

Potomac ALMANAC

HomeLifeStyle

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South Glen, Glen and Glen Mill roads, all designated Montgomery County Rustic Roads, meet in Potomac at Watts Branch Creek.

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Reflecting on Rustic Roads Area roads protected by program are changing despite preservation efforts.

BY PEGGY McEWAN
THE ALMANAC

The Montgomery County Rustic Roads Advisory Committee in March published “20 Years of Rustic Roads, Status and Reflections on the Montgomery County Rustic Roads Program, 1996 – 2016.”

The report looks back through the 20 years since the program started in 1996 and contains a call to action, warning that, “While the program has proven to be broadly popular, the roads that are protected by the program have been incrementally changing and losing the character that makes them special. The stated purpose of the Rustic roads Program is the preservation of the rustic roads. To accomplish this, the program must be strengthened and it must be supported at the top levels of our county agencies.”

Rustic roads are described by Montgomery Planning as “roads in the Agricultural Reserve or rural parts of Montgomery County that exemplify the rural and agricultural character of the area. Exceptional rustic roads are roads that have such unusual and pleasing character that preservation of these roads is highly desirable.”

POTOMAC RESIDENTS don’t have to go far to enjoy the scenic beauty of some of the county’s rustic roads. A part of South Glen Road, Glen Mill Road, Boswell Lane, Glen Road and Stoney Creek Road, all in Potomac are designated Rustic Roads with the section of the Glen Roads where they come together designated as Exceptional



PHOTO BY PEGGY McEWAN/THE ALMANAC

Three Montgomery County Rustic Roads meet in Potomac at Watts Branch Creek.

Rustic Roads.

The program is broadly supported by county residents, but there are problems, according to the report. Those include road closures, “unsympathetic” bridge replacement, changing pavement materials and road widenings. In order to maintain Rustic Road designation, roads need to keep their original look and feel.

“There was a reason these roads were included,” Caroline Taylor, executive director of Montgomery Countryside Alliance said. “They are part of the experience of getting to the Agricultural Reserve.”

Taylor emphasized the importance of balance when it comes to maintaining Rural

Roads and safety.

“Public education is part of it,” she said. “They are narrower roads, some are gravel and drivers may encounter farm equipment on them. These are things to watch.”

Another negative impacting the Rural Roads program, according to the report is that its administration has been “notably weak.” “The County Code needs to be updated to support the committee and to improve coordination between agencies. The Executive regulation needs to be up-

Published in March 2017, “20 Years of Rustic Roads, Status and Reflections on the Montgomery County Rustic Roads Program, 1996 – 2016” is available online.



COURTESY OF MONTGOMERY PLANNING

dated to fully support the preservation intent of the program and reflect the County road Code provisions for Context Sensitive Design,” the report says.

In order to assure the program continues as a way to support the County’s agricultural, historic and scenic areas, the report makes eight recommendations ranging from a renewed commitment to the preservation of the designated roads,

to “Clear and full support from our top County officials and agencies down to the boots on the ground staff.”

“We applaud the efforts of the rural roads Advisory Committee in putting together this report,” Taylor said. “Most importantly the imperative of additional work. We think the Rural Roads Advisory Committee should be given more strength...we are hoping the county will embrace the difference of protecting the country roads differently from regular county roads.”

The report contains many beautiful photos of Montgomery County rural roads and can be read through the Montgomery County Planning website: montgomeryplanning.org.

Fire Destroys Apartments

Community rallies to support families after Congressional Country Club fire.

BY PEGGY McEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Three families were burned out of their home Saturday, April 1, when a fire ignited at a house on the property of Congressional Country Club in Bethesda. The large house had been divided into three apartments and all were damaged by the fire. Neighbors and friends of the families are collecting money and gift cards to help them start over.

Ricardo and Mimi Quijada and their two sons, Ricardo, a fifth grader at Carderock Springs Elementary School, and Diego, a seventh grader at Thomas W. Pyle Middle School, are one of the families affected by the fire. They also have a daughter away at

the University of Alabama. “The house is unlivable,” Ricardo Quijada said. “We are staying with friends, obviously good friends.”

Quijada said Congressional Country Club has been very supportive and his family will move into a different house on the club property as soon as it is ready for them. When that happens the family will need to replace all its furniture and kitchen utensils. No one was at home when the fire started so there were no human injuries but a dog died as a result of smoke inhalation, Pete Piringer, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue spokesperson, said. “The dog was a geese chaser ‘employed’ by Congressional Country Club,” Quijada said. “He lived with one of the families in the house.”

