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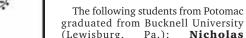


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News



'Blue Ribbon Bison Burger'

Chef Tom Hughbanks recently entered his "Blue Ribbon Bison Burger" in The Blended Burger Project competition that concludes July 31. Chef Tom, as he is known as, has a burger that is "a blend of grassfed bison with umami-rich, chanterelle and morel mushrooms, topped with crisp, fried baby kale, peppered bacon, saga bleu cheese and finished with a smoked tomato jam and a savory black truffle aioli on a freshly toasted ciabatta," according to the Blended Burger description. Chef Tom's burger will be featured on the Harvest Plates & Pints menu in Gaithersburg until online voting ends on July 31. The top 5 finalists are invited to the James Beard House in New York City to compete head-to-head for a panel of judges.

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to almanac@ connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

Sameena Kaur, of Potomac, graduated from American University of Antigua College of Medicine. Kaur has been matched at Eastern Virginia Medical School with a residency in Internal Medicine.

Alexandra Tauberman, of Potomac, was named to the University of Vermont (Burlington, Vt.) dean's list.

The following students made the dean's list for the spring 2017 semester at James Madison University (Harrisonburg, Va.):

- * Kathryn Kunkle, of Potomac, who is majoring in theatre and is scheduled to graduate in 2018.
- Justin Arnold, of Potomac, who is majoring in geographic science and is scheduled to graduate in 2017.
- **❖ Janie Jacobs**, of Potomac, who is majoring in communication sciences and disorders and is scheduled to graduate in 2017.

Thomas Oggier, of Potomac, has been named to the 2017 spring semester dean's list at Ohio Wesleyan University (Delaware, Ohio).

graduated from Bucknell University (Lewisburg, Pa.): Nicholas Barpoulis, Duncan Botti, Ayesha Lilaoonwala,

Katherine Lunceford, Crispin Muessle and Caroline Slowinski.

The following students from Potomac graduated from Colby College (Waterville, Maine):

- * Caroline M. Dove, who majored in government, attended Potomac School and is the daughter of Robert and Nancy Katherine Dove of Potomac.
- * John D. Sears, who majored in environmental science and biology with a concentration in cell and molecular biology/biochemistry, attended Landon School and is the son of Edward and Laurie Sears of Potomac.
- **Tric S. Walton**, who majored in environmental policy, attended Walt Whitman High School and is the son of Kevin Walton and Lisa Sha of Bethesda.

Charlotte Vitak, of Potomac, earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of San Diego.

Shannon Sweeney, of Potomac, graduated from The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Science in education

Grace Visticam, of Potomac, graduated from The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Science in human environmental sci-

Caitlin Weis, of Potomac, graduated from The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Science in human environmental sci-

Anna Panyutin, of Potomac, received a B.S. in biology from Loyola University Maryland.

News

Join Autism Speaks 5K Fundraiser

17th annual race and fun walk starts and ends at Potomac Library.

By Susan Belford The Almanac

fter her two-year-old nephew's diagnosis with autism 17 years ago, Potomac's Susan Pereles knew she had to become a catalyst for raising funds for autism research. Some people might donate money, attend a ball, or sponsor a dinner — but not Pereles. Her dream was to raise significant funding for autism research to find a cure for this difficult disease.

She rounded up friends, built teams, publicized the first Cure Autism Now Race and Fun Run – and through tireless work and dedication, she raised \$100,000 the first year. Elated, but determined to do more, Pereles joined the staff of Autism Speaks and now serves as the director of field development. Cure Autism Now and Autism Speaks have merged.

On July 4, the Village of Potomac will host for the 17th time, the annual Autism Speaks 5K Race and Fun Walk. The Race/Walk begins and ends at the Potomac Library and will draw more than 1,500 racers, walkers and families committed to the cause.

"We have runners, walkers, families and teams that return year-after-year to take part in the event. Of the 90 teams registered, 50 of them have competed previously. Seventy percent have someone in the family or circle of friendship that is affected by autism," Pereles said.

Last year, the race goal was \$250,000 and \$268,000 was raised. "We are hoping to equal or top that number this year," she said. "Registration has been excellent and we have more teams than ever before. It's a wonderful Potomac tradition now for families and individuals to start their July 4 celebration with the Autism Speaks Run/Walk. Many of our residents participate in the Run/Walk in Dewey Beach — or virtually from wherever they are. I am really excited about the shirt this year. Every year I worry but this year's is one of our best."



The Kerness Crew, led by Potomac's Jay Kerness, has been running and walking the Autism Speaks 5K for 12 years. The team was established in honor of his son Jack who is a 2017 graduate of the McLean School. Jack will be attending Shenandoah Conservatory in the fall. The team is now also supporting his nephew who is autistic.

"We are so fortunate that the Kerness Crew returns year after year to support this worthy cause," Kerness said. "It just wouldn't be July 4 without the camaraderie of the race. Our team members are mostly neighbors from Fox Hills West along with family members — the commitment of our team means so much to us. We raise about \$5,000 every year for Autism Speaks." Kerness runs the

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Jack and his friends usually carry the banner which leads the walkers.

Autism Speaks is a national organization which is "dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the lifespan, for the needs of individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of autism spectrum disorder; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions." A host of resources can be found at its website

www.autismspeaks.org.

One of the major problems facing the country is that 50,000 autistic youth are aging out of school services at the age of 21 or even 18, depending on the school system and skills of the young adult. Finding group homes, training and employment is challenging as is planning for the future of these young adults whose only caretakers have been parents and family. Marley Rave, the director of the Washington Capital Autism Speaks, said, "There is a tsunami of young adults with autism coming of age.

