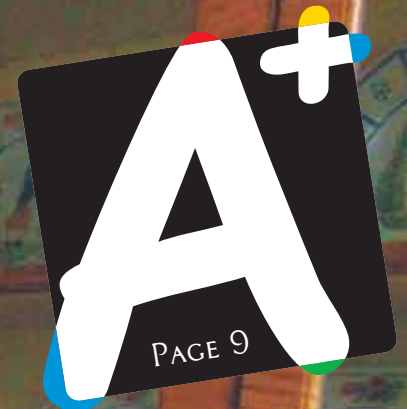


# Potomac ALMANAC

Dean Jabs  
and Becky  
Pugh of  
Potomac.



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PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE ALMANAC

FEBRUARY 15-21, 2017

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



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## Love Stories for Valentine's Day

**Sheila and Barry Taylor of Potomac have been married 58 years.**

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE ALMANAC

**S**heila and Barry Taylor of Country Place in Potomac have been married for 58 years. Both were the only children in their families and were married in 1958 in a small synagogue in Philadelphia. He was 22 and she was 20.

As reformed Jews, they started raising their family in Philadelphia; then Lawrence Township, N.J.; then Potomac where they moved in 1970. Now they have lived in the same house for 46 years. The couple has three grown children: Debbie, 55; David, 52; and Denise, 50; plus six grandchildren, ages 7-20.

What Sheila loves most about him is his kindness, she said. "He's just sweet and he helps me when I ask for help. Maybe not so fast but he gets to it eventually and he likes to do the same things that I like to do," she said.

Barry feels the same: "She's considerate and a generally enthusiastic kind of person who's generally happy and cheers me up."

The secret to a good marriage said Sheila, age 78, is having similar interests. "We spend a fair amount of time together enjoying the same things. We go to the opera together, we have theater tickets. We do traveling together. We visit our children, our grandchildren. And we usually have dinner together."

Barry, age 80, added that common interests and points of view of the world are important. "Our attitudes toward money, for example ... we don't like to spend money. We're driving 16-year-old cars. We don't need to have the fanciest things. We rarely have any arguments about money."

Barry said his wife also tolerates his idiosyncrasies. "I'm somewhat of a workaholic; I'm a scientist emeritus at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, so she's tolerant of my work ethic."

The couple first met at Temple University's physics department in Philadelphia in the 1950s. Barry was two years ahead of Sheila, who had been dating other physicists when she found him. What attracted him was that she liked the same things as he did. "We had this common interest in physics," he said. "She liked me, and if someone likes you, you tend to like them back."

Sheila added: "I had dated a couple of other guys in the physics department, but I thought he was cute."



**Sheila and Barry Taylor of Potomac.**

Sheila grew up in Philadelphia's Center and moved to Oxford Circle. Barry grew up in Strawberry Mansion. He attended Temple University then the University of Pennsylvania where he received a Ph.D. in physics in 1963. "Those were the glory days of science," he said. As a teaching assistant, he didn't have to pay for tuition.

Sheila also studied physics at Temple University, worked for a couple of years and then received a master's degree in computer science from the University of Maryland in 1970. She worked at the Dental Institute at NIH and discovered she could make more money as a computer person.

In her spare time, Sheila volunteers with the Potomac Community Village where she's on its board and does the IT work, maintains its website and data base. She's also a volunteer driver for Village Rides, which gives rides to local people. "It's a way to keep people in their houses by providing services for them and socialization and driving to appointments," she said. "I'm very involved with this organization."

Barry works on the Religious Practices Committee at his temple, Temple Beth Ami in Rockville. "We meet periodically to discuss issues having to do with the religious activities of the Temple, services, timing of services, prayer books and what roles for the ages of children to give bar and bat mitzvahs," he said. The couple also enjoys exercising. They used to do a lot of bicycling and when the weather's nice, they'll walk 4-5 miles on the C&O Canal on Sundays. "We start at Great Falls Tavern and walk down and back," he said.



**Dean Jabs and Becky Pugh of Potomac.**

**Potomac plastic surgeon and dog groomer recall falling in love.**

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE ALMANAC

**B**ecky Pugh, 57, and Dean Jabs, 63, of Bethesda (on the cusp of Potomac) were married 15 years ago in their cul-de-sac on Eagle Ridge Court with a tent in the back yard. Becky, the owner of Bone Jour Pet Boutique, a dog-grooming store in Bethesda, was a little late to the marriage table. When she met Dean, a plastic surgeon with Cosmetic Surgery Associates in Bethesda, he was already divorced.

"I was not going to get married because I had not met anyone that I respected or was attracted to," she said. But that changed when she met Dean. "When I met him, I was very surprised. One of the first things, he didn't frown when he saw my dogs jumping around, so that was the first plus. He's a very interesting guy, and he knew how to hang drywall. Besides being a surgeon, he was able to fix things," she said.

For Dean, the secret to a happy and successful marriage is respect and compromise, he said. "I think relationships are built one day at a time. You have to have attraction and once you have that to last, you have to respect that person and be willing to make compromises so that you're both happy."

The couple has three children: Hilary, 25, and Connor, 23, from Dean's first marriage, and Wren, 11, a fifth-grader who was adopted. "When I first met Becky, I needed someone who wasn't afraid of a family, and didn't want to ship them off; she moved right in and just became a great mom," he said. Becky calls her husband "Mr. New Day" because she said he likes to do new things every day. "He's very positive, doesn't hold grudges, is interested in doing things," like skiing, golfing and scuba diving. In fact, there's even a huge golfing net installed in their living room for him to practice his golf

swings. "He's always game. He loves our families together. He's very positive," she said.

Dean calls his wife "very creative, with a good sense of humor, very caring, and never ever negative. And also willing to have fun almost in a child-like manner, which is great," he said.

Before they were married, Dean had once been a customer at Bone Jour, but a friend of Becky named Julia Randall who tried to fix her up on dates, introduced him and they went out to dinner and hit it off. "And then he came to do the door, he liked NBA, he liked art, we went to dinner, and we haven't stopped," she said.