Piringer said the fire was “pretty significant” with about 60 responders from Fire and Rescue helping to put it out. He estimates damages to the house to be about \$200,000.

“A neighbor saw the fire and called 911,” he said. “Then he grabbed a garden hose and tried to put it out. He helped keep it from spreading, we credit him with that.”



PHOTO BY PETE PIRINGER/MCFRS

Ten people were displaced and a dog died due to a residential fire at the Congressional Country Club on April 1.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, but Piringer said it is believed to be accidental, possibly a spontaneous reaction.

Neighbors and community members can help by dropping off money or gift cards at the home of Michelle and Steve Murphy, 7424 Brickyard Road, Potomac. Checks should be made out to Ricardo and Mimi Quijada. Contributions can also be mailed to The Club Foundation, Congressional

Country Club, 8500 River Road, Bethesda, 20817.

“The family has been overwhelmed by the community’s efforts to support them,” Michelle Murphy wrote in an email. “I have received countless emails from Mimi to say how she can never repay people for their kindness, but asked me to spread the word that they are sincerely thankful for the donations and kindness.”

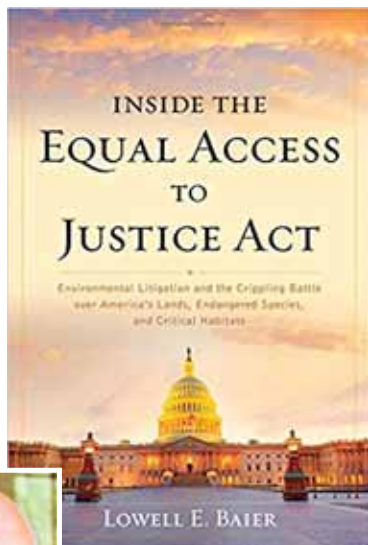
PEOPLE

Potomac Author Selected as Book Award Finalist

A Potomac resident for over 50 years, Lowell E. Baier's book "Inside the Equal Access to Justice Act: Environmental Litigation and the Crippling Battle over America's Lands, Endangered Species, and Critical Habitats," has been chosen as a 2016 Foreword INDIES Book of the Year Award finalist in the two categories of Ecology/Environment and History.

One of America's preeminent experts on environmental litigation, Baier chronicles the century-long story of America's resources management, focusing on litigation, citizen suit provisions, and attorneys' fees. He provides the first book-length comprehensive examination of the little-known Equal Access to Justice Act and its role in environmental litigation, focusing on its effect on wildlife and especially endangered species.

Baier has been recognized many times for his public service at the local level, and for his conservation work nationally. He was Rockville, Maryland's Citizen of the Year in 1986. In 2008, he was named Conservationist of the Year by the National Fish and Wildlife



Lowell E. Baier.

Foundation. In 2010 Outdoor Life magazine selected Baier as the Conservationist of the Year, and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies similarly recognized him in 2013. In 2016, the National Wildlife Federation awarded him their highest honor, the Jay N. "Ding" Darling Conservation Award for a lifetime of conservation service.

Baier continues to practice law specializing in wildlife conservation and natural resource policy, legislation and regulation, manages his commercial real estate development company, and writes extensively.



PHOTO BY PEGGY McEWAN

C&O Cleanup

Darryl Leonard, of Gaithersburg, collects trash as he walks along the C&O Canal between Pennyfield Lock and Swains Lock in Potomac Saturday. Volunteers from throughout Maryland, Virginia and Washington took part in the April 8 Potomac River Watershed Cleanup sponsored by the Alice Ferguson Foundation as part of it's Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative.

MCP Holds Quarterly Award Ceremony

The Montgomery County Police Department held its Quarterly Awards Ceremony in February at the Public Safety Headquarters. The awards ceremony featured the presentation of the Medal of Valor, the Life Saving Award, and Commendation. The award recipients are as follows:

Medal of Valor

The Department's highest award. The Medal of Valor is awarded to an employee for heroism and distinction in extremely hazardous circumstances. In order to be considered for this honor, an employee must exhibit unusual bravery in the performance of duty while facing the threat of death of serious injury.

Medal of Valor Recipients:

♦ **Police Officer III Jeffrey Hughes** — On August 10, 2016, Hughes was working off duty at the Flower Branch Apartments. Hughes had left the apartments to assist another officer with a call for service at the Long Branch Library when he heard a loud explosion nearby. He returned to the Flower Branch Apartments and observed that apartments were on fire and that some of the building appeared to have collapsed. Hughes assisted residents who were jumping to safety from their burning apartments. Hughes continued to help residents from the surrounding areas and assist Fire/Rescue personnel in determining the number of possible victims of this horrible explosion.

