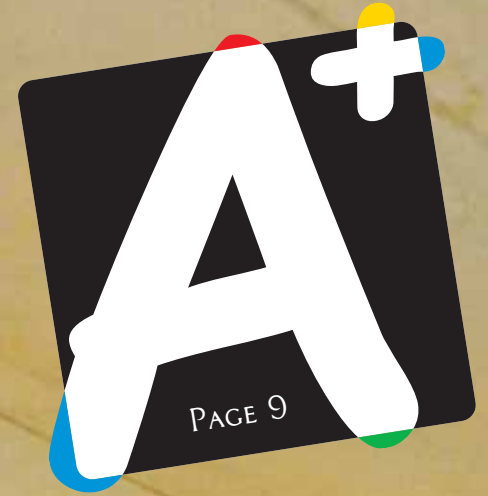


# Potomac ALMANAC



## Gathering for 'End Of an Era' Party

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Russ Young of the 7th Pennsylvania Reserves participates in the Civil War living history weekend in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park.

# Guarding the Potomac River in 1861

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PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

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## Gathering for 'End of an Era' Party

Current and former members of Potomac Tennis Club share memories.

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

Since 1977, Potomac Tennis Club (PTC) has been teeming with enthusiastic tennis players from 6 in the morning until 10 at night — seven days a week throughout the year. Thirty-seven years of close friendships, serious competitions and meaningful memories were celebrated by more than 160 current and former members on Friday evening, April 15.

The tennis bubble was transformed into “party-central” with plenty of food, spirits and a DJ playing tunes for dancing. The evening was planned and orchestrated by committee members Linda Clinch, Barbara Stewart, Debbie Senker, Lisa Golf and Sue Belford with help from the PTC staff and other members.

The mood of the “End of an Era” bash was both nostalgic and bittersweet. Potomac Tennis Club will no longer serve as a gathering place for the tennis/fitness community in Potomac. The facility is closed and will sit empty until the decision is finalized to permit the Brandywine Senior Living Community to be built. Helen Marshall, owner of the Potomac Tennis Club, had decided to close it whether or not the zoning is approved. The West Montgomery County Citizens Association, the Brickyard Coalition and other interested parties are appealing the decision to allow Brandywine to build on this property.

Those in attendance commented on what PTC has meant to them over the years. Janet Szamosszegi said, “It’s like the ‘Cheer’s Bar’ closing. I have so many great memories and formed so many close friendships.”

Ted Garrett said, “It was the best of times and the worst of times — to quote another. It’s such a shame to be splitting our tennis



More than 160 current and former Potomac Tennis Club members gathered for a farewell party on Friday, April 15.

PHOTOS BY KERB TOULOUNES

family apart.”

“It’s been my home for a decade,” said Mary Stafford.

Joan George agreed, “I will miss everyone — there are so many special people here and saying good-bye is difficult.”

Jennifer Chang said, “It’s such a unique club and I will miss it.” Many commented that their children had grown up as students at Potomac Tennis — and have now become members.

Larry Braslow said, “What was more fabulous was the 40 years we spent at PTC. It is hard for me to imagine coming home from Florida in early May and not having PTC to go to at 7 am. We will miss the tennis club and all of our early-bird friends of the past 15 years. We will be able to find good tennis I am sure, but not the bond or camaraderie and friendship that has been part of our life for 40 years.”

Valerie Gordon agreed, “For me, the 39 years of memories of the tennis, the teams, the socials and friendships are all flooding back and I loved it all and thank you all. Seems like a life-time and it was.”

Director of Tennis John McDaniel wrote in an email to members, “As April 17 approaches all too fast, I sit here at my desk writing my last email to all of you with a very heavy heart. I can honestly say I never thought this day would come. So many years. So many fond memories. So many people to thank.

“It was September of 1982 that this 19-year-old rookie set out to try and create a career in the tennis industry. Who would have guessed that 33 years later I’m still at it ... and all at PTC.

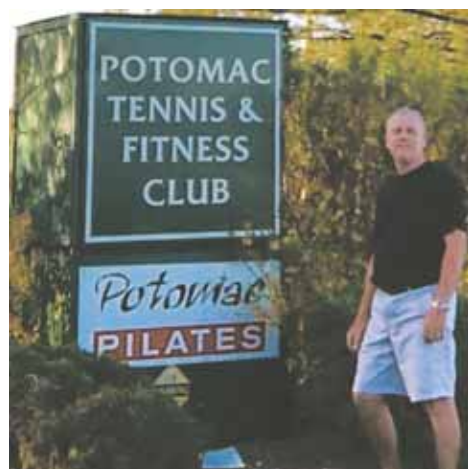
With your help and that of so many current and former staff, I’ve made it this far. Without your help especially, I would not

have learned so much in the three decades I’ve spent here. I’ve always thought that I learn more from hands on experience. Well ... you’ve given me that chance.

“I’m told friends never go away, they just change places. So the story goes I’d say. As one storied past comes to a close, another one begins.”

PTC members have chosen other clubs to join. Many are headed to Lakewood Country Club and Aspen Hill Tennis Club. Some have relocated to Bethesda Country Club and to Potomac Swim and Tennis. Others are keeping their options open — and hoping that the Brandywine deal will be squashed and another tennis company will take over the space and reopen the club under new management.

All will miss PTC, their friends, their games and the convenient location on Potomac Tennis Lane.