Added Dean: "We went to dinner and since then we never stopped seeing each other. It just clicked. It's great to have somebody who you have a physical, emotional and intellectual attraction to."

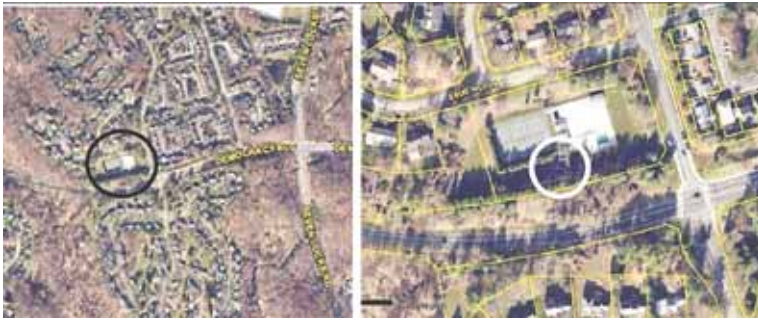
Originally from Arkansas, Becky studied art at the University of Arkansas. Dean was from Southern California and received a B.A. in pre-med from the University of Southern California; then a Ph.D. in immunology from the University of Illinois (Rush University); and then Columbia University for plastic surgery. He served active duty in the U.S. Army for three years.

In her spare time, Becky volunteers with animal welfare projects. Every Sunday after Thanksgiving, she has been active in the Pumpkins for Piggies program. She had gone to the Poplar Springs Animal Sanctuary, a 400-acre refuge in Poolesville, and she thought how nice it would be to give away pumpkins after Thanksgiving to feed to the pigs. "It's become a huge deal," she said. "They throw the pumpkins to the piggies."

Dean has done a couple of medical missions to Haiti, he said: "We go up into the hill country and treat underserved children with cleft lips, cleft palates and burns."

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE ALMANAC





## NEWS



**According to Transmission Facility Coordinating Group documents: The applicant provided photos of views from selected location in the residential neighborhoods around the property with and without a simulation of the monopole once constructed. As can be seen in the simulations, some residents will see the top of the monopole and may object to its appearance on the horizon. Trees between the property and some residents may screen views of the monopole but residents very near the property will clearly see the monopole, especially those living in the homes immediately west of the Swim Club. The photo [at right] illustrates the approximate location and height of the monopole (indicated by the arrow) as viewed from that vicinity.**

# Fighting Installation of Cell Tower

**Public hearing date yet to be scheduled.**

BY PEGGY McEWAN  
THE ALMANAC

**T**hey came to demonstrate their opinions, express their views and, hopefully, block the approval of a cell tower near their homes. More than a dozen residents of the Potomac neighborhoods of Ridgeleigh, Worland and Snug Hill showed up at a hearing of the Montgomery County Tower Committee Feb. 1 to object to the placement of a cell tower on the property of East Gate Swim and Tennis Club at the intersection of Gainsborough Road and Democracy Boulevard.

They were prepared to make their feelings known with a large banner reading, “no tower,” and red t-shirts for protesters to wear printed with “No cell tower at East Gate.”

They wanted the group to have a uniform look, said Heidi Wei, a resident of Worland.

Wei said she is against the tower for health reasons — the fear that radiation from the tower would affect students’ health. Another reason, she said, is that the placement of the

tower would have a negative effect on housing prices in the surrounding neighborhoods.

“We are here to show extreme frustration,” said Wei Chen, also a Worland resident. “Verizon has no incentive to let us know [about the proposed tower] and board members of the pool have no incentive to let us know.”

According to several of the people who showed up for the meeting, officers of the East Gate Swim and Tennis Club signed a lease agreement with Verizon before the application was submitted to the county last March, but pool members and local residents did not know about it until a zoning conditional use sign was posted in November 2016.

“We don’t believe he [Michael Faerber, president of the swim club] has the authority to sign the lease and he didn’t notify anyone,” Chen said.

Faerber was not available by phone in his Rockville office but in an email response to questions about the transaction he wrote: “I certainly appreciate your willingness to create a balanced story.

However, I would need to bring your request to the entire East Gate Rec Board to see if we would like to provide a statement. I am in no position to act on my own. Given the short notice, I do not believe I would have an answer for you today. I will let you know when I

have had an opportunity to talk to the entire Board.”

The Almanac let Faerber know we would hold the story for a week to allow him time to speak with his board but there was no response to that.

The group did not have an opportunity to share their opinions that afternoon as the committee did not discuss the East Gate proposal.

There was a short period of time that it was on the agenda, said Marjorie Williams, chair of the committee, with Montgomery County Department of Technology Services – Office of Cable and Broadband Services. The committee had already reviewed the application so it was sent to the Office of Zoning and Hearings. That office will schedule a public meeting on the tower and that will be when the citizen opinions will be heard.

At this time there is no hearing date set.

When the date comes, those objecting to the tower will be ready with banners, t-shirts and testimony against the project.

What is at stake is Verizon Wireless application to construct an 80 foot monopole and attach 12 panel antennas, six 72 inches high and six, 71 inches high at the top of the pole, according to the application filed March 31, 2016.

The property owner on the application is East Gate Recreation Association.

### BULLETIN BOARD

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.

#### BEGINS IN FEBRUARY

**New Canal Quarters Exhibit.** The C&O Canal Trust, in partnership with the C&O Canal National Historical Park, is seeking stories from African American workers of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) who worked along the C&O Canal from 1938-1942. The CCC was one of the New Deal programs created by President Roosevelt in response to the calamity of the Great Depression. The workers’ stories will be incorporated into a new exhibit to be housed in Canal Quarters’ Lockhouse 10, which depicts the time period of

the 1930s. Contact Josh Whitman at [canalpridedays@canaltrust.org](mailto:canalpridedays@canaltrust.org) or call 215-820-6913.

#### TUESDAY/FEB. 14

**Welcome to Medicare** 7-9 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Information about Medicare, Medigap/Supplements, and prescription drug coverage. Presented by State Health Insurance Assistance Program. Sponsored by the Potomac Friends of the Library. Free, no registration. Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library) for more.