The face of autism is changing and we need to change the future for those adults. Families are saying — what happens now that the school bus stops coming? No

other 5K has had more participants across the nation — or raised more money.

However, the annual cost to a family of an autistic child is \$60,000 a year — and how can most families support these costs?"

Sign up for this race as an individual, create or join a team, or make a donation to Autism Speaks. Registration and details for the 2017 Autism Speaks 5K/Fun Walk are available on-line at http://act.autismspeaks.org/site/TR/TeamUp/TeamUp?fr_id=3100&pg=entry. The race begins at 8 a.m. with the 1 mile Fun Walk at 8:10 a m

The fee is \$40 until July 3, \$45 on July 4. Arrive 30 minutes early if registering on July



Participants are ready on the starting line.

New Farmers Market Opens

More vendors are expected in next few weeks.

By Peggy McEwan The Almanac

otomac residents have a new farmers market for their farm-to-table shopping this summer. Opening for the first time Thursday, June 15, was the market at Cabin John Shopping Center at the corner of Seven Locks Road and Tuckerman Lane.

Customers arrived slowly but the pace was steady. Many shoppers said they did not know about the market, others said they had heard it was going to open and were there to see what was available.

Gaby Massie, of Potomac, said she saw an announcement of the market online. She was buying fresh vegetables with her children, Ana, 8, and Nicolas, 4.

"I love the fact that it's here," she

Amanda Elliott, of Rockville, on the other hand, was surprised to see the market set up in the corner of the center's front parking lot. She and Adolfo Ferrario, of Rockville, were not shopping, just looking.

"We actually just drove into it," Elliott said. "We were grabbing dinner in the shopping center and we saw it and thought we'd stop by."

On its first day — the Cabin John Shopping Center Farmers Market will be open every Thursday from 3-7 p.m. until the last Thursday in September — the market had six vendors.

Metropolitain Baking Company of D.C. sold fresh baked breads plus flavored croissants; Richfield Farm, from Manchester, Md., had a selection of field greens, lettuces, vegetables and cut flowers. Mark Ross of Metro Microgreens from Rockville was busy explaining his crop, which look somewhat like sprouts, to shoppers.

"They are miniature versions of vegetables, grown hydroponically," he said. "You use it for flavor and nutrition."

He grows 15 varieties, he said, but only brought 12 to Thursday's market. Among the microgreens he had were broccoli, wasabi and cilantro and he offered samples.

Truck Patch Farms from New Windsor, Md. had a variety of meats for sale including bacon, sausage, pork chops and butts, chicken and eggs. They also had a variety of greens and some fresh fruits, including raspberries.

"We specialize in smoked bacon, and we don't use sprays or pesticides," said Stacia Hughley, who does marketing for the farm.

She was helped behind the counter by Jaime Barrera, who also does farm work, he said.

Paul Ednie ran the market operation for Groff's Content Farm in Rocky Ridge, Md. on Thursday. He explained that the farm's name is an original name for a land grant in the 1700s. When owners Bob and Julie Bolton purchased the farm, he said, they researched the former owners and when they discovered the history, decided to keep the name.

Ednie was selling meats and both chicken and duck eggs. His stand also sells products from Hillside Pastures and Peacy Family Goat Dairy.

He was happy with the opening day response.

"I've got a lot of positive response," he said. "People saying thanks for coming."

More vendors are expected in the next few weeks, said Donne Malloy, the market master. Among those are Michelle's Bakery, which, Malloy said, specializes in pies; Ruby Scoops, selling ice cream and sorbets; Ivy City Smokehouse with fresh seafood, and, she hopes, an



Customers look at bread offerings sold by Metropolitain Baking Company at the Cabin John Shopping Center Farmers Market on Thursday.

orchard.

Malloy said that Edens, which bought the shopping center in December 2015, wanted a farmers market in the space and contacted her to make it happen. Halfway through the first session she said it was going well.

"Everybody's been happy," she nity has," she said.

said. "People are thrilled they have a market in their neighborhood."

Linda Cohen, of Potomac, said she came to the market just to look but will definitely come back.

Beth Sheer, of Potomac, was happy about the farmers market.

"I think it's a need the community has," she said.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Pre-trip Vehicle Safety Check

To the Editor:

Summer road trip season is here and AAA expects to receive calls from over seven million stranded motorists experiencing car trouble this summer. The majority of issues the travel group anticipates will cause car problems, such as dead batteries and flat tires, can be prevented with a pre-trip vehicle inspection.

Whether you do it yourself or visit a trusted professional technician, a pre-trip vehicle check

will give you peace of mind and provide the opportunity to make any necessary repairs before you hit the road.

Before leaving home, check the battery, tires, wipers and lighting, HVAC system and fluids including engine oil, power steering, brake and transmission fluids as well as washer solvent and coolant. The Car Care Council also recommends inspecting the brake system and performing a tune-up to help the engine deliver the best balance of power and fuel economy.

To be prepared for an unplanned roadside emergency, remember to fully charge cell phones before you go and bring along a vehicle emergency kit, including jumper cables, emergency flares, first-aid kit, flashlight with extra batteries, bottled water, non-perishable food items and blankets. Keep a copy of the Car Care Council's Car Care Guide in your glove box.

Order a free copy online at www.carcare.org/car-care-guide.

Rich White

Executive Director Car Care Council Bethesda

POTOMAC ALMANAC

www.PotomacAlmanac.com

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4 ❖ POTOMAC ALMANAC ❖ JUNE 21-27, 2017

News

Perlis Re-Elected Potomac Community Village President,

New board members come on board.

otomac resident Barry Perlis has been re-elected President of local nonprofit Potomac Commu nity Village (PCV).