♦ **Police Officer II Daniel Garcia, Police Officer I Mark Monsini, Police Officer II David**

Schramm, Police Officer III William Seidel, Police Officer II Thomas Tibbs, and Police Officer III Stephen Wells — Officers attempted to stop a vehicle driven by a suspect involved in a conspiracy to commit murder. The vehicle fled at a high rate of speed and crashed into trees on Emory Lane. The officers who responded to the collision observed smoke coming from the vehicle and reacting quickly, safely removed the three individuals from the vehicle just as the car became completely engulfed in fire.

Life Saving Award

The award given to an employee who makes a major contribution toward saving the life of another by providing essential medical treatment prior to arrival of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel.

Life Saving Award Recipients:

♦ **Police Officer III Kevin Correa, Police Officer I Ashley Mosner, and Police Officer II Holman Santos** — Officers attempted to stop a vehicle driven by a suspect involved in a conspiracy to commit murder. The vehicle fled at a high rate of speed and crashed into trees on Emory Lane. The officers who responded to the collision observed smoke coming from the vehicle and reacting quickly, safely removed the three individuals from the vehicle just as the car became completely engulfed in fire.

♦ **Police Officer III Barton Hudson** — Hudson performed Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) for approximately 4 minutes on a person that suffered a heart attack until Fire/Rescue arrived. The individual was transported to Shady Grove Hospital.

♦ **Police Officer III Seth Carson** — Carson per-

formed Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) on an individual that suffered a heart attack. The individual recovered.

♦ **Police Officer III Roderick Cox, Police Officer III Andrew Richardson, Police Officer II Samuel Supnick and Police Officer III Joshua Swecker** — Officers applied life-saving measures to an individual that was a suspect in a robbery. The individual had broken through a window to gain access to a house. The officers found the suspect going in and out of consciousness. He had a large laceration on his arm, later determined to be an arterial bleed. The suspect was combative. Officers applied pressure and a hemostatic agent to the wound in an attempt to stop the heavy bleeding. When this failed, officers applied a tourniquet to the arm. The individual was rushed to the hospital and survived his injuries.

♦ **Corporal Joseph Dodson** — Dodson reached through a fence along the overpass of Columbia Pike and Briggs Chaney Road to prevent a suicidal individual from jumping off the overpass.

♦ **Police Officer III Dale Steffen** — Steffen located a 16-year-old girl threatening suicide on the roof of her house and went on the roof to pull her to safety.

Commendation

Awarded to an employee who makes a significant contribution to the mission of the department beyond the ordinary call of duty. It recognizes those incidents wherein the member's courage, resourcefulness, tenacity, and/or perseverance in the performance of the

SEE AWARD CEREMONY, PAGE 11

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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BUSINESS



Roger Krone (left), Leidos Chairman and CEO, Dr. Constantine Stratakis, a senior investigator; and leadership staff of Leidos and The Children's Inn view the teleidoscope installed on The Children's Inn's playground to honor Leidos' contributions to the facility.

The Children's Inn At NIH honors Leidos

The Children's Inn at the National Institutes of Health recently honored Leidos for the company's longstanding commitment to helping provide "A Place Like Home" to families of children with rare or challenging illnesses participating in clinical trials at the NIH.

Since 2008, Leidos, a leading global science and technology solutions company focused on the defense, intelligence, homeland security, civil and health markets, has supported The Children's Inn through a series of donations adding up to more than \$1 million.

In 2011, after meeting Bubba, a child residing at The Children's Inn who wished for The Inn to have a new playground, Leidos made a \$825,000 pledge toward a new outdoor playground and park for The Inn. In 2012, Leidos executives and staff used hammers, nails and paintbrushes to put finishing touches on the new playground. Leidos Chairman and CEO Roger A. Krone and several members of his leadership team

recently visited The Children's Inn to tour the facility and outdoor playground, and see the teleidoscope – a kaleidoscope that can be used by two people at the same time – that was installed by The Children's Inn in honor of Leidos' contributions. The Inn's CEO led the tour with help from Dr. Constantine Stratakis, the scientific director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and Beth Maloney, a member of The Children's Inn's board of directors.

Leidos leadership staff who accompanied Krone included Jonathan Scholl, president of Leidos Health Group; Dr. David Heimbrook, CEO of Leidos Biomedical Research; Vicki Schmanske, deputy president of Leidos Health Group; Mike Eddings, vice president for program execution and surveillance with Leidos Health; Karoom Brown, senior vice president for Leidos Health strategy and business development; and Jerry Parsons, Leidos Health vice president.