#### FRIDAY/FEB. 17

**County Board Vacancy.** Deadline for application to participate on the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board. The vacancy announcement and application can be found at

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/boards/index](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/boards/index) or call 240-777-2528 for more.

#### SATURDAY/FEB. 18

**Health Screenings.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Giant Food is offering free health screenings at select in-store pharmacies. Customers can receive free blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol screenings. In addition, Giant pharmacists can help determine if customers are missing any recommended adult vaccinations. No appointment is necessary. Visit [giantfood.com/live-well/pharmacy](http://giantfood.com/live-well/pharmacy).

- ❖ Georgetown Square Giant, 10400 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda
- ❖ Bethesda Row West Giant, 7142 Arlington Road, Bethesda

#### DEADLINE FEB. 24

**Achievement Award Nominations.** 5 p.m. for the Neal Potter Path of Achievement Award two residents aged 60 or better will be selected for their lifetime of volunteer service in the County. Visit [www.montgomeryserves.org](http://www.montgomeryserves.org) for more.

#### FRIDAY/FEB. 24

**“Fake News: How to Spot It.”** 4 p.m. at 900 Wayne Ave., Silver Spring. “Fake News: How to Spot It” will help participants determine the kind of fake news that exists and provide tools to evaluate news for reliability and truth. Contact Mary Ellen Icaza at 240-777-0006.

#### MONDAY/FEB. 27

**“Fake News: How to Spot It.”** 6 p.m. at 7400 Arlington Road,

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 11

## POTOMAC ALMANAC

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## Police Seek Help in Missing Person Case

Detectives from the Montgomery County Police Department – 1st District Investigative Section are asking for the public’s help to locate a missing Potomac area man.

Mehran Firouz, age 46, was last seen by family members at approximately 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 9 when he left his Postoak Road home on foot. Firouz did not inform family members where he was going.

Firouz is described as a white male, 5’11” tall, and weighing approximately 165 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. He was last seen wearing a black and grey hoodie and black sweat pants.

Police and family members are concerned for Mehran Firouz’s emotional and physical welfare.

Anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of



**Mehran Firouz**

Mehran Firouz is asked to call the Montgomery County Police non-emergency number at 301-279-8000 (available 24 hours). Callers may remain anonymous.

## Ensuring Food Security

Resulting from legislation passed by the Montgomery County Council, the county has launched a plan to address the nearly 78,000 county residents who are unsure where they will get their next meal.

Through current programs and the community-grants process, the county funds an array of initiatives to work toward ensuring the most vulnerable has access to safe, sufficient, nutritious food. The challenge of meeting that task is compounded, given the changing demographics of the county and the highly fragmented network of food assistance providers.

The county plan, when implemented, targets a 22 percent reduction in the number of food insecure individuals in three years. That would result in 15,000 more people who will have confidence in their ability to access food.

“Sometimes compassion needs a plan. For this reason, I’m happy to present this Food Security Plan to the County Council and the community,” said Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett.

“This is not meant to be a plan that tells others what to do, but rather empowers them to do what needs to be done. In this case, we must address the food security needs of a changing county. Every one of our residents should have access to safe, sufficient, and nutritious food in a manner that treats them with respect and dignity.”

The areas most at risk are East County; Wheaton/Aspen Hill; and

pockets of Germantown and Gaithersburg. The goal of the plan is to help these areas by directing our resources with better data on where the need exists and improve outreach.

“President John F. Kennedy famously said that ‘The war against hunger is truly mankind’s war of liberation.’ Even in a jurisdiction as affluent as Montgomery County, we still have nearly 78,000 individuals who do not know where their next meal is coming from at any given time. We can and must do better by our neighbors. This plan is a roadmap for how we can put the commitment of the public and private sectors into action to ensure that no one goes hungry in our communities,” said Council President Roger Berliner.

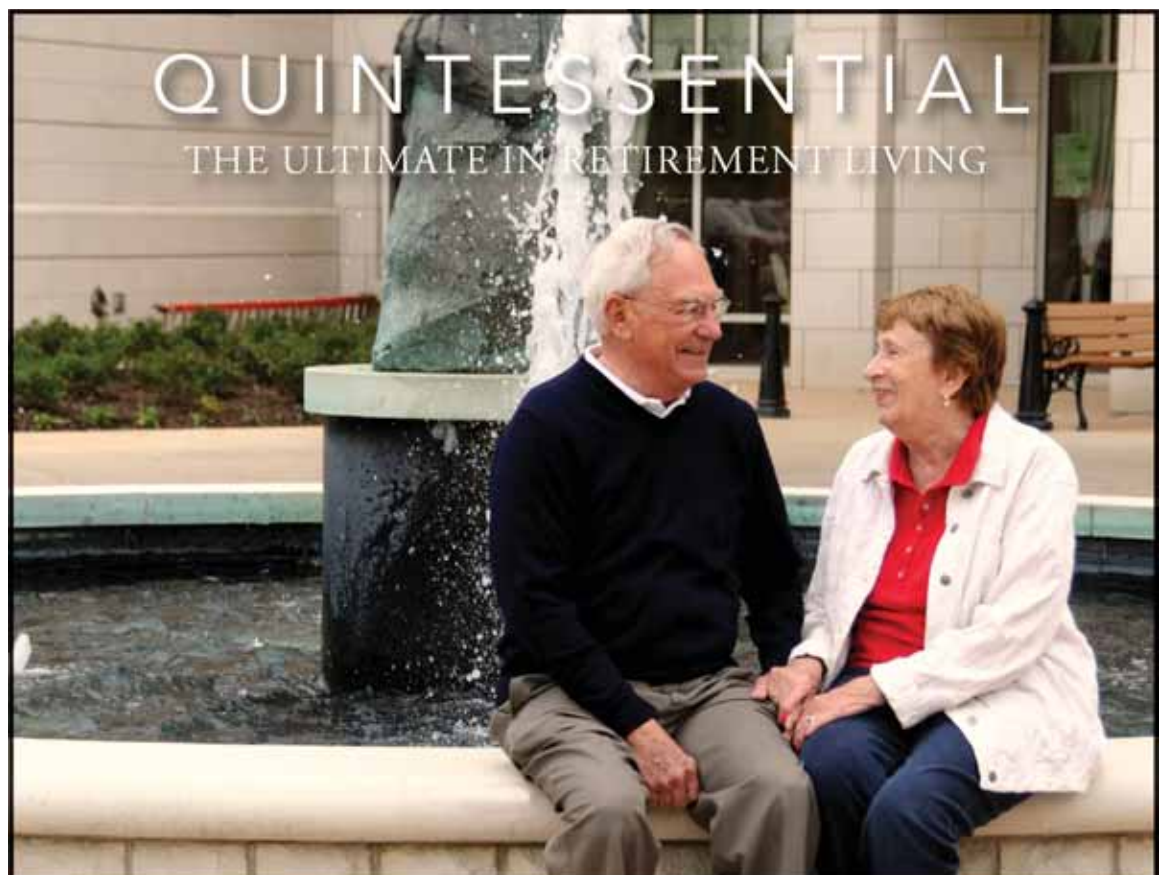
The plan identifies 21 findings that can be addressed to reach the targeted reduction. It also includes a series of recommendations spanning the next five years. The plan has been sent to the County Council for their consideration during the upcoming budget process.