Other officers elected include:

- ❖ Vice President Joan Kahn, a professor of sociology at the University of Maryland;
- ❖ Vice President Jill Phillips, a co-owner with her husband John of the Squeals on Wheels Petting Zoo;
- * Treasurer Leonard Cahan, Rabbi Emeritus of Potomac's Congregation Har Shalom;
- ❖ Secretary Shirley Dominitz, one of the founders of Potomac Community Village;
- * Assistant Treasurer Owen Ritter, another PCV founder.



Barry Perlis



Joan Kahn



Jill Phillips



Leonard Cahan



Shirley Dominitz



Owen Ritter

New to PCV's board of directors this year are: Marla Cohen, who coordinates PCV's Help Desk; Meryl Cohen, who coordinates refreshments for meetings and also serves on the Program Team; Thalia Meltz, also a Program Team member, and Scott Brown and Eddie Rivas, both serving as at-large board members. The new term for PCV's officers and board starts

on July 1.

Potomac Community Village is a volunteer nonprofit group that provides social, educational and wellness activities with a mission of enabling Potomac residents to remain in their homes as they age, and be contributing members of our community. Members are linked with neighbors who provide assistance when needed with trans-

portation, computer problems, simple household chores and other services. Its service area is the 20854 zip code. PCV is part of a nation-wide movement of more than 450 Villages, with close to 60 in the Washington, D.C. area, of which 20 are in Montgomery County. For more information, www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org, or 240-221-1370.

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.

GUIDE DOG FOSTERS NEEDED Guiding Eyes for the Blind -

Montgomery Region is looking for volunteers to foster and train future guide dogs. Volunteers will foster a specially bred guide dog for 14 months, attend bi-monthly training classes, and teach the pup house manners, people skills and socialization within the community. Dog crates, training equipment and monthly medications are provided. Contact Margie Coccodrilli at 301-869-2216 or gebraiser@comcast.net or visit www.guidingeyes-md.org.

DATES FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

The Montgomery County school year will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017, and the last day of school will be no later than Friday, June 15, 2018.

MONDAY/JUNE 26

Separation and Divorce Seminar. -8:30 at Rockville Public Library, 21

Maryland Ave., Rockville. Local attorneys walk through the "ins" and "outs" of going through a separation and divorce in Maryland. Learn about: Methods of Dispute Resolution, When and Where to File, Types of Divorce and Grounds, Financial Statements, Alimony, Property and Equitable Distribution, Role of the Attorney, and Domestic Violence/Orders of Protection

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at www.eventbrite.com/e/ separation-and-divorce-what-do-ineed-to-know-tickets-32058023411.

THURSDAY/JUNE 29

National Library of Medicine Visit. 6-7 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11







Programs include inspirational music, meditation, spiritual discourse, and personal blessings

July 4- FREE PROGRAM 10:00am, morning program 7:30pm, evening program

July 5- FREE PROGRAM 10:00am, morning program

July 5-DEVI BHAVA FREE PROGRAM

A celebration devoted to world peace Program begins at 7:00pm

LOCATION

Crystal Gateway Marriott 1700 Jefferson Davis Hwy Arlington, VA 22202

PARKING / TRANSPORTATION

\$15.00 Hotel Parking (free parking available after 4pm at neighboring lots) Crystal City Metro .02mi Free shuttle to and from Reagan National Airport

For info about Amma's charities visit embracingtheworld.org

PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE AT LEAST 90 MINUTES REFORE THE PROGRAM TO RECEIVE A FREE TOKEN IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AMMA'S EMBRACE, TOKENS MAY BE LIMITED BY TIME CONSTRAINTS.

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Publishes: July 26, 2017 · Ads close: July 19, 2017

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets. Reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention.

The Pet Connection will publish on July 26, 2017, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 19. We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, tales of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults.

Find more information about submissions online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

For advertising information, call 703.778.9431 or Email SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM for more specials, digital advertising options and pricing.



Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

Recognizing that a mentoring relationship is not usually a relationship of equals is an important aspect

Education Learning Fun



The Women in Search of Excellence (WISE) **Mentoring** Program run by Northern Virginia Community College is designed to address challenges faced by young women in higher education.

HOTO COURTESY OF orthern Virginia COMMUNITY College

Finding the Right Mentor

A mentor can brighten a young person's future.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

amyka Mason says that she was struggling with academics, finances and time management. She knew that she needed to make a change, but didn't have a source for guidance. Mason discovered the Women in Search of Excellence (WISE) Mentoring Program run by Northern Virginia Community College and her life began to change.

"When I joined WISE, [I] was assigned [a] mentor and learned how to speak about the challenges I was facing and the goals I had," said Mason. "[My mentor] helped me dramatically ... plan for future events."

The upcoming summer months offer teens an opportunity to connect with adults other than parents who can offer guidance through mentorship programs. Finding the right mentoring match can be a life-altering experience, say experts.

"Through supportive relationships with adult mentors, teens can learn how to develop practical goals, identify resources to accomplish goals ... regulate emotions, communicate effectively with others and cope better with stress," said Jerome Short, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology at George Mason

The Virginia Mentoring Partnership (VMP) is a source for those who are looking for a mentor or those who want to mentor others. The organization's program managers train mentoring program coordinators and mentors. Their goal is to increase the number and quality of mentoring programs in Virginia. VMP maintains a database where prospective mentors or mentees can plug in a ZIP code and find the closest mentoring program.

"We provide support across the State of Virginia to help align program practices that research shows make high quality mentorship programs," said Betsy screen and match mentors with young people using sponsive to guidance," said Best. "It is equally imthat set of standards."