Pictured beside the Leidos star are Jennie Lucca, CEO of The Children's Inn; and Roger Krone, Leidos chairman and chief executive officer. The star was recently added to the wall honoring donors that have contributed more than \$1 million to The Children's Inn.

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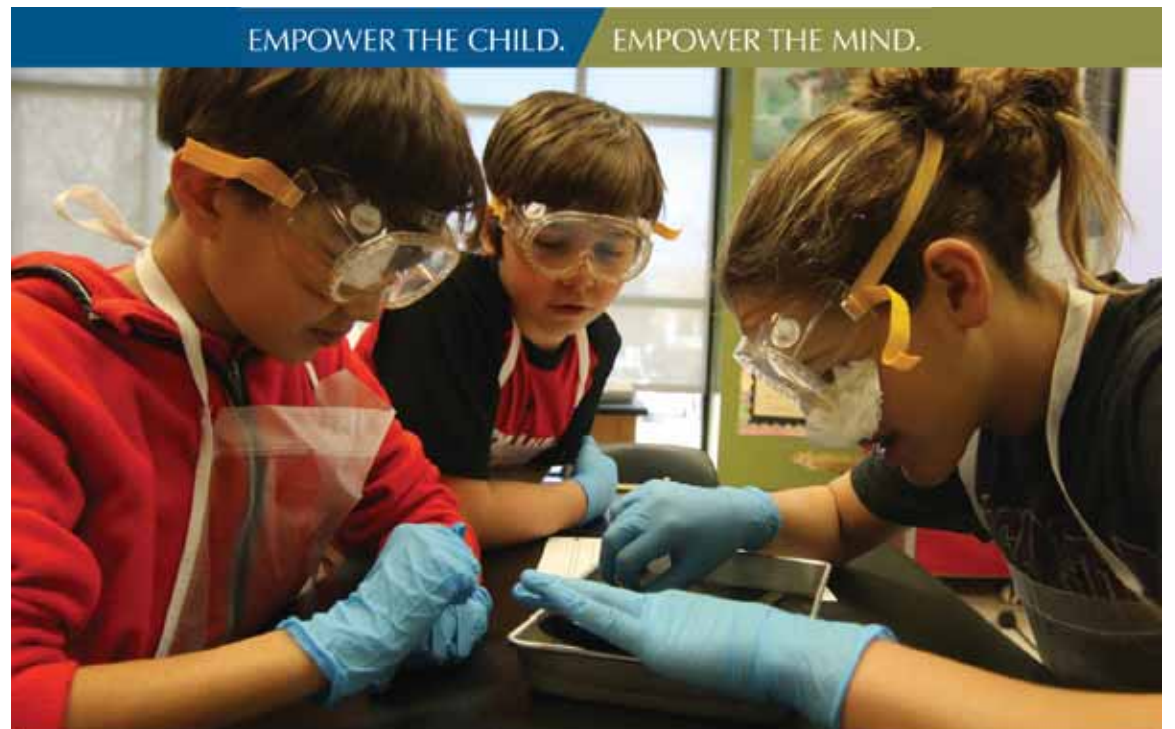
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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

The Three Billy Goats Gruff. Various times through April 30 at the Puppet Co. Playhouse 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo Park. Three variety numbers precede the performance, demonstrating the making of a simple hand puppet, and manipulation of rod puppets and marionettes, as an introduction to the art of puppetry. Visit www.thepuppetco.org for more.

Tally Ho Toastmaster's Club. First and third Mondays each month, 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road.

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 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.

VisArts Cocktails and Canvas Class. at VisArts in the Painting &



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Angela Lavelle in concert, Thursday, April 27, 7-10:30 p.m. in Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Call 301-983-8838 for more.

Drawing Studio, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Price \$40. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/cocktails-and-canvas for more.

Thang Ta. Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. at Sutradhar Institute of Dance and Related Arts, 1525 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring. Learn the ancient art of the sword and spear. \$25. www.dancesidra.org.

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

Weekly Swing Dance. Saturdays, 8 p.m.-midnight. The DC Lindy Exchange presents a swing dance with live music in the Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo.

Beginner swing dance lesson at 8 p.m., followed by dancing. Admission \$16-\$18, age 17 and under \$12. www.glenechopark.org.