The plan was developed by the Office of the County Executive under the direction of the Chief Innovation Officer, Dan Hoffman.

The Montgomery County Food Council provided assistance in coordinating the development of the plan and gathered the input of the food assistance community. To view the plan, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/exec/Resources/Files/pdf/MoCo\\_Food\\_Security\\_Plan\\_2017.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/exec/Resources/Files/pdf/MoCo_Food_Security_Plan_2017.pdf)

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# 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

### 2016 Inaugural Video Art Exhibition

5-7 p.m. at Glen Echo Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Photoworks showcases a group of female visual artists who use video to reveal the personal, the intimate and the artistic. Desires, dreams and fears are all visually explored in Photoworks' Inaugural Video Competition and Exhibition, curated by Na'ama Batya Lewin. Free. Visit [www.glenechophotoworks.org](http://www.glenechophotoworks.org) for more.

**Goldilocks Puppet Show.** Through Feb. 19 at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Story is told with rod puppets and giant hand puppets, this production keeps the audience guessing while including all the favorite elements of the classic children's fairytale. Call 301-634-2222.

### Faculty and Students Exhibit

Through Feb. 26 at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Exhibition focuses on the relationship between teacher and student, showcasing work from the faculty and students. Reception is Saturday, Feb. 11, 4-6 p.m. Photoworks is located on the first floor of the North Arcade building across from the Dentzel Carousel. Call 301-634-2222.

**Club Friday.** Through March 17, 7-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road,

Potomac. Children grades 3-6 are invited to participate in games, crafts, movies, sports and more. Membership fee is \$88. [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec).

**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/FEB. 16

**Staying Safe in the Cyber World.** 7-9 p.m. at the Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive. Tracy D. Rezvani, the program administrator at the Montgomery County Office of Consumer Protection, will talk on identity theft and other scams, concerns of internet use. Email [info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org](mailto:info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 18

**Dog Obedience Workshops.** 1:30-3:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 6030 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda. Learn tips and tricks to help dogs learn how to be calmer when meeting new people, both in the home and out in public. Visit [yourdogsfriend.org/free-workshops/](http://yourdogsfriend.org/free-workshops/) or call 301-983-5913.

**American Swing Dance.** 7 p.m. at Glen Echo Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Swing dance with Big Joe and the Dynafloes. \$20, less with a discount card. Visit [www.gottaswing.com](http://www.gottaswing.com).

**One Day Plays.** 8 p.m. at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave. Six original plays from local theaters that are written, directed, rehearsed and

performed in one day. Call 301/215-6660 or visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).

**Extreme Chopin.** 8 p.m. at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Pianist Brian Ganz performs world-famous and little-known works of Chopin. \$28-\$88, children 7-17 admitted free. Visit [nationalphilharmonic.org](http://nationalphilharmonic.org) or call 301-581-5100 for more.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 25

**Tom Cunningham Orchestra.** 8 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Swing into spring with orchestra music. \$18, \$14 for students with valid ID, and \$10 for children ages 5-13, 4 and under free. Visit [www.glenechopark.org](http://www.glenechopark.org) or [www.tomcunningham.com](http://www.tomcunningham.com) for more.

## THROUGH FEBRUARY 26

**Caroline or Change.** Various times at the Round House Theatre, 4545 East-West Highway. Bethesda. Play follows a black maid working for a middle-class Jewish family in Louisiana. When a small amount of money goes missing, buried tensions threaten to rip two families apart. Call 240-644-1100 or visit [RoundHouseTheatre.org](http://RoundHouseTheatre.org) for more.

## THROUGH MARCH 19

**Ella Enchanted Theater Production.** Various times at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Based on the Newberry Honor book by Gail Carson Levine. Baby Ella of Frell is given the "gift" of obedience and cannot disobey any direct order, which leads to challenges. Call 301-634-2222.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 16

**Historical Home Tours.** 11 a.m. at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. A guided tour for adults illuminating the history, architecture and personal stories of the Mansion at Strathmore. The tour lasts approximately 45-60 minutes. Free. Please note: Tickets will not be mailed. There will be a will call list at the door. Private tours for larger groups are also available by appointment for a \$30 fee by calling 301-581-5102 or emailing [historictours@strathmore.org](mailto:historictours@strathmore.org).

## FRIDAY/FEB. 24

**My Gym Potomac Open House.** 4-7 p.m. at My Gym, 11325 Seven Locks Road. Games, music, puppet shows, prizes, raffles, and open house discounts. Free. Email [potomac@mygym.com](mailto:potomac@mygym.com) or call 301-983-5300 for more.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 28

**Community Pancake Dinner.** 5-7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road. All-you-can eat Pancake Dinner (gluten-free too), scrambled eggs, sausage, toppings and live jazz music. \$10, \$40 for family. Visit [www.potomacpresbyterian.org](http://www.potomacpresbyterian.org) or call 301-299-6007 for more.