Details

For more on Virginia Mentoring Partnership, visit vamentoring.org or connect.mentoring.org.

of mentorships, says Amy L. Best, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology at George Mason University. "There are really two types of mentors: those who provide guidance and willingly share knowledge they have accrued from their experience in the field," she said. "The second type are those who facilitate opportunity, vouching for someone or helping the person with points of contact in their area of interest. Both are important."

THE MENTORING RELATIONSHIP develops best when mentors listen to a young person's concerns and expectations [and] empathize and tailor support and skill building around the teen's needs and with their input, says Short. "The relationship should benefit both the mentor and the teen through expressions of gratitude, a sense of accomplishment, and expectations for future support and success."

Effective mentors are as interested as they are interesting and are forthcoming with accounts of their own struggles and the strategies they used to overcome them, says Best. "The best mentors listen first and then lead. It's not a one size fits all relationship," she said. "The best mentors are concrete in their guidance and work with attainable and flexible goals. [They] don't play favorites, but work to create an ethos of fairness and mutual respect."

Tykesha R. Myrick works as a financial aid manager at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and is the founder of the WISE program on campus. The program, which targets minority women, pairs students with adult professionals who offer guidance to the students, many of whom are the first in their families to attend college. "The relationships go beyond academic accomplishments and are life changing and life lasting," said Myrick. "The goal is to provide a holistic environment for these young women."

Mentorship programs such as WISE work best when those being mentored are receptive. "The [best] mentees [respect] the mentor's gift of time [and] recognize the importance of learning by listening and Bilharz, Virginia Mentoring Partnership. "We recruit, ask thoughtful questions, and they are open and re-

> portant to invest not simply in the best and brightest, but those with the smallest glimmer of promise. Good mentors move mountains."

Petition Supports Zoning Text Amendment

Nearby citizens groups continue to oppose construction of second structure at Old Anglers Inn.

> By Peggy McEwan The Almanac

everal Potomac community groups have reinvigorated their opposition to a new banquet facility on the property of Old Anglers Inn on MacArthur Boulevard by posting a petition asking County Council members to co-sponsor the zoning text amendment offered by Councilmembers Marc Elrich and Tom Hucker to restrict the location of "restaurants posing as country inns" in R-200 residential zones. They are asking local residents to sign in and voice their opposition on the website Change.org.

The groups — the Brickyard Coalition, River Falls Civic Association, Woodrock Civic Association, Civic Association of River Falls and West Montgomery County Citizens Association — also voiced their opposition to the project earlier this year before a February hearing of the matter by the county Zoning Board. At that time, the board recommended denying the application by Maryland Catering Company.

Though it was noted that the application "has merit," denial was based on the fact that additional information was needed.

Approval of the project, a 9,000-squarefoot special events venue, separate from the



Graphic from the Brickyard Coalition's petition on Change.org.

the zoning board from the property's current zoning designation of R-200 (residential) to conditional use (special exception).

According to the Montgomery County planning board website, Maryland Catering Company is seeking approval for a Country Inn on 6.36 acres of the 7.32 acre property. The proposal will include a twostory building designed to accommodate dining and banquet accommodations for about 240 guests including its own kitchen. It will also have four suites for overnight guests and 80 parking spaces.

In a letter published June 12 by Brickyard Coalition explaining its opposition to the facility community leaders wrote:

"... In 1967, the Montgomery County Council wisely prohibited any new restaurants in commercial zones. Yet, the applicant, Maryland Catering, is seeking to build

existing Inn, requires a change approved by a nearly 9,000-square-foot restaurant with a 95-car parking lot on this site along Macarthur Blvd. by calling it a country inn.

> "Importantly, the Potomac Master Plan clearly recommends this site be used for residential development, and not development as a restaurant or even as a country

> "Lastly, we believe this project could have a negative environmental impact on the C&O National Historic Canal Park. Traffic is already a serious safety issue with illegal parking on both sides of MacArthur Blvd. on weekends.

> "We have turned to the County Council for help in stopping this expanded definition of a country inn that would permit commercial restaurants in our residential neighborhoods throughout Montgomery County.

"Councilmembers Marc Elrich and Tom Hucker are co-sponsoring an amendment to the zoning ordinance (known as a "ZTA") which would restrict the placement of country inns in R-200 zoning. The ZTA would (I) require a country inn to be recommended by a master plan and (ii) increase the requirements for a rural location."

A country Inn is defined, by Montgomery County as "an establishment for dining in a rural area, that may include a maximum of 12 overnight guest rooms and the following subordinate uses: rural antique shops, handicrafts or art sales, equestrian related retail sales and service and recreational facilities primarily for the use of guests."

Mark Regis and his wife Sara are co-owners of Old Anglers Inn and principals of Maryland Catering Corporation, Inc.

In a February phone interview Mark Regis said he believes the country inn is a natural extension of what his family has provided at Angler's Inn for almost 60 years.

"I'm trying to create something that is a natural extension of what's here," he said. "It's going to have the same look and feel of the existing Angler's Inn. Most of the property will remain in its [present] natural state."

Since the June 12 letter, 193 people have signed the petition urging the County Council to co-sponsor ZTA. Council president Roger Berliner has signed his support as have members Sidney Katz and Craig Rice in addition to Elrich and Hucker.

The letter to council members, the petition, is short:

"Stop commercial restaurants in our residential neighborhoods

"Please co-sponsor and support the zoning text amendment offered by Councilmembers Elrich and Hucker to restrict the location of restaurants posing as country inns in R-200 residential zones. Restaurants belong in commercial zones, not our residential neighborhoods. Thanks."

Many of those who signed also noted why the petition matters to them.

Patricia Eng, of Potomac, wrote, "A 9,000 sf restaurant and 95 car parking lot does not belong among quiet residential neighborhoods and a historic park setting."