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

Contra and Square Dance. Fridays and Sundays 7-10:30 p.m. in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. The evening can include square dances, mixers, waltzes and other couple dances. All

EASTER EVENTS

THURSDAY/APRIL 13

Maundy Thursday. 6:30 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road. Potluck supper with foot-washing liturgy. Visit stjamespotomac.org or call 301-762-8040.

FRIDAY/APRIL 14

Good Friday. 7:30 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road. Visit stjamespotomac.org or call 301-762-8040.

SUNDAY/APRIL 16

Easter Sunday Services. 8 and 10:30 a.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road. Visit stjamespotomac.org or call 301-762-8040.

Contra and Square dances are taught, no partner necessary. Lessons at 7 p.m., followed by the called dance with live music at 7:30. \$13 for nonmembers, \$10 for FSGW members, \$5 ages 17 and under. www.glenechopark.org, 301-634-2222.

Late Night Comedy. Fridays (open mic night) and Saturdays (established comedians) at Benny's Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. Benny's is open 8 a.m.-1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. www.BennysBarGrill.com.

Drop in Art Activities. Every Saturday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Candy Corner Studio at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., parents and children can explore a new art form or theme. \$10/child, parent combo. Drop-in only. www.pgip.org.

Mommy & Me (& Daddy, Too). Third Tuesday each month. 10 a.m. at Rockville Town Square. Meet for a morning out with active learning and creative play with lunch specials, story time, arts and crafts, sing-alongs, prizes and more.

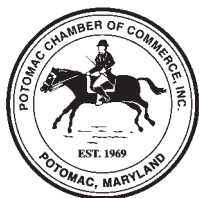
rockvilletownsquare.com/events/mommy-and-me.

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

Chocolate Factory Tours. Fridays and Saturdays, 2-5:45 p.m. at SPAGNVOLA Chocolatier, 360 Main St., Gaithersburg. Take a short tour of The Truffle Factory facilities. Free. www.spagnvola.com.

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

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



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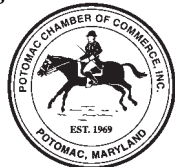
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ENTERTAINMENT

Anderson. Free. Visit www.silverworksglenechopark.com.
Art Glass Center at Glen Echo. All day Wednesdays; Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sundays, noon-4 p.m. Art Glass Center, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Ongoing exhibitions feature work of resident artists. Sculpture, vessels, functional art and jewelry for sale. Classes are taught year-round for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. Visit www.artglasscenteratglenecho.org for more.

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

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

Potomac Games Group. Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. at Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. The world is in the midst of a Golden Age of new board and card games for players of all ages. Free. Contact event host Randy Hoffman at 412-983-5411 or wrandyhoffman@gmail.com.

Strathmore Launches Food, Beverage Program. Partnership kicks off 2017 focusing on creative, upscale bar cuisine, sharable drinks, expanded service with Ridgewells. For additional information or to purchase tickets, visit www.ampbystrathmore.com or call 301-581-5100.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

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

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

STARTING IN APRIL

2017 Canal Boat Excursions Season Opens. At Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. April-October, Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. June-August, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. To confirm the boat ride for your visit, call 301-767-3714 for details as special circumstances may affect this schedule. Prices: \$8 for adults (ages 16-61), \$6 for seniors (ages 62+), and \$5 for children (ages 4-15). Children aged three and under ride free. In addition to the boat fee, there is an entrance fee to the park of \$10.00 per single vehicle.

DEADLINE APRIL 15

"Students Making History" Contest. High school students from Maryland, D.C., Virginia, and West Virginia are invited to submit a research paper or artistic illustration on the theme "African American and Women's History on the C&O Canal." for the chance to win a scholarship. Students must be willing to have their research shared within the park and published on social media and the park's website. Visit www.nps.gov/choh/learn/education/



Dance Festival

The 8th annual Israeli Dance Festival DC will take place on Sunday, May 14, at 3 p.m. at the Melvin J Berman Hebrew Academy, 13300 Arctic Ave., Rockville. The festival showcases D.C.-area dance groups comprised of young children dancing in their first festival to veterans of many performances. Though their ages span several decades, they are united in their love for Israeli dance and what it represents: the rich tapestry of Israeli culture, and the music and movements that show connections among people of different ages, countries of origins, and backgrounds. Special guest performance by Shiluv from Boston. Visit www.israelidancefestivaldc.com for more.

[students-making-history.htm](#) or email cocanaleducation@nps.gov.