## FEB. 28-MARCH 1

**Dionne Warwick in Concert.** 8 p.m. at the Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave. 4th Anniversary concert. \$115-\$150. Visit [www.bethesdabluesjazz.com](http://www.bethesdabluesjazz.com) or call 240-330-4500.

## FRIDAY/MARCH 3

**Songwriting Awards Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave. The third annual Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards, produced by the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District, will feature a live concert performed by the competition's finalists, which includes Matthew Hemmer from Bethesda, in the Pop/Electric category. Visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) or call 301-215-6660.

## MARCH 17-18

**Local Documentaries.** Screenings at various times at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Local filmmakers include Ben Powell and Taylor Powell, Falls Church, with film "Charlie & Sam," Vanina Harel and Aditi Desai, Arlington, with film "The Culture of Collards," Joe Dzikiewicz and Jaclyn O'Laughlin from Arlington and Alexandria with film "Encaustic," and Lauren Knapp of Alexandria, with "The Sandman." \$10. Visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org) or call 301-215-6660 for more.

## THURSDAY/MARCH 23

**Historical Home Tours.** 11 a.m. at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. A guided tour for adults illuminating the history, architecture and personal stories of the Mansion at Strathmore. The tour lasts approximately 45-60 minutes. Free. Please note: Tickets will not be mailed. There will be a will call list at the door. Private tours for larger groups are also available by appointment for a \$30 fee by calling 301-581-5102 or emailing [historictours@strathmore.org](mailto:historictours@strathmore.org).



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## Thursday, March 2

TICKETS AND MORE INFORMATION AT  
[WWW.THEHAMILTONDC.COM](http://WWW.THEHAMILTONDC.COM)



In December 2016, 46 Potomac homes sold between \$2,356,550-\$300,000.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLEY PROXMIRE, INC.

The Kelley Proxmire Open House Sample Sale will include items such as tables, upholstered chairs and lamps.

## Designer Sample Sale

Collection curated by Betheda interior designer.

### Sample Sale

Friday, Feb. 24 and Saturday, Feb. 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at DNS Warehouse, 4229b Howard Ave., Kensington

price.

“The [sample sale] gives me an opportunity to share my passion for design with past clients and everyone throughout the region who loves design,” said Proxmire.

The collection, curated by Proxmire and her design team, includes home furnishings including chairs, mirrors, fabrics and accessories. The Kelley Proxmire Open House Sample Sale is Friday, Feb. 24 and Saturday, Feb. 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

— MARILYN CAMPBELL

Those looking to snag some of the trendiest home furnishings and accessories will have an opportunity to do so later this month when Bethesda-based designer Kelley Proxmire hosts a sample sale. Up for grabs will be items like tables, upholstered chairs and lamps. Sample sales are often touted as a way for consumers to get near perfect merchandise at a fraction of the retail

### SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Alan Li** of Potomac, were named to the faculty honors list for having a 4.0 academic average at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, Ga.) for fall 2016.

**Annabelle Phillips**, of Potomac, was named to the dean's list for fall 2016 at University of Hartford (West Hartford, Conn.).

**Kathleen Tabb** and **Lexy Costanzo**, of Potomac, made the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at University of Dayton (Dayton, Ohio).

**Abigail Berman**, **Abigail Blaine** and **Colin Smyth**, of Potomac, have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at University of Delaware (Newark, Del.).

**Mark Lemus** and **Amanda Levin**, of Potomac, have been named to the dean's list at Frostburg State University (Frostburg, Md.) for the fall 2016 semester.

**Frances Fagan**, of Potomac, received a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing in January from Frostburg State University (Frostburg, Md.).

**Nina Mohebbi**, of Potomac, re-

ceived a Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, Ga.).

**Mackenzie Tilley**, of Potomac, received Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, Ga.).

**Carly Frances Soistman** of Potomac, was named to the president's list for earning all A's for the 2016 fall semester at The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.).

**Ryan Connell Sorkin** of Potomac, was named to the dean's list for the 2016 fall semester at The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.).


**Alden Knife** of Potomac, was named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at Marist College (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.).

**Amy McAlister** and **Wama Gbetibouo** of Potomac, were named to the dean's list at the Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta, Ga.) for fall 2016.

**Caroline Dove** and **Alicia Elliott**, of Potomac, were named to the fall semester dean's list at Colby College (Waterville, Maine). Dove attended Potomac School. Elliott attended Thomas Sprigg Wootton High School.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	PostalCode
8401 RAPLEY RIDGE LN	4	3	3	POTOMAC		\$2,356,550	Detached	0.52		20854
9225 POTOMAC SCHOOL DR	5	5	1	POTOMAC		\$2,050,000	Detached	0.39		20854
8919 BEL AIR PL	5	4	2	POTOMAC		\$1,965,000	Detached	2.17		20854
12130 GLEN MILL RD	6	5	1	POTOMAC		\$1,892,500	Detached	5.13		20854
8503 RAPLEY PRESERVE CIR	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,800,000	Detached	0.56		20854
13814 LONGACRES PRESERVE CT	4	5	1	POTOMAC		\$1,673,019	Detached	2.02		20854
10031 COUNSELMAN RD	4	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,500,000	Detached	1.01		20854
10021 GARY RD	6	4	2	POTOMAC		\$1,325,000	Detached	1.48		20854
9805 GLYNESHIRE WAY	4	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,310,000	Detached	0.29		20854
12030 WETHERFIELD LN	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$1,297,000	Detached	2.00		20854
10900 BALANTRE LN	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$1,250,000	Detached	2.46		20854
9904 SCOTCH BROOM CT	6	6	1	ROCKVILLE		\$1,120,000	Detached	1.79		20854
10832 BARN WOOD LN	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,115,000	Detached	2.11		20854
10500 BEECHKNOLL LN	5	3	1	POTOMAC		\$1,100,000	Detached	0.25		20854
11109 FAWSETT RD	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$1,095,000	Detached	1.26		20854
10805 GLEN RD	5	5	1	POTOMAC		\$1,064,000	Detached	1.72		20854
2 GATE POST CT	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$1,050,000	Townhouse	0.11		20854
10216 LLOYD RD	5	3	0	POTOMAC		\$1,035,000	Detached	1.14		20854

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# Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

IN DECEMBER 2016, 46 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,356,550-\$300,000.