Director of Tennis John McDaniel.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC



### Guarding the Potomac River in 1861

The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park hosted a Civil War living history weekend with the 7th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry on April 16-17. The original 7th Pennsylvania first saw action while guarding the Maryland side of the Potomac River at Great Falls in September of 1861. Members of the unit participated in several skirmishes with Confederate forces on the Virginia side of the Potomac early in the war.

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Email announcements 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.

## MEMBERSHIP DEAL

**Potomac Community Village** offers a new membership policy. Anyone who joins on or after April 14 will have their new membership carry over to PCV's next membership year, which starts on July 1, and ends on June 20, 2017. Thus the 12-month membership period becomes one of 14-plus months, at no additional cost. Anyone wishing to learn more or to join PCV using this special program may submit a membership form at [www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org](http://www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org), or contact PCV at 240-221-1370 or [info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org](mailto:info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org).

## STARTING APRIL 18

**Residential Street Sweeping.** Montgomery County's residential roadways will get a spring cleaning with the launch of the annual street sweeping program on about 4,000 of the County's more than 5,000 curb miles of roads. Brightly colored signs are posted in neighborhoods a few days before street sweeping begins. Residents are urged to find alternative parking while their streets are cleaned. Information about the street sweeping program is available on MC311's website or by calling the Customer Service Line from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. by dialing 311 from within the County.

## MONDAY/APRIL 25

**Lacrosse Community Night.** 7:15 p.m. at Walt Whitman High School, 7100 Whittier Blvd., Bethesda. The Whitman Lacrosse team would like to invite the community to the varsity lacrosse game, at home against Quince Orchard. Free admission for all students who wear their jerseys. Games and prizes during festivities at half-time. Visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/whitmanhs/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/whitmanhs/) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 4

**Remembering Mom and Dad.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. A workshop for adults who have lost a parent or parents. Led by Montgomery Hospice professional counselors. Free and open to any Montgomery County resident. Registration required, call 301-921-4400.

## MONDAY/MAY 9

**Prospective Member Get-Together.** 3 p.m. at a private home on Chapel Road, Potomac. Potomac Community Village, with a mission of empowering older Potomac residents to age in place, offers prospective members opportunity to chat over coffee, tea, other goodies. Directions, location with RSVP, by Thursday, May 5. Free. Email [info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org](mailto:info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org), call 240-221-1370 or visit [www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org](http://www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org).

## SUNDAY/MAY 15

**Rabies Vaccine Clinic.** 8-10:30 a.m. at 7315 Muncaster Mill Road,

Derwood. The Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center will hold rabies vaccination clinics through September. The vaccinations are free with the purchase of a Montgomery County Pet License. Maryland law requires that all dogs, cats, and ferrets over the age of 4 months be continuously vaccinated against rabies. Also by law and beginning at that age, all dogs and cats must have a Montgomery County Pet License. Bring proof of previous rabies vaccinations. All dogs must be leashed and cats and ferrets must be in carriers or otherwise contained. Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/animalservices) for more.

## YOGA CLASSES IN POTOMAC

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Monday – Friday: 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday: 7:30 P.M.

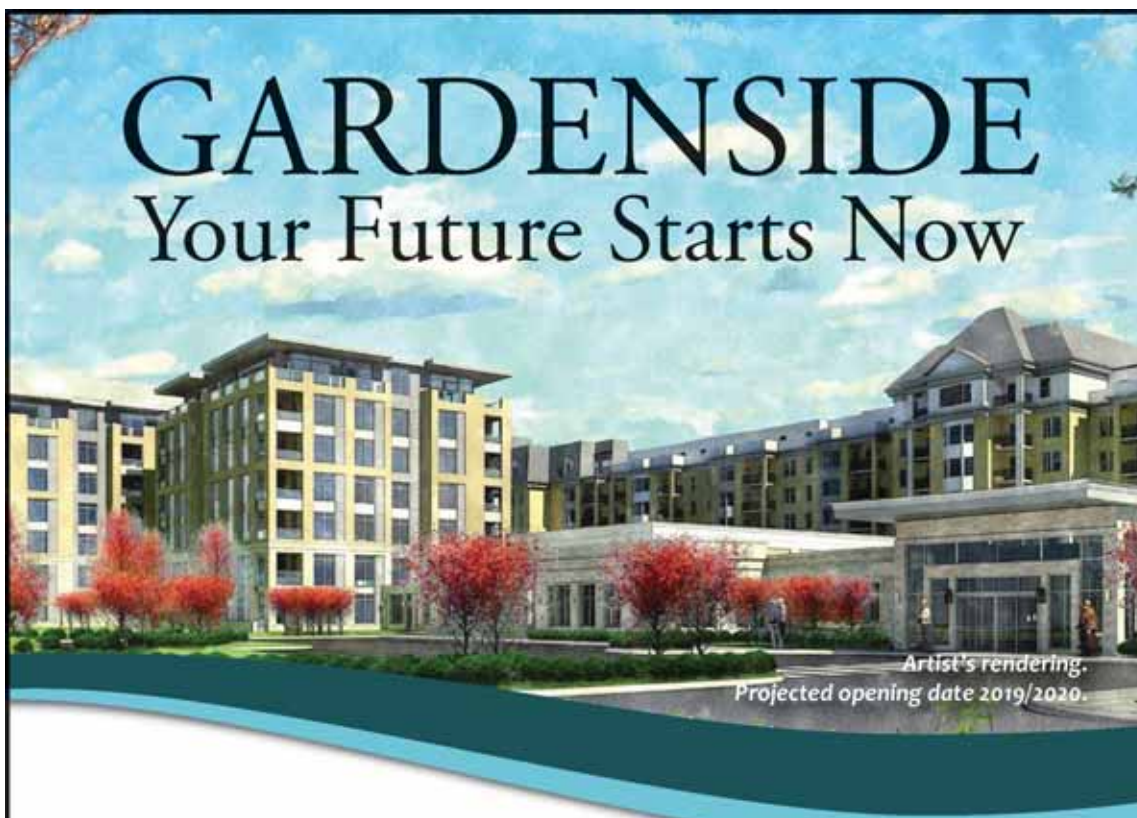
**For more information, please contact:**