APRIL 13-MAY 4

Skills Class. 7-10 p.m. at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. "Lighting Like Caravaggio with Frank Van Riper," class. Lighting master Frank Van Riper will teach students how to create still lifes and portraits. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 14

Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Archetypes of Femininity art show from April 11-May 6, meet the artist on Saturdays during the show from 1-3 p.m. Visit www.ianculescu.com or call 301-951-9441 for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 15

Sarah Sullivan and the Old Fashioneds. 8-11:59 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Swing dancing, beginner swing lesson with Tom and Debra 8-9 p.m., dance 9 p.m.-midnight. \$20 at the door; \$15 for ages 11-17. Email Debra@gottaswing.com for more.

Rob Patrick Concert. 7-11 p.m. in Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Call 301-983-8838 for more.

APRIL 15-MAY 20

Vision Class. 9:30-11:30 a.m. at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Spring meet and shoot with Photoworks Faculty, shoot at four different locations with a Photoworks faculty member. \$65 per session, \$300 for five sessions. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 16

Waltz Workshop. 2:45-3:30 p.m.-midnight at the Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. The ensemble Honeysuckle Rose will provide a mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 21-23

The Little Mermaid Jr. Various times at Herbert Hoover Middle School, 8810 Postoak Road, Potomac. A community musical with students and parents involved. Call 301-968-3740 for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 22

Canal Pride Days. 9 a.m.-noon at Great Falls in Potomac, 11710 MacArthur Blvd. Preserve historic buildings, improve Park grounds, remove invasive plant species, and more. Visit www.canaltrust.org.
Holistic Veterinarian Dr. Jordan Kocen. 1:30-3:30 p.m. 7300 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda. At this workshop, Dr. Jordan Kocen of Veterinary Holistic Center, will explain what holistic care is and how it could help prevent, heal, or reduce the discomfort of various medical issues your pet may face. Free workshop. Visit yourdogsfriend.org/free-workshops/ or call 301-983-5913.

APRIL 22-23

Pictures at an Exhibition. Saturday, April 22, at 8 p.m., and Sunday, April 23, at 3 p.m. at Strathmore 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda.

The National Philharmonic features Modest Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition." Visit www.strathmore.org/ for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 23

Garden Photography Presentation. 2-4 p.m. Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. The Play of Light and Shadow, The Magi of Garden Photography by Sarah Hood Salomon. Call 301-951-9441 for more.

TUESDAY/APRIL 25

Networking Event. 4-6 p.m. at 10801 MacArthur Blvd. Potomac Chamber of Commerce and Old Angler's Inn sponsoring and providing hors d'ouerves. Potomac Chamber members \$10, non-members \$15. Call 301-299-2170 or email Jennifer@potomacpizza.com for more.

Meet the Author. 7 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Linda Lear will highlight her book "Beatrix Potter: A Life in Nature" for the Potomac Village Garden Club and The Friends of the Library (Potomac Chapter). Visit www.LindaLear.com or call 240-777-0690 for more.

THURSDAY/APRIL 27

Angela Lavelle Concert. 7-10:30 p.m. in Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Call 301-983-8838 for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 29

Mountain Dulcimers of Northern Virginia. 12:30-3 p.m. at Great Falls Tavern, 11710 MacArthur Blvd. Visitors may also try their hand at playing a hammered dulcimer, percussion instruments, or simply sing

along. Free concert but there is an entrance fee to the Park of \$10.00 per single vehicle. Call 301-767-3714 for more.

"An Evening with Strauss" Waltz Ball. 8 p.m.-midnight at the Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Waltz Time presents the 34th Annual Evening with Strauss Waltz Ball, featuring Viennese and other waltzes in the beautiful Spanish Ballroom. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 7

Waltz Workshop. 2:45-3:30 p.m. workshop, 3:30-6 p.m. dance at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The 45-minute dance lesson begins at 2:45 p.m. with a half-hour introductory Waltz workshop and a more advanced move presented the last 15 minutes. Social dancing follows until 6 pm. Admission is \$10. No partner required. Call 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 19

Bike to Work Day 2017. Registration — now open — is free and open to anyone who commutes in the region, from first timers to daily cyclists. All registrants will be entered in a regional bicycle raffle, and the first 16,000 to register and attend will receive a free t-shirt at one of more than 85 pit-stops throughout Northern Virginia. Participants can register online at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org. Email Megan Goodman at mgoodman@mwccog.org, or call 202-962-3209 for more.

Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

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2 12220 Stoney Creek Road — \$2,800,000



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1 9001 DURHAM DR	5	..	6	..	2	POTOMAC	..	\$3,650,000	Detached	2.88	20854	BRADLEY FARMS	02/01/17
2 12220 STONEY CREEK RD	7	..	9	..	0	.....	POTOMAC	..	\$2,800,000	....	Detached	21.38	.....	20854	.....	POTOMAC	.....	02/24/17
3 8604 YORK MANOR WAY	6	..	6	..	3	POTOMAC	..	\$2,670,000	Detached	2.00	20854	AVENEL	02/23/17
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5 10130 DARMUID GREEN DR ..	5	..	5	..	2	POTOMAC	..	\$1,862,000	Detached	2.23	20854	MAZZA WOODS	02/03/17
6 11541 TWINING LN	6	..	8	..	2	.....	POTOMAC	..	\$1,420,000	....	Detached	0.87	.....	20854	.....	GLEN MILL VILLAGE	.....	02/24/17
7 10 WINTERSET CT	4	..	4	..	1	.....	POTOMAC	..	\$1,225,000	....	Detached	0.77	.....	20854	.....	WINTERSET	.....	02/17/17
8 7705 HACKAMORE DR	4	..	2	..	2	POTOMAC	..	\$1,165,000	Detached	0.34	20854	RIVER FALLS	02/01/17

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Easter Table Design Ideas

Local tastemakers offer spring table setting and centerpiece ideas.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The arrival of spring offers fresh inspiration for table setting and home décor, say local designers. “What’s really beautiful about spring is that there is such natural beauty outside,” said Amanda Mertins, co-owner of Patina Polished Living in Old Town Alexandria. “Everything comes to life in spring. It’s all so fresh, you don’t have to do anything too contrived because decorations present themselves naturally with lovely daffodils and hyacinths. Pastel colored eggs are also part of the scene. You can combine the natural elements with the givens like eggs and bunnies.”

“Trim a few branches from a flowering bush or tree,” said Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke, Virginia. “If you have tulips or daffodils, harvest some and make your own bouquet or place single stems in bud vases.”

“You can’t beat the amazing color display that’s going on outside right now,” added Anne M. Walker of Anne Walker Design in Potomac, Maryland.

“The deep magenta blossoms of the Redbud trees combined with the chartreuse color of the budding tree leaves and new grasses makes my heart skip a beat. Bring these vibrant greens and purples into your house any way you can: fresh flowers, throw pillows, candles. A little touch of coral is welcome now and is a wonderful harbinger of the warmer days ahead.”

For a simple Easter centerpiece start with a tray, advises Thomas. “Cover the bottom with Easter grass or faux moss,” she said. “Place a potted plant or bouquet in the center with decorative Easter eggs nestled in the grass around it. Add a bunny or two and you have a cohesive centerpiece that is easy to move if necessary.”

Small accent pieces can have a big impact on table settings. “Make the table more festive by having place cards at each setting,” said Kelley Proxmire, principal at Kelley Proxmire, Inc. “Make each setting a little bit more special by putting individual small flower



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLEY PROXMIRE, INC

Designer Kelley Proxmire uses individual small flower arrangements to personalize the table setting in this Vienna, Virginia home.

arrangements, or perhaps an Easter candy at each place.

To create a sophisticated display, Walker advises forgoing traditional pastel colors and Easter eggs in lieu of vintage white décor. “[Home accessory stores] will all have decorating treasures, and they should be at deeply discounted prices this week,” she said.

Mertins creates an “Easter tree” decorated with hand-blown, hand-painted eggs. “They’re from Austria and they’re really like works of art,” she said. “You can hang these eggs from budding branches like those in a Forsythia [shrub] with green leaves and buds.”

Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living creates an Easter tree with hand-painted eggs.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATINA POLISHED LIVING

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News

Award Ceremony

FROM PAGE 4

employee's duties has resulted in the protection of life or property, the prevention of a major crime, or the apprehension of an armed and dangerous criminal.

Commendation Recipients:

❖ **Corporal Raymond Bennett, POIII Nicholas Bonturi, POIII Bassell Ifield, and POIII James Walls** — Officers attempted to stop a vehicle driven by a suspect involved in a conspiracy to commit murder. The vehicle fled at a high rate of speed and crashed into trees on Emory Lane. The officers who responded to the collision observed smoke coming from the vehicle and reacting quickly, safely removed the three individuals from the vehicle just as the car became completely engulfed in fire.

❖ **Corporal Bill Tran and Sergeant Edward Wilcher** — Officers responded to a first-degree assault. The officers located and arrested the suspects and recovered a semi-automatic handgun from the suspects' possession. The gun had been stolen in a recent residential burglary.