## December, 2016 Sales, \$835,000~\$990,000

**2** 12301 Overpond Way — \$975,000



**3** 11333 Deborah Drive — \$965,000



**6** 9217 Bentrige Avenue — \$905,000

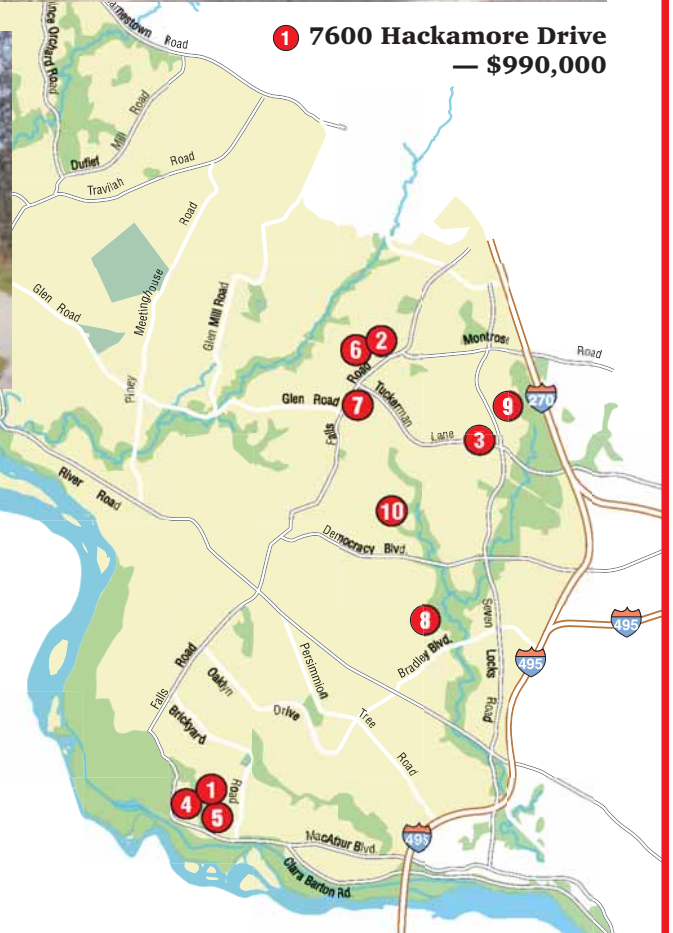


**4** 7707 Hidden Meadow Terrace — \$950,000



**1** 7600 Hackamore Drive — \$990,000

**5** 7012 Masters Drive — \$920,000



Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold		
1 7600 HACKAMORE DR	5	..	4	..	1	ROCKVILLE	\$990,000	Detached	0.36	20854	RIVER FALLS	12/30/16
2 12301 OVERPOND WAY	6	..	3	..	2	POTOMAC	\$975,000	Detached	0.31	20854	COPENHAVER	12/05/16
3 11333 DEBORAH DR	5	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC	\$965,000	Detached	0.28	20854	POTOMAC CREST	12/20/16
4 7707 HIDDEN MEADOW TER	4	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$950,000	Townhouse	0.08	20854	RIVER FALLS	12/16/16
5 7012 MASTERS DR	5	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$920,000	Detached	0.38	20854	RIVER FALLS	12/15/16
6 9217 BENTRIDGE AVE	5	..	3	..	2	POTOMAC	\$905,000	Detached	0.31	20854	FALLSREACH	12/21/16
7 11612 LE HAVRE DR	6	..	5	..	1	POTOMAC	\$860,000	Detached	0.46	20854	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS	12/22/16
8 9501 PURCELL DR	5	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$860,000	Detached	0.47	20854	MCAULEY PARK	12/16/16
9 11501 GAUGUIN LN	5	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC	\$855,000	Detached	0.41	20854	WILLERBURN ACRES	12/30/16
10 10615 TROTTERS TRL	4	..	2	..	1	POTOMAC	\$835,000	Detached	0.38	20854	FOX HILLS	12/06/16

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# Celebrating Black History Month

**Educators say these lessons are urgently needed in current racial climate.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE ALMANAC

Even though Elavie Ndura knows that it is a daunting challenge to help children grasp the entirety of the African American experience in the shortest month of the year, each February she and other educators give it their best effort. This year, they feel it's more important than ever.

"With all of the racial experiences we're having these days, it's critical that children know their history and are not basing their knowledge on only what they see on television or what they hear from their friends," said Elavie Ndura, Ed.D., professor of education at George Mason University in Fairfax. "Research shows that children who understand their histories do better in school and in society, so it's critical that families teach their children about their history."

Ndura believes that the current racial climate in the U.S. gives this year's Black History Month additional significance. A study released last month by the Pew Research Center shows that among Americans, 61 percent of blacks, 58 percent of Hispanics and 45 percent of whites say that race relations in the United States are generally bad. Local educators say Black History Month offers opportunities to address issues of race by allowing the past to inform the present.

"We have seen for more than a year how people from different political viewpoints, but also races, sexes, cultures, religions, sexual orientations, and socioeconomic statuses related to each other in the present political climate, and it was troublesome," said Mika'il A. Petin, Ph.D., associate director of African and African American Studies at George Mason University. "Teaching the history of Black or African-heritage peoples in this month ... is necessary to starting difficult conversations about... current race relations ... and social inequalities."