Nancy Steinberg  
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for a chat over coffee, tea, other goodies



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Rsvp please by Thursday, May 5

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

# OPINION

## Legislative Session Concludes

BY BRIAN J. FELDMAN  
STATE SENATOR (D-15)



The 2016 Session of the Maryland General Assembly concluded at midnight on April 11 and the following is a summary of several important topics and initiatives that may interest you. If you have any questions or comments about these or any other issues, please do not hesitate to contact me at [brian.feldman@senate.state.md.us](mailto:brian.feldman@senate.state.md.us).

### A Balanced Budget

From Governor Hogan's introduction of his proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Budget in January, discussions in the legislature during the 90-day Session focused on preserving crucial funding for priority areas such as education and economic development. The balanced \$42.3 billion budget was fully vetted and approved by the General Assembly without significant controversy. In a display of bipartisanship, the FY 2017 Budget passed unanimously in the Senate and by a large majority in the House of Delegates. With the approval of this budget, we were able to fund our priorities without imposing new taxes. The State's Rainy Day Fund contains over \$1 billion and the statutorily State required pension obligations are fully met.

One of Maryland's greatest achievements is its public education system. I am proud of Maryland's designation from Education Week, the nation's leading education newspaper, which ranks Maryland's public schools 4th in the nation. This distinction is a direct result of the significant investment the State has made in K-12 education over the last decade. The total support for K-12 public school education in the FY 2017 budget is \$6.3 billion, the largest commitment in state history. Higher education will receive \$1.9 billion for our public colleges and universities — an increase of over \$106.5 million, with tuition increases for our public institutions to be capped this year at 2 percent. Additionally, funding for community colleges increased by 5.4 percent. Together, these investments have made higher education in Maryland more affordable and accessible. On a related note, Maryland's Capital Budget for FY 2017 includes a \$12 million increase in funding over last year for Montgomery County schools as part of a supplemental grant program for high growth-rate school districts in the state.

As the original author and lead sponsor of the innovative Biotechnology Tax Credit program, I am pleased to report that this program has been extremely successful over the past decade in incentivizing private investment in small, early stage biotech companies in Maryland. This year, \$12 million has been reallocated to the program for FY 2017. Some modifications were made this session to allow additional investors to take advantage of this initiative, reflecting Maryland's long-term commitment to growing the state's biotechnology sector.

The FY 2017 Budget increases funding to local governments and Montgomery County is slated to receive more than \$759 million in

direct aid, a 5 percent increase from FY 2016. Additionally, Montgomery County has been allocated more than \$43 million for public school construction, \$1.5 million for public libraries and \$54 million for higher education facilities — \$36.7 million of that is slated for The Universities

at Shady Grove to begin construction of a new biomedical sciences building on the Rockville campus, located in District 15.

Maryland has also retained its AAA bond rating, one of only 10 states in the nation to receive such a rating from all three rating agencies — Standard and Poor's, Moody's Investors and Fitch Ratings. Standard and Poor's has rated the Maryland bonds AAA since 1961. Moody's has assigned Maryland bonds the AAA rating since 1973 and Fitch since 1993. The AAA bond rating is essential to keeping our state's borrowing costs low, which allows the state to finance a wide range of critical capital improvements.

### Maryland's Economy

Maryland's economy continues to make positive strides. The unemployment rate has fallen over the past year, down to 4.7 percent as of the end of February 2016. Additionally, more than 37,600 new jobs were created over the last year. The Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation notes that "our private sector remains strong" with significant growth in the manufacturing sector.

### Significant 2016 Bills

Below are a few noteworthy bills which gained passage this year that I supported:

The College Affordability Act of 2016 establishes matching state funds for eligible college savings accounts and creates a refundable tax credit of up to \$5,000 for student loan debt. This important legislation creates incentives for lower income families to invest in college savings accounts.

Drunk Driving Reduction Act of 2016 (Noah's Law) broadly expands the use of ignition interlock devices for individuals convicted of impaired driving at or above the state's legal blood alcohol limit. As a co-sponsor of this bill which is named in memory of Officer Noah Leotta, a Montgomery County police officer who was killed by a drunk driver, I am pleased that it passed unanimously in both the House and the Senate.

In an effort to improve retirement security for private-sector employees who have no access to employer sponsored retirement savings accounts, I co-sponsored the Maryland Small Business Retirement Savings Program and Trust bill. This legislation creates a framework for employers who do not have their own retirement savings program to establish a payroll deposit account that allows their employees to participate in a newly-created state retirement savings program. All the funds in these accounts will come from employee payroll deductions and the employee will retain complete control over investment decisions.

