can't put any-
thing past any of these teams," Yandel said.
"You've got to give it your all and you've really
got to focus on this team first."

NEWS BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 7

the organization's efficiency and
allowed it to provide more rides
to more seniors. Yet, even with the
improvements, Senior Connection
continues to struggle to fill all ride
requests and needs additional
drivers to help meet the growing
transportation needs of seniors in
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The next two volunteer training
sessions will be:

❖ Thursday, Aug. 13, at 10 a.m.
at the Jewish Council for the Ag-
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❖ Thursday, Aug. 20, at 7 p.m.
at the Holiday Park Senior Center,
3950 Ferrara Drive, Silver Spring.

The Senior Connection provides
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serve and foster independence,
mobility and quality of life for se-
niors. Visit www.senior
connectionmc.org.

HOME SALES

In June 2015, 95 Potomac homes sold between \$3,350,000-\$213,593.
This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$3,350,000-\$855,000 range.

For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Table with 10 columns: Address, BR, FB, HB, Postal, City, Sold Price, Type, Lot AC, Postal Code, Subdivision. It lists various properties in Potomac, including Avenel Farm, Hall Rd, Abbey Ter, Lake Potomac, Barn Wood Ln, Riverwood Dr, Clagett Farm, River Falls, Garden Way, Slatestone Ct, Lake Potomac, Front Field Ln, Fox Hollow Dr, Sotweed Dr, Carmelita Dr, Sprinklewood Ct, Beman Woods Way, Stable Ln, Wetherfield Ln, Tobin Cir, Larkmeade Ln, Beman Woods Way, Turnberry Dr, Twining Ln, Hartman Ct, Falls Farm Dr, Dobbins Dr, Turnberry Dr, Belmart Rd, Lakenheath Way, Fox Hollow Dr, Cold Spring Ct, Lloyd Rd, Masters Dr, and Eldwick Ct.

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The Mount Vernon Gazette

**Zone 4:** Centre View North  
Centre View South  
**Zone 5:** The Potomac Almanac  
**Zone 6:** The Arlington Connection  
The Vienna/Oakton Connection  
The McLean Connection  
The Great Falls Connection

# On A Tangent



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not that I live day-to-day or even month-to-month, but I do live – in my head anyway – quarter-to-quarter; that interval representing the usual and customary time between my recurring diagnostic scans. The time when the rubber hits my road. The time when push comes to shove. The time when my oncologist tells me whether my warranty has been extended for the next three months or not. Not that I anticipate that my time will run out that quickly after a disappointing scan result; still, bad news seems to travel faster and cause adverse consequences quicker than good news causes relief, a sort of “disharmony,” to quote James Cagney from the movie, “Mister Roberts.”

But what else is new? Nothing, really. Because to live the life of a cancer survivor is way better than not living, or casting yourself as a victim, which, for those who know me, know I never do. Where's the future in that? Blaming, “woeing-is-meing,” “self-dissatisfying?” To what end? Misery might like company but it's boring to be around miserable people. And to survive a potentially devastating and depressing set of circumstances – expected or not – associating and/or being exposed to/subjected to people who look at life through black-rose-colored glasses provides no help whatsoever.

I don't want to feel better about myself by being around people who feel worse about themselves. I want to feel better by being around people who feel good and act/behave positively. Strength may indeed come from numbers, as they say; but when you're a cancer patient/survivor, strength comes from attitude: yours, your fellow cancer survivors and the people with whom you surround yourself. I don't want to have overcome someone else's negativity. I want to be overcome by their positivity. I want/need to feel good about everything I do/attempt to do. I don't want/definitely don't need to feel/be made to feel bad about anything. Granted, it's a subtle line between encouragement and disappointment where you might be suggesting one thing and minimizing another. Yet, finding a middle ground becomes imperative. Not that cancer patients' psyches are fragile and easily affected by the words and deeds of others; however, cancer does exert some subconscious and even unconscious control and consequently, you might end up feeling/emoting/reacting differently than you ever have or ever anticipated. As an example: I tear up regularly while watching television, and not just at “tear-jerkers,” either: news, weather, sports, comedies, dramas, fiction, non-fiction; anything, everything.

Mastering one's domain, in a non-Seinfeld-type context is crucial to surviving a cancer ordeal. Taking the ups and downs and all-arounds in some sort of stride, even two steps forward and one step backward isn't so bad. At least your net movement is forward. And forward is the goal. Certainly I'm not looking forward to my next scan in October but it is something to look forward to; it's progress, sort of; it means that life is still being lived. It's not ideal, but ideal left the building on February 27, 2009 when I received my initial face-to-face diagnosis/prognosis. Nevertheless, I remain positive about my negative. In my opinion, the alternative serves no purpose.

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



# Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

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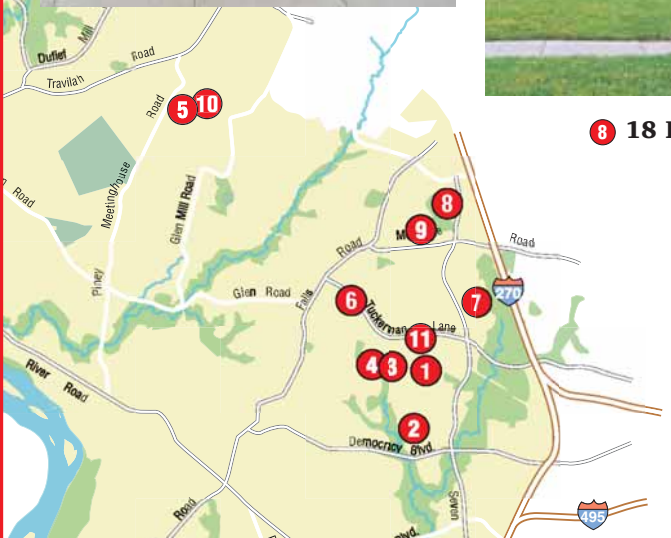
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<b>2</b> 10422 WINDSOR VIEW DR ....	4	..	3	.	1	POTOMAC	\$785,000	Detached	0.46	20854	WINDSOR HILLS	05/26/15
<b>3</b> 11109 POST HOUSE CT .....	4	..	2	.	1	POTOMAC	\$775,000	Detached	0.32	20854	FOX HILLS	05/28/15
<b>4</b> 8621 RED COAT LN .....	4	..	2	.	1	POTOMAC	\$761,000	Detached	0.26	20854	FOX HILLS	05/21/15
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<b>9</b> 1235 DERBYSHIRE RD .....	4	..	3	.	1	POTOMAC	\$740,000	Detached	0.27	20854	POTOMAC WOODS	05/15/15
<b>10</b> 10412 OVERGATE PL .....	4	..	3	.	2	POTOMAC	\$735,000	Townhouse	0.07	20854	PINEY GLEN VILLAGE	05/08/15
<b>11</b> 8324 TUCKERMAN LN .....	4	..	3	.	1	POTOMAC	\$734,900	Detached	0.25	20854	FOX HILLS	05/28/15

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