Race relations in our society have been deeply strained during the election and as America adjusts



PHOTO COURTESY OF BULLIS SCHOOL

**Bullis School student Noelle Morgan '18 performs a spoken-word piece she wrote about how music — from slave songs to jazz and modern hip hop — has been used by African Americans throughout history to combat brutality and oppression.**

to a new presidential administration. These divisions make African American history lessons critical for all children, but particularly for black children, says Ndura. "As African American parents we have a serious duty to educate our own youth," she said. "Knowing your history grounds and anchors you firmly so that you are not wavered in the wrong direction because of whatever feelings might be caused by what you're seeing on the news."

Black history lessons work best when they're intentional and creative, advises Jessica Lewis, Ed.D., assistant professor of education and human services at Marymount University in Arlington. "Children benefit when they are exposed to a variety of perspectives, ideas and stories because it helps expand their view of the world and people living in it," she said. "The ability to under-

**"Teaching the history of Black or African-heritage peoples this month ... is necessary to starting difficult conversations about ... current race relations ... and social inequalities."**

— Mika'il A. Petin, Ph.D.,  
George Mason University

SEE CELEBRATING. PAGE 10

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3/15/2017.....A+ Camps & Schools

3/22/2017.....Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment

3/29/2017.....Connection Families

#### APRIL

4/5/2017.....Wellbeing: Senior Living Pullout

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# Celebrating Black History Month

Want to “thrive in place” in your Potomac home? Find out how at one of these free programs...

**Morning Coffee & Conversation**  
Thursday, Feb. 16, 10 - 11:30  
Tally Ho Restaurant, Potomac Village

**“Staying Safe in the Cyber World”**  
Thurs, Feb. 16, 7 pm, Bolger Center, Potomac

240-221-1370

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

FROM PAGE 9

stand and identify with others and their experiences is a powerful, life-long lesson.”

Lewis advises making a trip to a local bookstore or library to find books that offer a glimpse of African American history and suggests that parents begin with books on subjects that interest their children. “[Parents] may start with readings on sports, or science, or biographies of the accomplishments and hardships of individuals who persisted throughout history to make a difference,” she said. “Parents can ... select books by black authors and illustrators and then take the time to read the story together, discuss the pictures, and ask questions about what the characters are feeling and experiencing.”

Other ideas include exploring music with roots in African American history such as ragtime, jazz, gospel and blues, making a timeline of major events that occurred during the Civil Rights Movement, and reading speeches from civil rights leaders and then helping children write their own speech about what they are inspired to change in the world. Such activities can open a natural discussion and need not be complicated to be effective, says Lewis.

“Parents are their children’s first educators,” said Lewis. “It is important for parents to help their children understand the experiences of other children who are not like them because it builds empathy and a deeper sense of community.”

One roadblock to such honest conversations, cautions Petin, is a discomfort with discussions of racial differences. “Let’s be frank, some white Americans who are politically and socially conservative become noticeably uncomfortable with the topic of race, and therefore find difficulty with Black History Month,” he said. “Yet, Black History Month — similar to the Black Lives Matter movement — does not express superiority over others. Both the month of celebration and socio-political movement are forms of resistance to deliberate attempts to conceal the worthiness of Black or African-heritage people in this country.”

Some people “may attack Black History Month and Black Lives Matter as political correctness and identity politics, but I would argue that they are not see-



PHOTO COURTESY OF BULLIS SCHOOL

**Bullis School fifth graders Elizabeth Martin and Will Simpson look on as their documentaries about the civil rights movement were presented to the school.**

ing the humanity in both efforts,” continued Petin. He emphasized the importance of taking a purposeful approach to teaching children about black history. “I think that all parents must intentionally search for, study, and celebrate those who are on the margins, living in the shadows, perceived as voiceless, and regarded as invisible. Too often, black Americans were those marginal, shadowed, voiceless, and invisible people. All parents should be honest about that, and should have confidence in the U.S. only being great when they and their children educate themselves on this country’s history in more inclusive terms.”

Schools often play a significant role in the month’s activities. Students at the Bullis School in Potomac, Md., for example, attend a Black History Month assembly each February. This year’s event was led by several students who shared their thoughts, essays and other projects on a variety of topics. “Diverse literature is always a great idea,” added Allison Ewing, chair of the social studies department at Bullis.

“Twenty-eight days of teachable moments” is one way that Petin characterizes Black History Month. “It is never too early to start preparing your kids for a world that is increasingly more connected and shrinking,” he said. “When all parents teach their children how to develop skill sets to understand, value, empathize, and celebrate those who may be different than them, the children are better prepared to function in the world.”

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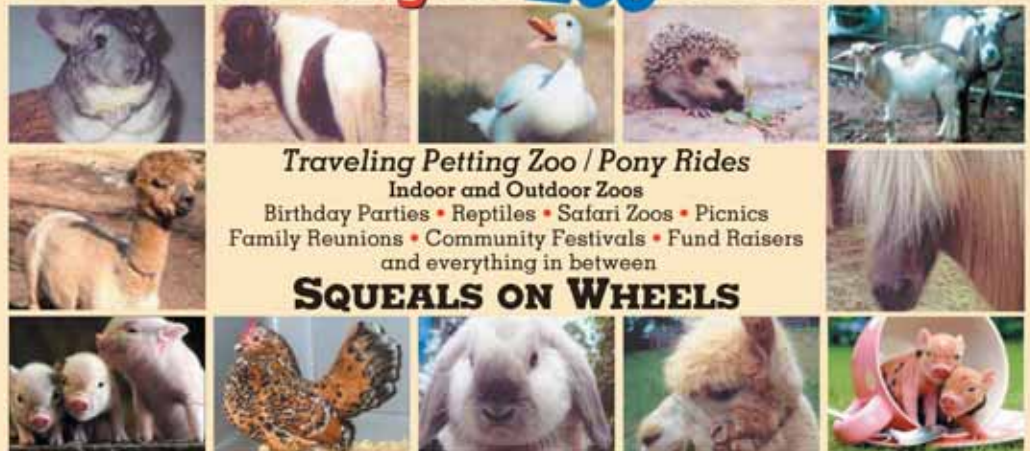


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# BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

Bethesda. "Fake News: How to Spot It" will help participants determine the kind of fake news that exists and provide tools to evaluate news for reliability and truth. Contact Mary Ellen Icaza at 240-777-0006.