Amy Woitach, of Potomac, noted, "The area roads near Old Angler's Inn already exceed capacity. The traffic volume, in addition to the current illegal parking has already made the area unsafe for local residents. The additional influx from the proposed banquet facility will negatively impact our neighborhood."

John Basile, of Potomac, said, "This would have a negative impact on the River Falls residential community."

And Alison Lepard, of Bethesda, wrote, "The traffic associated with access to the National Park is already too heavy for the land. A large facility could further reduce access to the park during busy times. The small and windy road is unsafe for the additional traffic a large commercial facility would generate."

Most who wrote comments expressed concern about the traffic the facility would generate and its impact on the local neigh-



Ready for Summer Adventure

Park Rangers Joshua Nolen, Geoff Suiter, Alex Arnold, Patricia Miguel, and Michael Ehrenberg work on the canal boat at the C&O National Historic Park. The boat runs Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. through Labor Day.

Potomac REAL ESTATE



11732 Lake Potomac Drive — \$1,350,000



③ 9525 Accord Drive — \$1,120,000



4 9225 Cambridge Manor Court — \$1,250,000

3 10031 Chartwell Manor Court — \$1,280,000



6 7312 River Falls Drive — \$1,224,350

 Address
 BR FB HB . Postal City . Sold Price
 Type
 Lot AC . PostalCode
 Subdivision
 Date Sold

 1
 11732 LAKE POTOMAC DR . 6 . 6 . 0 ... POTOMAC .. \$1,350,000
 Detached ... 2.00 20854 ... BEALLMOUNT GROVE ... 04/07/17

 2
 9208 BELLS MILL RD 6 .. 5 . 2 ... POTOMAC .. \$1,332,500 ... Detached ... 0.46 ... 20854 ... BELL GLEN ... 04/13/17

 3
 10031 CHARTWELL MANOR CT .. 4 .. 4 . 1 ... POTOMAC .. \$1,280,000 ... Detached ... 0.23 ... 20854 ... AVENEL 04/18/17

 4
 9225 CAMBRIDGE MANOR CT ... 5 .. 4 . 1 ... POTOMAC .. \$1,250,000 ... Detached ... 0.63 ... 20854 ... POTOMAC OUTSIDE ... 04/28/17

 5
 10400 MASTERS TER 5 .. 4 . 1 ... POTOMAC .. \$1,225,000 ... Detached ... 0.36 ... 20854 ... RIVER FALLS ... 04/05/17

 6
 7312 RIVER FALLS DR ... 5 .. 4 . 1 ... POTOMAC .. \$1,224,350 ... Detached ... 0.36 ... 20854 ... RIVER FALLS ... 04/05/17

 7
 9431 SUNNYFIELD CT ... 4 .. 4 .. 4 ... POTOMAC .. \$1,140,000 ... Detached ... 0.38 ... 20854 ... BEDFORDSHIRE ... 04/26/17

 8
 9525 ACCORD DR ... 5 ... 3 ... 1 ... POTOMAC .. \$1,133,000 ... Detached ... 2.17 ... 20854 ... POTOMAC ... 04/18/17

 9
 7416 BRICKYARD RD ... 6 ... 4 ... 1 ... POTOMAC ... \$1,120,000 ... Detached ... 0.30 ... 20854 ... RIVER FALLS ... 04/03/17

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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

Art Exhibit. Artist Sandra Sedmak Engel has an exhibit through July 1 at the Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Visit waverlystreetgallery.com/ 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.

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 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. **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

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

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

Art Glass Center at Glen Echo. All day Wednesdays; Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Šaturdays, 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 yearround 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.

Potomac Games Group. Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. 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.

Textures in Glass Exhibit. Various times through June 3 at the Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Visit



www.creativeglassdesign.com for more.

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-

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.

Registration is Open. for Montgomery County Recreation and Montgomery Parks Summer Programs and Activities. Email ProgramAccess@MontgomeryParks.org. Visit www.MontgomeryParks.org/access for more.

Photography Class. 7-9:30 p.m. through July 12 at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Digital Printing II- Fine B/W and Color Printing class, six sessions. Visit glenechopark.org or call 301 320-1400 for more.

JUNE 19-AUG. 9

Toca Summer Soccer Camp. 6-8 p.m. at Avenel LP, 10051 Oaklyn Drive. Improving skills, making friends and staying fit. Email info@tocajuniors.com, or call 301-221-8305.

THURSDAY/JUNE 22

Out of Business Sale. 9 a.m. at Leila Fine Gifts & Jewels, 7737 Tuckerman Lane. Leila Jewels is liquidating everything in the store, including the fixtures, with prices listed at up to 50% off. Visit

www.LeilaJewels.com for more. **Señorita Sunshine's USO Show.** 1-2 p.m. at the Damascus Senior Center, 9701 Main St., Damascus. Variety show with different elements of surprise and intrigue. Free. Visit

ActiveMONTGOMERY.org or call 240-777-6995. **Bowling for Hope.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Bowlmor

Lanes Bethesda, 5353 Westbard Ave. Raising funds to support Hope Connections for Cancer Support's free programs for people affected by cancer in our community. In addition to bowling, a small silent auction; 50/50 raffle; Hands for Hope Social Media Launch. Tournament players (4-6 members per team) \$100 per person, others \$75 per person. Visit www.hopeconnectionsforcancer.org for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 24

Meditation Workshop. 11 a.m. at the at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. David Newcomb presents "Meditation: A Tool to Balance Your Life," connecting meditation and spiritual development. Free. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/ or call 240-777-0690 for more.