❖ **Police Officer III Andrew Byrd, Police Officer III Andrew Curran, and Police Officer III Laura Nichols** — Officers received a Commendation for their roles during an incident that involved a suicidal individual with a handgun. Upon arriving at the location, the officers found the person in his vehicle. The individual advised the officers that he had a loaded handgun and additional firearms in the trunk of his vehicle. Over the course of approximately 30 minutes, the officers were able to convince the individual to surrender his handgun and exit his vehicle.

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THURSDAY/APRIL 13

Maundy Thursday. 6:30 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road. Potluck supper with foot-washing liturgy. Visit stjamespotomac.org or call 301-762-8040.

FRIDAY/APRIL 14

Good Friday. 7:30 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road. Visit stjamespotomac.org or call 301-762-8040.

SUNDAY/APRIL 16

Easter Sunday Services. 8 and 10:30 a.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road. Visit stjamespotomac.org or call 301-762-8040.

THURSDAY/APRIL 20

Potomac Community Village Speaker. 7-9 p.m. at the Bolger Center, Franklin Building, 9600 Newbridge Drive. Jennifer Brown's presentation "A Hospital Stay in Your Future? Preparing for a Successful Recovery and Transition Home." Visit www.potomaccommunityvillage.org/ for more.

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.

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Exercising A Demon



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Last night, between 9:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m., I traveled back in time — without leaving my bedroom and without the use of a Time Machine. I went back approximately 41 years to the fall of '73, to my sophomore year in college at The University of Maryland. A group of us decided to go see one of the most talked about movies of the year: "The Exorcist." Talked about because it was filmed locally here in Georgetown and because it was said to be scary as h---.

I believe we saw the movie at the old KB Cinema located on Wisconsin Ave., NW, adjacent to Rodmans. I could be wrong but there's no one to ask, so you'll just have to take my word for it. I remember little else about the evening, other than my return back to my dorm room, #103, at Cumberland Hall in College Park. Though I had a roommate, he had gone home for the weekend so I was all alone. And that is what I remember most, closing the door, shutting off the lights, sitting on my bed and staring into the darkness and seeing Linda Blair's face (from the movie) and being extremely uncomfortable being by myself so soon after having seen the movie. I had a difficult night. I don't remember if I had any nightmares however, but, it was a miserable experience trying to fall asleep. I have not seen "The Exorcist" a second time, in its entirety or in any pieces until last night, despite it being a movie readily available on cable, especially around Halloween.

I would say I saw the last 45 minutes. I saw Linda Blair tied up in her bed. I saw Linda Blair turn her head completely around. I saw projectile vomiting from her mouth. I saw her fiery, yellow eyes and her face all torn up with scars and scabs. I saw her bed shake. I saw her bed levitate. I heard the demon inside her growl, screech, curse and speak backwards and verbally attack all the priests held sacred. I heard the bells chiming in the movie score. I saw plenty but not enough to justify the fear that engulfed me all those many years ago. Having watched the movie again (and having slept peacefully through the evening), it almost feels as if I've survived a rite of passage somehow, faced off against my past and come out reasonably healthy — all things not considered.

Nevertheless, I have no interest in seeing "scary" movies. I guess I don't see the point or rather the point pales in comparison to the fact that I've been diagnosed with cancer: now that's scary. Moreover, having lived over 40 years since having seen "The Exorcist," a few other scary things have happened in life which places a movie in context; it's only celluloid (sort of), it's not real. So I've learned a few things and probably unlearned a lot more. I wouldn't say watching the movie tonight was an epiphany-type moment when the light came on and I realized what I had been missing or perhaps realized what I've been getting. Granted, it's only a movie, and one that's over 40 years old, but it's a movie/experience/ affect that had stuck with me for a long time, and now I'm free of its tentacles.

It reminds of another movie I saw as a young boy, when I was under 10 years old, it scared the h--- out of me and did give me nightmares: "Invaders From Mars," released in 1953. The Martians landed in a field just within view from a little boy's bedroom window in his family's farmhouse. I remember his wide eyes at seeing the light off in the distance. I remember the music. I remember the Martians having a device that made the ground disappear and then reform. I remember the Martian leader's head being carried around in a goldfish-type bowl of something. I don't remember the plot. I just remember being frightened. It wasn't until "The Exorcist" 15 or so years later that I had been similarly scared. And it wasn't until 35 years after seeing "The Exorcist" when I was once again so scared that I had trouble sleeping, and had nightmares, and experienced everything else associated with fear that your life may actually be coming to an end: my non-small cell lung cancer diagnosis in late February 2009. Having survived more than a few years now past my original "13 month to two-year" prognosis, maybe I am ready to go see another scary movie? After all, I could probably use the diversion.

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

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