## BEGINS FEB. 27

**Job Search Training for Seniors.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. JCA's Career Gateway Program can help hone a resume, polish networking and interviewing skills, use Internet job search resources more effectively, and turn age and experience to an advantage. Each session of the Career Gateway features 30 hours of small-group classroom instruction over five days, comprehensive take-home materials, practical exercises, and a long-term mentor. \$75. Session IV takes place Feb. 27, March 1, 3, 6, 9, 2017. Call Ellen Greenberg at 301-255-4215 or email [egreenberg@AccessJCA.org](mailto:egreenberg@AccessJCA.org).

## MONDAY/MARCH 6

**Application Deadline.** here is an opportunity to serve on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Access vacancy announcements for boards, committees, and commissions through the following link: [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/boards/index.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/boards/index.html) Read instructions carefully on that page, where you will find a link directly to the vacancy announcements.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 28

**"Fake News: How to Spot It."** 6 p.m. at Century Boulevard, Germantown. "Fake News: How to Spot It" will help participants determine the kind of fake news that exists and provide tools to evaluate news for reliability and truth. Contact Mary Ellen Icaza at 240-777-0006.

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 22

**Education Forum.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Walter Johnson High School (cafeteria), 6400 Rock Spring Drive, Bethesda. Montgomery County Council Education Committee Chair Craig Rice, Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Smith and Montgomery College President DeRionne Pollard will host a public forum to provide information, and seek input, on the programs and budgets of the County's public school system and its community college. Contact Councilmember Rice's office at 240-777-7955 or email [Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov).

## WEDNESDAY/MARCH 29

**Education Forum.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Richard Montgomery High School (cafeteria), 250 Richard Montgomery Drive, Rockville. Montgomery County Council Education Committee Chair Craig Rice, Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Smith and Montgomery College President DeRionne Pollard will host a public forum to provide information, and seek input, on the programs and budgets of the County's public school system and its community college. Contact Councilmember Rice's office at 240-777-7955 or email [Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov).

## BEGINS APRIL 24

**Job Search Training for Seniors.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. JCA's Career Gateway Program can help hone a resume, polish networking and interviewing skills, use Internet job search resources more effectively, and turn age and experience to an advantage. Each session of the Career Gateway features 30 hours of small-group classroom instruction over five days, comprehensive take-home materials, practical exercises, and a long-term mentor. \$75. Session V takes place April 24, 26, 28, May 1 and 3, 2017. Call Ellen Greenberg at 301-255-4215 or email [egreenberg@AccessJCA.org](mailto:egreenberg@AccessJCA.org).

## THROUGH APRIL

**Host Families Needed.** The Big Train is looking for families to share their homes with a Big Train player during the 2017 season. Players stay with families from late May through late July or early August. Contact Emily Waldman at [waldmanemily@gmail.com](mailto:waldmanemily@gmail.com) or Anne Fletcher at [fletcher428@gmail.com](mailto:fletcher428@gmail.com).

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## "Idiot" No More; Well, Sort Of



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

For over two and a half years now, since June '14 — according to my most recent invoice, "idiot" lights on the dashboard of my model year 2000, Honda Accord have warned me that all was not right with our back-up car. But due to intermittent use, amazing self-discipline on my part and little new evidence to the contrary, the Honda has maintained its performance, if you can even call it that. Soon after this last visit to my local mechanic had cleared the pre-2014 dashboard indicators, the "SRS" (seat belt restraint system) came on suggesting that something was once again rotten in Denmark, and Burtonsville, too. Nevertheless, with the ink barely dry on my credit card receipt, and with our second car not being a priority, I decided to let it live and let live and hope for the best. Approximately 32 months later, my hope has been realized. No repairs have been required in the interim. However, over that same time, multiple additional "warning" lights have come on: "brake lamp," "maintenance due," and just recently, the infamous/scourge "check-engine" light to where four lights are now illuminated. And though, to my credit, I have been able to endure and ignore their constant reminders; but when that fourth light, the "check-engine" light came on, I feared my benign neglect had finally come home to roost. So I bucked up, called my local mechanic, and made the arrangements to drop off the Honda. Then I waited for a more detailed assessment of the damage done. A few days later, I got the call. I'll spare you the details since I can't explain them anyway; but the repairs were going to cost around \$1000, as good as could be expected for a 17 year-old car with 95,000 miles on the odometer.

However, what I am most excited about concerning this outcome is — yes 'excited' is the right word — that for the first time in years I won't have to face down warning lights in my car and alarm bells in my head about what potential car trouble and expense I've been putting off and likely making worse. And most importantly, no longer having to exercise the inordinate self-control required to ignore these warning lights and not to be corrupted by their relentless — literally and figuratively — reminders. It's almost as if I can face reality again, breathe normally and not feel under siege.

Having only driven the car barely two miles home since I picked it up from "Tony's," I can't yet say driving is fun. However, I can admit that driving will be less irritating, will require less mental discipline and when I look down at my car's dashboard, I will not long for a bygone era of dashboard neutrality. Once again, as if the Honda is under dealer warranty, I will not see any indicators/lights of something I've neglected to do or of repairs I'm unable to afford.

As much as I'd like to think I'm fairly well-adjusted and know how to process and prioritize things in my life, having cancer does seem to alter these processes and priorities. And when something simple and/or unexpected happens in your life which allows you to regain your composure and equilibrium, it helps that much more to assimilate the cancer-related conditions, effects and challenges you've come to expect. Not that I thought much about this eventuality when I dropped off the car at "Tony's," but now, having not seen any lights, I feel unburdened, as if a weight has been taken off my shoulders and out of my head. Moreover, when you're living in the cancer bubble, burdens expected — and otherwise — tend to pile up — and on — and when one is able to catch a break/brake along the way, the positive effect is disproportionate to reality. It means so much even though it may seem like so little. Whether it's regaining some control, solving a non-cancer-related problem or crossing an item off a to-do list; living one's life with as few distractions as possible, generally speaking, will likely result in some comfort and joy; not the movie, but the peace of mind.

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





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