Montgomery Countryside Alliance Fair. 4-9 p.m. Boyds. Piano playing chicken plus a kid's music legend Barry Louis Polisar and Justin Trawick at Field and Fiddle. Farm address will follow ticket purchase. Email info@mocoalliance.org or call 301-461-9831

Opera and Musical Theater. 5 p.m. at Bethesda Presbyterian Church, 7611 Clarendon Road Bethesda. Presentation of Art Songs Recital and Opera to Pop Concert at 7:30 p.m. is part of the Bethesda Summer Music Festival (BSMF) promoting Opera and Musical Theater for children, grades 9-12, college students, and young emerging professionals. \$20, children free. Visit /www.bethesdapresbyterian.org/ or call 301-986-1137 for more.

Farm Fun

On Saturday, June 24, there's a Piano playing chicken, plus a children's music legend Barry Louis Polisar, and Justin Trawick at Field and Fiddle at the **Montgomery Countryside** Alliance Fair. 4-9 p.m. Boyds. Farm address will follow ticket purchase. Email info@mocoalliance.org or call 301-461-9831 for more.

Cardio 'n' Core. 7 p.m.-8 p.m. at the Damascus Community Recreation Center, 25520 Oak Drive, Damascus. Get fit through movement, stretching, and aerobics for your cardio and core. \$30. Visit ActiveMONTGOMERY.org under activity #34776 or call 240-777-6870 for more.

JUNE 24-25

Heritage Days 2017. Various times at 40 parks, museums, and historic sites all across Montgomery County open with free admission highlighting local history, culture, and outdoor recreation with live music, children's games and crafts, exhibits and demonstrations, and food. Visit www.HeritageMontgomery.org or call 301-515-0753 for more.

SUNDAY/JUNE 25

Waltz Dance. 2:45-3:30 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Introductory Waltz Workshop, first lessons until 3:30 followed by dance, band is Green Light Karma. \$10. Call 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org for more.

THURSDAY/JUNE 29

Cardio and Core. 7-8 p.m. at the Damascus Community Recreation Center, 25520 Oak Drive, Damascus. For ages 13 and up. Get fit through movement, stretching, and aerobics for your cardio and core and so much more. One staff to 10 participants. Cost \$30. Register online at ActiveMONTGOMERY.org under activity #34776.

FRIDAY/JUNE 30

Opera and Musical Theater. 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Presbyterian Church, 7611 Clarendon Road, Bethesda. Presentation of "Sweeney Todd" is part of the Bethesda Summer Music Festival (BSMF) promoting Opera and Musical Theater for children, grades 9-12, college students, and young emerging professionals. \$20, children free. Call 301-986-1137 or visit www.bethesdapresbyterian.org.

Movie on the Lawn. 8-10 p.m. at the Clara Barton Community Recreation Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd. Free. "The Lego Batman Movie," Visit ActiveMONTGOMERY.org or call 240-777-4910 for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 1

Opera and Musical Theater. "Sweeney Todd" at 2:30 p.m. and the "Magic Flute," at 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Presbyterian Church, 7611 Clarendon Road, Bethesda. Part of the Bethesda Summer Music Festival (BSMF) promoting Opera and Musical Theater for children, grades 9-12, college students, and young emerging professionals. \$20, children free. Visit www.bethesdapresbyterian.org/ or call 301-986-1137 for more.

TUESDAY/JULY 4

Autism Speaks 5K. 8 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Fundraiser for autism. Registration, packet pick up at 6:30 a.m. Call 202-955-3111 or email AutismSpeaks5K@ AutismSpeaks.org for more.



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News

Annual Church Picnic Supports Youth Mission

ore than 100 people attended St. Francis Episcopal Church's annual picnic on June 4 held at the church in Potomac that doubled as a fundraiser for a youth mission trip.

Children's games and a fundraising car wash were held outside.

The Youth mission trip, consisting of three adults and six students, departed June 18 for Greenville, S.C. under the leadership of Gaines Hurdle, one of the female chaperones, and Ken Hurdle. The youth will be helping to rebuild homes in the Greenville area damaged by the spring floods.



Pastor Allison Michael plays badminton with her sons at annual picnic June 4, in Potomac.



St. Francis Episcopal Church's annual picnic included a variety of children's games.

News Briefs

SafeTrack Affects Metro Stations

Metro's SafeTrack Surge 16 began June 17 and runs until Sunday, June 25. The surge will completely close the Shady Grove and Rockville Red Line stations.

Metro will provide shuttle bus service from the Shady Grove and Rockville stations, but is urging commuters to avoid the stations if possible, particularly during weekday, peak travel hours.

All Ride On bus service will remain unchanged during this surge. Each route will serve its normal destinations.

For more information, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/safetrack.

Recreation Earns Achievement Awards

The Montgomery County Department of Recreation (Rec) earned five 2017 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The awards recognize innovative county government programs. The Department of Recreation received five of the 16 NACo awards in the Parks and Recreation category.

100 Mile Challenge: The 100 Mile Challenge urges residents to walk, jog, or run 100 miles in 100 days from Jan. 21-April 29, 2017.

Twenty minutes of any continuous physical activity counts as one mile as well, expanding the types of exercise people can do to participate in the Challenge. Three hundred ninety individuals registered for the program, which includes kick-off and closing events.

Food, Fun, Fitness and Fundamentals: Food, Fun, Fitness and Fundamentals provides a free, full-day quality day care program, meals, snacks, swimming and academic support for children from qualified low-income families of the county on week-

days for six summer weeks. The program is sponsored by Rec in partnership with Adventist Community Health Care.