Maryland is one of a handful of states to pass such a law which provides substantial opportunities for workers to save for retirement. It is estimated that this will help one million Marylanders in the private sector save for retirement, without imposing costs or compliance burdens on small businesses.

The Justice Reinvestment Act aims to reduce recidivism rates by focusing jail-time on violent offenders, streamlining the parole process for select individuals and helping those convicted of non-violent drug offenses to access treatment to end drug addiction. Because of this legislation, the State is projected to save millions of dollars as a result of decreased spending on incarceration. This bill, which received bipartisan support, incorporates the best of both worlds when it comes to criminal justice reform; a reduction in the enormous cost associated with incarceration and a focus on ending the insidious cycle of repeat offenders.

### Feldman Legislation

Below are several of the bills that I successfully sponsored and will be signed into law:

In light of a tragedy that resulted in the death of two Montgomery County teenagers, I was determined to address the weakness in our laws for adults who host underage drinking parties in their homes. I introduced Alex and Calvin's Law, with Del. David Fraser-Hidalgo, which increases the potential penalties for adults who host underage drinking parties. My hope is that these expanded penalties will serve as a powerful deterrent. The bill received strong bipartisan support in both chambers.

I remain committed to advocate for the disability community and I am proud to have sponsored the Achieving A Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act which was signed into law by Governor Hogan. The ABLE Act allows individuals with disabilities and their relatives to set up and fund tax-deferred accounts, similar to a 529 College Savings Plan account, without negatively impacting eligibility for Social Security and Medicaid. Family members contributing to these accounts may also deduct their contributions on their Maryland income tax return. Funds from the accounts may be used for education expenses, transportation, medical expenses and employment training. This is one of the most significant pieces of legislation for the disability community over the past several years as it is estimated that more than 50,000 Marylanders will be eligible to open ABLE accounts.

To ensure that elected officials who are found guilty of a felony do not continue to receive taxpayer-funded state pension benefits, I sponsored the Forfeiture of Benefits bill. Currently, active and retired members of the General Assembly must forfeit their pension benefits if they are convicted of a felony or misdemeanor related to their public duties. This bill adds our six constitutional officers: the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, Treasurer and Secretary of State and makes them ineligible to receive pension benefits if they are found guilty of a felony that is

SEE LEGISLATIVE, PAGE 11

## POTOMAC ALMANAC

[www.PotomacAlmanac.com](http://www.PotomacAlmanac.com)

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## School Year Extended to June 20

Montgomery County Public Schools will extend the 2015–2016 school year by one day and end the year on Monday, June 20. The MCPS request for a one-day waiver of the 180-day school year requirement was approved Monday, April 18 by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

The school year was previously scheduled to end Friday, June 17, and now will end with an early release day on June 20.

MCPS was closed for six days this winter due to

inclement weather that left many roads and sidewalks in the county impassable. MCPS already had four emergency weather days built into the school calendar.

With the state waiving one day from the requirement, MCPS has implemented its weather contingency calendar, which adds one make-up day to the end of the school year.

MCPS initially requested that MSDE waive two days so that the school year could end June 17. MSDE rejected that request.

## Walt Whitman Raises \$51,566

For the fourth straight year, Walt Whitman High School received top honors in the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Student Series High School Challenge program (Pennies For Patients) — bringing in a total of \$51,566.29. In recognition of its achievements, Walt Whitman High School will be linked to an LLS research portfolio.

Walt Whitman High School's Student Series student leader, Carolyn Hoover, attributes the school's success this year to their increased commitment to

the mission as a community and keeping the ultimate goal in the forefront — finding cures.

Thanks to LLS's partners at Pepco, selected students at Walt Whitman High School will be awarded with a summer internship to sharpen the leadership skills displayed throughout the challenge. The internship will be completed at Pepco's headquarters in Washington, D.C. over an eight-week period where the student will assist the Corporate Citizenship and Social Responsibility Department.

## Schools Seek Ethics Panel Member

The Montgomery County Board of Education is seeking to fill one vacancy on its five-member Ethics Panel. The vacancy is for a three-year term beginning on July 1.

Applicants must be Montgomery County residents. Members serve without compensation. Among the panel's responsibilities are: interpreting the Board of Education's Ethics Policy and issuing advisory opinions concerning its application; conducting hearings on complaints filed regarding an alleged violation; and approving financial disclosure forms.

Panel members may not be incumbent members of the Board of Education, school officials, employees, or persons employed by a business entity subject to the authority of the Board of Education, or

spouses of such persons.

The panel meets once a year to review financial disclosure forms and as needed to review complaints and requests for advisory opinions.

Applicants must submit a letter of interest along with a resumé or other documentation to support the application by 5 p.m. on Friday, May 27, for the appointment to be made at the board meeting on June 14.

Applicants are not required to attend this meeting. Send a letter of interest and resumé to Suzann King, Montgomery County Board of Education, 850 Hungerford Drive, Room 123, Rockville, Maryland 20850, or Suzann\_M\_King@mcpsmd.org. For more information, call 301-279-3617.

### SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

The following students from Potomac received the dean's award at Colgate University (Hamilton, N.Y.) for the fall 2015 semester: **Jacob Magin**, a mathematical economics major in the class of 2018, and a graduate of Winston Churchill High School; **Stacey Stein**, a political science major in the class of 2017, and a graduate of Winston Churchill High School; **Jacob Christensen**, an economics-undeclared major in the class of 2019, and a graduate of Quince Orchard High School; **Benjamin Harris**, a biology major in the class of 2017, and a graduate of Winston Churchill High School; and **Lauren Rosenbauer**, an undeclared major in the class of 2019, and a graduate of Winston Churchill High School.