Chill: Chill is a youth development program for children between 10 and 18 years old from qualified low-income families. Once a week for six weeks, 40 students travel to Liberty Mountain Resort in Fairfield, Pa., for snowboarding, with all required equipment and instruction provided by the program. During each trip to the resort, students discuss a critical life lesson: respect, patience, persistence, courage, responsibility or pride. On the final day of the program, students discuss how the program made a difference in their lives. This program is a partnership between Rec and The Chill Foundation, a nonprofit arm of the Burton Snowboard Company.

Safe Walk Home: The Safe Walk Home program involves student volunteers from a local high school escorting elementary school students to their home after school. The program helps create a safe, bully-free environment, discourages risky and negative behavior, and allows the high school students to build relationships and mentor the younger students while ensuring they had a safe journey. The program was started by Rec in response to concerns of parents from the Montgomery Village community in Gaithersburg.

Tech Connect: Senior citizens are taught how to use electronic communications technology and social media by high school students through Tech Connect, a free program from Rec.

The high school students receive training from the Jewish Council for the Aging and are paid an hourly wage for their work. Both the seniors and student trainers gained valuable insight from the intergenerational experience.

For more information about Montgomery County Department of Recreation programs and services, visit www.montgomeryCountymd.gov/rec or call 240-777-6840.

Council Changes Ride On Fares

To keep Ride On bus fares consistent with rates approved by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), the County Council approved the following transit rate changes that will begin June 25. The new fares are:

- ❖ Ride On fare paid with SmarTrip Card, cash or token \$2
- ❖ Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer with SmarTrip Card \$1.50
- ❖ Route 70 bus fare paid with SmarTrip Card, cash, or token \$4.25
- ♦ Metrorail-to-Route 70 bus transfer with SmarTrip Card \$3.75
- Senior with identification card (except from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays and Saturdays, when free.)
- with SmarTrip Card, cash fare or token - \$1
- Metrorail-to-Ride On bus transfer (SmarTrip only) \$0.50
- Local bus transfer within 2 hours of initial trip (SmarTrip Card only) Free (no change)
- Senior with identification card for express Route 70 (except from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays, when free)
- with SmarTrip Card, cash fare or token - \$2.10
- Metrorail to Route 70 bus with SmarTrip Card \$1.60
- Local bus to Route 70 bus with SmarTrip Card \$1.10
- Boarding with weekly or monthly pass with SmarTrip Card \$1.10

Ride On's Monthly pass which allows for unlimited rides during the month, remains unchanged at \$45.

Also, the Summer Youth Cruiser pass, for those age 18 and younger, is good for unlimited rides on Ride On buses from June 1 – Aug. 31, for \$18.

Other rates that will remain the same:

❖ Kids Ride Free Program 2 to 8 p.m.

weekdays – Free

- ❖ VanGo Route 28 and Route 94 MARC shuttles Free
- ❖ Local bus-to-Route 70 bus transfer with SmarTrip Card \$2.25
- ♦ Boarding Route 70 with weekly or monthly pass \$2.25
- ❖ 'U' Pass (for Montgomery College students who pay the transportation fee) Free, except for express bus Route 70 \$2.25
- MetroAccess Certified and/or Conditional Customer with identification card Free
- MetroAccess companion of Certified and/or Conditional customer with identification card - Free
- ❖ Children under age 5 (limit two per paying passenger) Free
- ❖ Local bus to bus transfer (SmarTrip Card only, see transfer rules) Free
- * Metrobus regional weekly pass accepted on board Free (cost of the pass is unchanged at \$17.50)
- ❖ MARC weekly, monthly, TLC passes transfer to Ride On Free
- ❖ MTA Commuter Bus Pass transfer to Ride On Free
 - ❖ Youth Cruiser Pass \$11 per month
- ❖ Youth Cruiser SmarTrip Card (one-time fee) \$2
- ❖ 'C' Pass (for current county employees) Free
- Senior with identification card from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays and Saturday-Free

Beginning Saturday, Sept. 2, the hours for Seniors Ride Free are Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Seniors require identification card. Also, includes persons with disabilities who have identification cards. For more information about Ride On, go to www.rideonbus.com, call MC311 by dialing 311 from within the county, 240-777-0311 from outside the county, or use the MC311 website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/311.

BULLETIN

From Page 5

Glenolden Drive. The National Library of Medicine will present available NLM health information and caregiving resources for adults and caregivers. Call 240-777-0690 or email lisbeth.herer@montgomerycountymd.gov for

SUPPORT GROUPS

The Alzheimer's Association's Memory

Cafes offer a fun and relaxed way for people living with early-stage memory loss to get connected with one another through social events that promote interaction and companionship. The memory cafe in Rockville (4860 Boiling Brook Parkway) operates the third Wednesday of each month from 2:30-4 p.m. Preregistration is required. Contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 240-428-1342 or lvajpeyi@alz.org. **Suicide Grief Support Group.** At JSSA, 6123

Montrose Road, Rockville. This ongoing bereavement support group is for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. This group meets every first and third Monday. No charge. Pre-registration is required to attend. Call 301-

Because I Love You is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting parents of troubled children of any age. The group helps parents deal with drugs, runaways, truancy, verbal abuse, physical abuse, curfew violations and other misbehavior, as well as help parents deal with themselves, to manage and live their own lives without obsessing over their child's behavior. The group meets 7:30-9:30 every Thursday at Bethesda United Methodist Church Room 209, 8300 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Visit www.becauseilovevou.org, email hbrite1@netzero.com or call 301-530-3597.

Adult Bereavement Groups. Dates and times vary depending on group members. Hospice Care, 518 S. Fredrick Ave., Gaithersburg. Peer driven support groups in those in need of support. Free. Contact Penny Gladhill at 301-990-8904, or Pennyg@hospicecaring.org.