**Mina Mirzaie**, of Potomac, was named to the fall dean's list at Creighton University (Omaha, Neb.) for the 2015-2016 academic year.

**Alden Knife**, of Potomac, was named to the dean's list at Marist College (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.) for the fall 2015 semester. Knife is a member of the class of 2017 and is majoring in educational psychology childhood studies.

The following Potomac residents have been named to the fall 2015 dean's list at University of the Sciences (Philadelphia, Pa.): **Noelle Dayal**, a biomedical sciences student; **Nisha Parikh**, a doctor of pharmacy student; and **Emily Matthews**, a doctor of physical therapy student.

**Elizabeth Miller** was named to the dean's list at Bates College (Lewiston, Maine) for the fall 2015 semester. She is the daughter of David F. Miller and Mihwa Miller of Potomac, and a 2012 graduate of St. Timothy's School. She is majoring in psychology.

**Andrew Albert**, **William Lewis**, **Beverly Sibsobhon**, **Sruti Uppuluri**, and **Nicolaas Verbeek**, all from Potomac, were named to the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, N.Y.) dean's honor list for the fall 2015 semester.

**Emily Marcus**, of Potomac, made the dean's list in the fall 2015 semester at Pratt Institute (Brooklyn, N.Y.).

The following Potomac students have been named to Clemson University's (Clemson, S.C.) dean's list for the fall 2015 semester: **Kyle David Grissen**, majoring in management; **Helene Emily Katz**, majoring in graphic communications; **Jenna Anne Levenson**,

majoring in secondary education; and **Brittany Renee Testa**, majoring in parks, recreation and tourism management.

The following Potomac students have been named to Clemson University's (Clemson, S.C.) president's list for the fall 2015 semester: **Todd Michael Erickson**, majoring in graphic communications; and **Kalli Marie Mays**, majoring in management.

Loyola University Maryland (Baltimore) named the following Potomac residents to its fall 2015 dean's list: **Laura Amortegui-Ordonez**, class of 2016; **Caroline Chiaramonte**, class of 2017; **Aissa Claveria**, class of 2017; **Anna Panyutin**, class of 2017; and **David Bjorklund**, class of 2018.

**Gabriella Kaufmann**, of Potomac, participated in a university dance marathon fundraisers on Sunday, March 13. University of Delaware (Newark, Del.) students joined the fight against childhood cancer with UDance, a student-run philanthropy.

**Sebastian Escobar**, of Potomac, was among 588 other freshman cadets that have been officially sworn into the South Carolina Corps of Cadets at The Citadel (Charleston, S.C.).

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ONGOING

**Art Exhibit: "Cranes in Motion."**

Through April 24, gallery hours at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. As an artist and filmmaker, Cathy Cook is inspired by nature. "Cranes in Motion" aims to promote public interest, awareness, and appreciation of crane culture through a multifaceted portrayal of the natural history of this species. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org).

**Marcella Marsella: "Mosaic Modernities."**

Through April 24, gallery hours at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. This solo exhibition presents Marcella Marsella's upcycled art and fashion made from snippets of contemporary culture including credit cards, currency, bullets, and discarded objects. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**Kit Trowbridge: "Stills."** Gallery hours at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Trowbridge's work reflects an inclusive mash up of images, celebrity, desire, craving, film, love, decoration, and body. Working from a collected image bank plucked from print, internet sources, and storybooks, she builds layered paintings that never fully erase their earliest histories. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**National Capital Art Glass Guild Exhibit: "See the Light."**

Through May 1, gallery hours at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. The National Capital Area Glass Guild is comprised of approximately 200 artists who share ideas, learn from each other and educate the community about the glass arts. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**Art Exhibit: "Intimate Landscapes."**

Through May 7, Tuesday-Saturday 12-6 p.m. at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Artist Loriann Signori paints landscapes based on Maryland's hills and waters. Free. Visit [www.waverlystreetgallery.com](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com).

**Kaleidoscopes: 200 Years.** Through June 4 at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville. The Brewster Kaleidoscope Society (BKS) returns to Strathmore. The BKS's juried exhibition celebrates 200 years since the tube's invention and features kaleidoscope designers. Admission is free. Visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org) for more.

**Canal Boat Excursions.** April-Oct., Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. at Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. Go on a 19th-century mule-drawn canal boat excursion. Hear tales of what life was like for the families who lived and worked on the canal. Tickets are \$8 for adults (ages 16-61), \$6 for seniors (ages 62+), and \$5 for children (ages 4-15). Call 301-767-3714 for more.

**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).

**THURSDAY/APRIL 21**

**Zero: 2016 Gala.** 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m. at Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Convention Center, 5701 Marinelli



"Vanishing Glacier, Argentina," Dorte Verner

'Mirror to the World' Opens Friday

Glen Echo Photoworks' eighth annual "Mirror to the World" exhibit of documentary photography features the work of five area photographers who have traveled the world to capture stories of people and their environments. From fishermen battling the sea on Campobello, New Brunswick, to movie-makers in China, to dramatic views of the effect of climate change worldwide. Admission to the exhibit is free. Visit [www.glenechophotoworks.org](http://www.glenechophotoworks.org) for more.