ONGOING

SUPPORT. Two county services can help residents find out more about services for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The Aging &Disability Resource Unit (ADRU), part of the Department of Health and Human Services, provides assistance, referrals to services and specific information to seniors, individuals with disabilities and caregivers by telephone and in-person. The Connect-A-Ride program provides information and referral for older adults and adults with disabilities about transportation options; including public, private and volunteer transportation services. In addition, the program assists callers with applications for programs such as the Escorted Transportation Program, Call-n-Ride and Metro Access. Language interpretation is available for both services. The Aging & Disability Resource Unit is open Monday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call the ADRU at 240-77 3000. The Connect-a-Ride program, funded by Montgomery County and operated by the Jewish Council for the Aging, is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Connect-a-Ride at 301-738-3252.

The Montgomery County Commission on **Common Ownership Communities** (CCOC) has launched a new online training program for common ownership community board members. Visit

www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/CCOC-Training.

Montgomery Parks is launching a new registration system, ActiveMONTGOMERY. The new system replaces ParkPASS and RecWeb, the two separate registration systems currently used by Montgomery Parks and Montgomery County Recreation, respectively. ActiveMontgomery provides one location, with just one username and password, for people to register for classes from either organization. Visit www.ActiveMontgomery.org.

ChildLink is a free County service provided by the Department of Health and Human Services, Early Childhood Services, which provides information, resources and referrals to residents with young children. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/childlink.

Reservations for Carderock Picnic Pavilion and Marsden Tract Group Campsites are now available online. Visit www.recreation.gov.



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Alan Amrhine, Communications Director Lutheran Mission Society

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EMPLOYMENT

Zone 5: Potomac Ad Deadline: Tuesday 11 a.m. • 301-778-9411

Admitting Clerk/Medical Records Position

Mclean Surgery Center is looking is looking for a positive, hardworking individual who can work well in a team environment. We are a small office, so we are looking for an all-around medical office person who can perform all business office functions; which includes front desk/registration, patient phone calls, and medical records. Ideal candidates would possess excellent customer service skill experience working within a medical/healthcare environment, ability to multitask with high degree of accuracy and efficiency, strong interpersonal skills in order to communicate by phone or email with patients, doctors and staff, Bilingual and understanding of HIPAA laws would be preferred. Hours would be from 7:30 – 4:00PM. This is a great opportunity for the right person. If interested and feel you are qualified, please submit your resume to Dottie: dseesley@mcleansc.com

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CONNECTION

Relatively Speaking



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If you live long enough, it's quite likely that many of the family members/generations born before you will have predeceased you. Moreover, the family members born before them, two generations-plus behind, are most surely to be geshtorbin (Yiddish for dead) as well. The effect: memory loss. Specifically, the memories lost of a generation of great grandparents – and beyond, you probably never knew or for whom you have extremely limited knowledge; after all, you were an infant when your maternal grandmother died. And when your widowed mother died nearly nine years ago, you lost what may very well have been that final anecdotal connection to your family's history, especially if your Jewish and your grandparents immigrated from Russia, Romania, The Baltic States, etc. before World War II where recorded history of Jews was evidence not documentation.

It just so happens that in my family, in fact, our closest surviving cousins, Ronnie and Gil, who themselves are in their 80s, are alive and extremely well and living with their daughter, Jayne, in Massachusetts. This past weekend, Ronnie and Gil drove eight hours to visit my brother Richard and me. And though we are regularly in touch over the phone, it has been years since we were all together in Washington, D.C. And being in their company, naturally we reminisced – ALL WEEKEND. What spawned this column was a comment Ronnie (a singer/pianist in Boston for 25 years) made in response to a question we asked about whether there was any other musical talent in the family. She said quite matter of factly that my maternal great-grandfather - who I had never met or even heard of before, "was a cantor in Russia - with a beautiful voice" (who never left Russia). "What! I never knew that." I don't recall knowing anything about my great grandparents, maternal or paternal.

You see, Ronnie was there almost at the beginning. She was the first born to my mother's oldest sibling and only sister, my Auntie Lee. My mother was the baby of the family – after two brothers were born. As such, the age difference between my mother and Ronnie was about 14 years, atypical for a niece and an aunt. As a result, Ronnie was witness to lots of family history that I thought might have been lost forever when my mother died in 2008. As a few examples, Ronnie knows who was present at my mother's "Auntie's" house for Passover Cedar in the early 1960s. She knew that "Auntie" was my mother's mother's brother's widow, not my mother's mother's sister. I certainly didn't. She knew that three families/our cousins lived together in this three-story home and all worked together in the family market: Levine's. Still more that I didn't I

Another family connection Ronnie and Gil reminded us of was a family line we have in South America. Again, before World War II, one of my maternal grandfather's (Hyman) brother's Simon (Shimon) immigrated to Argentina where to this day exists first (Eduardo) and second cousins (names I'm afraid don't know) I've never met. though Ronnie and Gil have met numerous times in Miami and in Argentina (Ronnie and Gil used to live in South Florida). The more we talked, the more we travelled back in time. But I won't selfindulge myself and bore you any longer. I will try to wrap it up in the next paragraph.

My mother, Celia died in December 2008, my father died in December 2006. With their passing, my brother and I lost – among a million other things, their first-hand, on-site accounts of our Lourie/Blacker history dating back 150 years or so to Russia/Eastern Europe, before any of my relatives immigrated to America. Ronnie, my mother's cherished niece, knows as much about our family history as there is still to know and her husband of nearly 63 years, Gil, knows almost as much. Their visit wasn't just a weekend. It was a lifetime. A weekend of a lifetime for which Richard and I are extraordinarily grateful.

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



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