Road, North Bethesda. The Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless honors Father John Enzler of Catholic Charities for his work with the homeless. Tickets are \$150. Visit [www.mcch.net](http://www.mcch.net) for more.

Rockville. Walk three miles to benefit community children. Registration is free. Visit [www.marchofdimes.org/marylandmetrodc](http://www.marchofdimes.org/marylandmetrodc) for more.

**Paws in the Park.** 12-4 p.m. at Bohrer Park at Summit Hill Farm, 506 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg. Raise funds for the Montgomery County Humane Society by participating in contests for dogs and people, a 1K walk, and more. Registration is \$20-45 in advance, \$25-\$55 at the event. Visit [www.mchumane.org](http://www.mchumane.org) for more.

**APRIL 22-MAY 29**

**Mirror to the World Documentary Exhibit.**

1-4 p.m. Saturdays, 1-8 p.m. Sundays at Glen Echo Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Glen Echo Photoworks' eighth annual "Mirror to the World" exhibition of documentary photography features work by five area photographers who have traveled the world to capture stories of people and their environments. Free. Visit [www.glenechophotoworks.org](http://www.glenechophotoworks.org).

**APRIL 22-MAY 30**

**"The Emperor's Nightingale."**

Various times at Adventure Theatre MTC, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Adventure Theatre MTC presents The Emperor's Nightingale, a world premiere play directed by Natsu Onoda Power. This project is funded in part by The National Endowment for the Arts and features an all-Asian-American cast, playwright, director, choreographer, lighting designer, costume designer Hana Sooyeon Kim. Tickets are \$19.50. Visit [www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org](http://www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org) for more.

**SATURDAY/APRIL 23**

**Flute and Piano Concert.** 8 p.m. at Westmoreland Congregational UCC Church, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Washington, D.C. native and principal flutist of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Julia Bogorad-Kogan, will perform with pianist Lydia Artymiw, as part of the Washington Conservatory Piano Plus! Concert Series. Free, \$20 suggested donation. Visit [www.washingtonconservatory.org](http://www.washingtonconservatory.org).

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 23-24**

**Art Exhibit: "Intro."** 12-5 p.m. at Yellow Barn Gallery-Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Abraham C. Garcia and Carlos E. Garcia exhibit their work. Free. Visit [www.yellowbarnstudio.com](http://www.yellowbarnstudio.com).

**SUNDAY/APRIL 24**

**March for Babies.** 9:30 a.m. at Mattie Stepanek Park, 1800 Piccard Drive,

**National Capital Art Glass Guild Artist Talk and Demonstrate: "See the Light."** 2 p.m. at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. The National Capital Area Glass Guild is comprised of approximately 200 artists primarily from the Washington, D.C. region who share ideas, learn from each other and educate the community about the glass arts. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**THURSDAY/APRIL 28**

**Reception: "Kaleidoscopes: 200 Years."** 7 p.m. at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville. The Brewster Kaleidoscope Society returns to Strathmore. The society's juried exhibition celebrates 200 years since the tube's invention and features kaleidoscope designers. Admission is free. Visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org) for more.

**FRIDAY/APRIL 29**

**Heartsongs Luncheon.** 11 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at Bethesda Marriott Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road, North Bethesda. Children's National Health System honors and recognizes nurses and survivors. Tickets are \$100. Visit [www.heartsongsfund.org](http://www.heartsongsfund.org) for more.

**Workshop: "Kaleidoscopes: 200 Years."** 1-4 p.m. at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville. Create and build a small flet dichroic brass kaleidoscope boasting a six-point, three-mirror system with two interchangeable and independently turning wheels. Admission is \$150. Visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org) for more.

**Movie Screening: "The Martian."** 7-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Watch the film starring Matt Damon. Tickets are \$5, adults only. Register in person at the center or at [ActiveMontgomery.org](http://ActiveMontgomery.org) under course #17744.



# ENTERTAINMENT

## APRIL 29-MAY 29

**“A Lesson From Aloes.”** Various times at Quotidian Theatre–The Writer’s Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. Set in 1963 in a white district of Port Elizabeth, South Africa, this play portrays life in a police state. Tickets are \$15-30. Visit [www.aloes.bpt.me](http://www.aloes.bpt.me).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 30

**Gardening Expo.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Silver Spring Civic Building, 1 Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring. Find information on how to make the most of gardening. Also find activities for children. Free. Visit

[www.extension.umd.edu/mg/locations/montgomerycounty-master-gardeners](http://www.extension.umd.edu/mg/locations/montgomerycounty-master-gardeners).

**Montgomery County GreenFest.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. The 2nd annual Montgomery County GreenFest is a family-friendly festival with music, films, speakers, exhibitors and workshops all focused on building community and educating on our environment. Free. Visit [www.montgomerycountygreenfest.org](http://www.montgomerycountygreenfest.org)

**Move More Montgomery Festival.** 12-4 p.m. at Bauer Drive Community Center, 14625 Bauer Drive, Rockville. Find a wide variety of fitness activities and evaluations. Free. Visit

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov).  
**An Evening with Strauss Waltz Ball.** 8-9 p.m. lesson, 9 p.m.-12 a.m. dance at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Waltz Time presents the 33rd Annual Evening with Strauss Waltz Ball. This benefit dance for Glen Echo Park includes a Viennese Waltz lesson. Tickets are \$20. Visit [www.waltztimesdances.org](http://www.waltztimesdances.org) for more.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 30-MAY 1

**Art Exhibit: “Broad Strokes.”** 12-5 p.m. at Yellow Barn Studio Gallery–Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Meet Nancy Arons, Kathy Byrnes, Jennifer Howard, and

Marybeth Paterson and see work inspired by their adventures painting together, filtered through their individual perspectives. Free. Visit [www.yellowbarnstudio.com](http://www.yellowbarnstudio.com).

## SUNDAY/MAY 1

**Potomac Horse Center Open House.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Potomac Horse Center, 14211 Quince Orchard Road, North Potomac. Tractor drawn hayrides, free horse and pony rides for children, barn tours, horseback riding demonstrations, a moon bounce and more. Free. Visit [www.potomachorse.com](http://www.potomachorse.com) for more.

**Waltz Dance.** 2:45-3:30 p.m. lesson, 3:30-6 p.m. dance at Spanish

Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The ensemble Cabaret Sauvignon plays a mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Tickets are \$10. Visit [www.waltztimesdances.org](http://www.waltztimesdances.org) for more.

**Reception: “Broad Strokes.”** 4-7 p.m. at Yellow Barn Studio Gallery–Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Meet Nancy Arons, Kathy Byrnes, Jennifer Howard, and Marybeth Paterson and see work inspired by their adventures painting together, filtered through their individual perspectives. Free. Visit [www.yellowbarnstudio.com](http://www.yellowbarnstudio.com) for more.

## LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

### Don't Let These Three Facts Slip Through the Cracks!

Buying a new home often involves facing a torrent of new information, from convoluted rates and percentages, to forewarnings, suggestions, tips, advisements, and downright imploration. Unfortunately, few home buyers ever feel truly prepared to make the big decision, and so it becomes incredibly important to find a broker or agent you can truly trust while conducting as much research as possible on your own. All too often, despite this safety net of expert advice and self-directed study, some things still go unnoticed. Here is a brief list of three facts that routinely go unmentioned, undiscovered, and undisclosed.

*Knowledge is Power*

• **Fact #1: Don't count yourself out until you gather all the information.**

While the traditional notion behind previous foreclosure would contend that you are financially sunk and therefore ineligible from qualifying for a loan to become a home-owner, in actuality this circumstance is less dire than typically assumed. While it is true that foreclosure remains on your credit rating for up to seven years, large scale government-backed lenders such as Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae have begun imposing just three-year penalties for foreclosure. Though you may be required to pay a higher down payment or pay slightly higher interest rates, you aren't disqualified from the dream of home ownership as easily as you may assume.

• **Fact #2: Be sure to check into the housing codes and regulations pertaining to properties you are interested in.** Prospective buyers would do well to work diligently to ensure that recent renovations, additions, and improvements were conducted in conjunction with guidelines set by now-starving city planning departments. If you purchase a home with violations, you may be saddled with the responsibility of bringing them to code.

• **Fact #3: Hire your own people.** It is important not to expose yourself to liability by accepting the seller's offer to use their agent, appraiser, or inspector. These professionals owe an allegiance to the person paying for their service, so it's best to hire your own team of licensed home specialists.

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

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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

## Comparatively Speaking, It's All Relative



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not quite admitting to being any more of a drag than I already am, but having had cancer now for seven years and nearly two months, has been hard to ignore (believe me, I've tried), but easy to embrace. What I mean by that is: There seems to be a subconscious "governor" (have you ever rented a U-Haul? A "governor" is a device that keeps the engine under control, thereby preventing miles-per-hour from exceeding a certain speed) that keeps my emotions from bursting any seams. As much as I try to attempt it, I just don't/can't/won't get as excited and/or as passionate about things as I used to, pre-cancer. Oh, I still want the Red Sox to win and for Duke to lose, but I don't suffer as much when neither scenario plays out.

And while I'm admitting things, it's not only my subconscious that is acting out/controlling my behavior, it's also my conscious mind, as in when I'm in touch/aware of my emotions/actions (or lack thereof). As my oncologist once said to me about cancer, in reply to a question I asked him about blaming it for my hair turning prematurely gray: "You can blame the cancer for anything," he said, and so I shall. Nevertheless, having an extraordinarily convenient excuse: cancer, might explain most (but not all) of my behavior, and it doesn't bring me much comfort. And so I rationalize some of that unexplained behavior as self-preservation. It doesn't make me particularly proud, however. Still, having survived cancer for as long as I have certainly does, but it's not enough to put a bounce in my step. (Or maybe that's merely the neuropathy in my feet flattening my gait?)

But it's probably not my actual steps that matter. It's more likely my attitude while I'm stepping. And though I'd much rather my feet not hurt, my reality is: I'm alive, quite unexpectedly (based on my original prognosis), so damn the neuropathy and full speed (more like half speed) ahead. And though I may not move as fast as I used to (who among us actually can?), I am still moving and breathing. I'm just not the man I used to be, and I can live with that because I'm still living. I just wish I could exercise a bit more control. But if I've learned anything during this cancer experience, it's that ceding control and accepting certain realities - within reason, and without giving in or giving up too much - is a prudent course of reaction to an incredibly difficult set of circumstances: diagnosed with a "terminal" form of cancer at age 54 and a half; and one for which there is no right or wrong pursuit. Any port in a storm I say, and stage IV non-small cell lung cancer certainly qualifies as a storm, as challenging as any Mother Nature could muster. The difference being, this storm never ends, it only changes in severity and frequency. Right now, the storm is constant. Either I learn to live with it or I die trying. And minimizing the bad and maximizing the good is part of that process.

If only there was a way to find some place (like "the vault" from "Seinfeld") where I could store my cancer diagnosis and only acknowledge it when absolutely necessary. Wishful thinking, but hardly rational. But what choice does one have, really? Unless you think outside the box, it may very well be a box (more like a rectangle, actually) where you'll soon find yourself not thinking at all.

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

## SPORTS

### Churchill Boys' Lax To Host Rival Wootton

The undefeated Churchill boys' lacrosse team will host rival Wootton at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 21.

The Bulldogs come into the game with a 9-0 record after beating Whitman 18-6 on Saturday and Richard Montgomery 17-1 on Monday. Churchill has outscored Montgomery County public school opponents 106-17 in six games.

The Bulldogs have not lost to a Montgomery County public school opponent since falling to Wootton 14-12 in the 2014 4A/3A West region championship game.

Wootton improved to 5-3 with a 15-1 victory over Richard Montgomery on Friday. The Patriots faced Bethesda-Chevy Chase on Tuesday, after The Almanac's deadline.



**Spencer Knife and the Churchill boys' lacrosse team defeated Whitman 18-6 on April 15.**

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC



**Ryan Leonard and the Churchill boys' lacrosse team enter Thursday's contest against Wootton with a 9-0 record.**

### Whitman Trio Honored by MBCA

Three Whitman basketball players received 4A/3A first-team all-state honors from the Maryland Basketball Coaches Association for their performances during the 2015-16 season.

From the state champion Whitman girls' team, junior Abby Meyers and senior Hannah Niles received first-team accolades. Meyers scored 21 points and hit four 3-pointers and Niles scored 18 points during the Vikings' 71-55 win over Western in the 4A state final on March 12 at Towson's SECU Arena.

From the region champion Whitman boys' team, senior Shaq Diboti-Lobe received first-team honors. Diboti-Lobe scored 29 points in the Vikings' 62-61 overtime win over Clarksburg in the 4A West region final.

Diboti-Lobe will play in the Suburban All-Stars during the 43rd Annual Capital Classic on April 28 at Catholic University.



**Whitman junior Abby Meyers was a first-team all-state selection by the Maryland Basketball Coaches Association.**



**Whitman senior Shaq Diboti-Lobe was one of three Whitman athletes to receive first-team all-state accolades from the Maryland Basketball Coaches Association.**



**Whitman senior Hannah Niles received MBCA first-team all-state honors.**

# Maryland General Assembly Session Concludes

FROM PAGE 6

related to their official duties or responsibilities. Surprisingly, until now, Maryland had no such laws on the books.

As one of two primary sponsors for the Clean Energy Jobs - Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards Revisions bill, I worked with environmental advocates and clean energy sector businesses to gain passage of this legislation which increases the amount of clean renewable energy sources used in Maryland.

The bill was a top priority for the environmental community as it requires Maryland to generate 25 percent of its energy from renewable sources by 2020 and facilitates the creation of thousands of new green jobs for the state's growing Clean Energy Sector. There are currently 170 solar businesses in Maryland, employing more than 4,300 people. Job growth in the solar industry increased an impressive 60 percent

over the past two years and these jobs diversify our State's economic portfolio and help us reach our clean energy goals. On the environmental side, Maryland's Climate Action Plan cites the increase in the use of renewable energy as the single greatest step Maryland can take to reduce climate-disrupting emissions.

On a related note, I sponsored and gained passage of two Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) bills. The Clean Energy Loan Program bill removes the electric generating capacity limit for commercial property owners who receive loans to fund energy efficiency projects. This will allow small businesses to finance larger scale renewable energy projects. Additionally, the Residential Clean Energy Loan Program bill requires the Maryland Clean Energy Center to conduct a study to determine optimal design and implementation strategies for a residential clean energy program for the state and report their findings to the General Assem-

bly by Oct. 1.

#### Capital Projects

In collaboration with the District 15 Delegates — Kathleen Dumais, David Fraser-Hidalgo and Aruna Miller — I worked to secure funding for the final two grass sports fields at the Maryland SoccerPlex. The Maryland SoccerPlex is a state-of-the-art multi-sport facility that currently has 22 full-sized fields and hosts more than 8,000 soccer and lacrosse tournaments a year. As well as providing a place where thousands of young athletes participate in healthy physical activity, the Maryland SoccerPlex fosters the valuable lessons of leadership, team work and perseverance.

The District 15 Team also obtained funding for the installation of a new bridge and streambank stabilization along the Western Piedmont Trail in Little Bennett Regional Park. The monies will be used to improve the trail's natural habitat and make it ac-

cessible for visitors from across the County and State.

#### Early Voting

Finally, I want to remind you that Early Voting continues through April 21 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Early Voting locations including Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac 20854.

Regular Primary Voting Day is April 26 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you wish to check your voting location, you can access that information by visiting the Maryland State Board of Elections: [voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch](http://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch)

In closing, I want to thank you again for contacting me during this session with your thoughts and comments. I value your input and if you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me at [brian.feldman@senate.state.md.us](mailto:brian.feldman@senate.state.md.us) or call my office at 301-858-3169.

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