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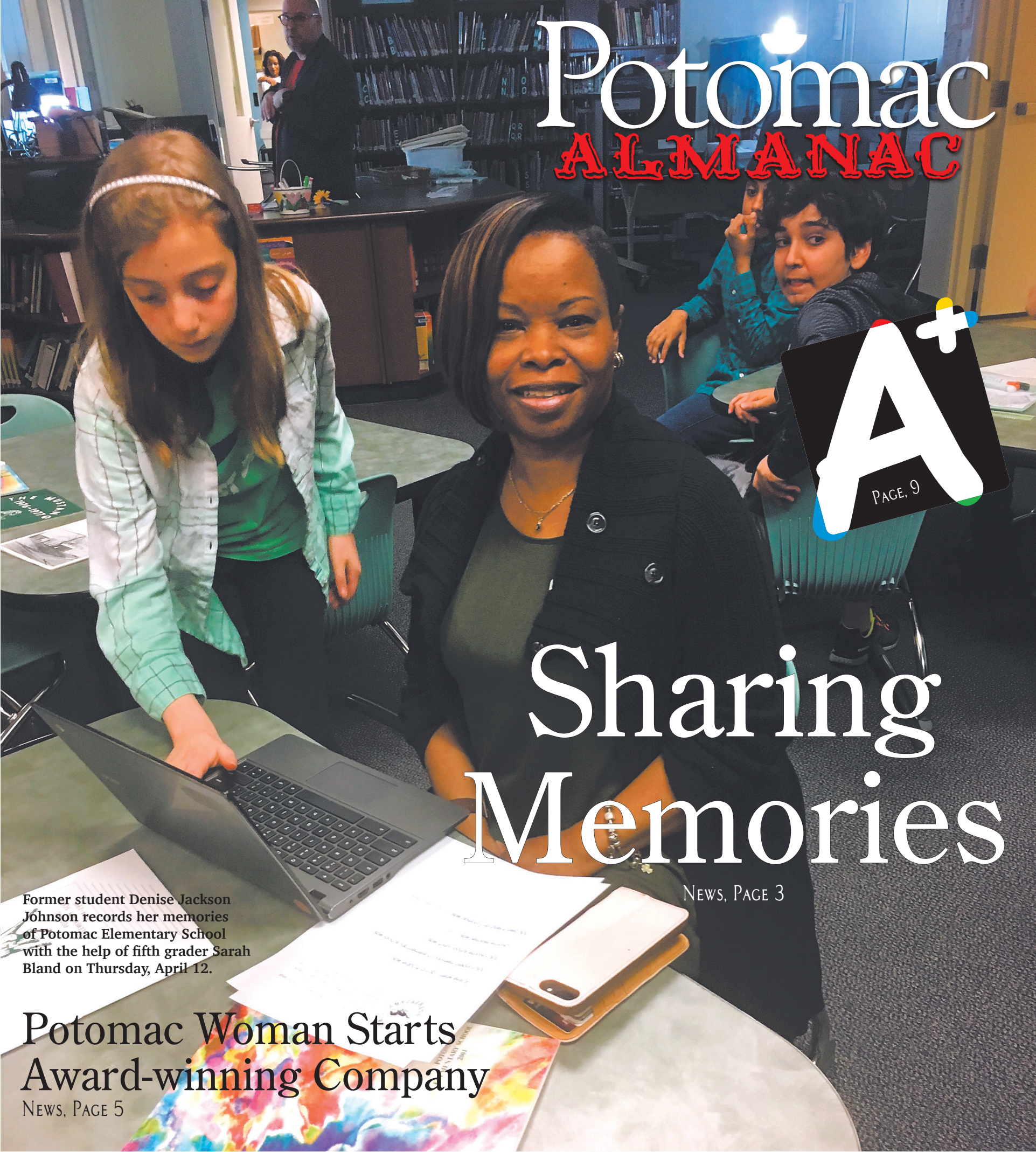
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Potomac
ALMANAC



Sharing
Memories

NEWS, PAGE 3

Former student Denise Jackson Johnson records her memories of Potomac Elementary School with the help of fifth grader Sarah Bland on Thursday, April 12.

Potomac Woman Starts
Award-winning Company

NEWS, PAGE 5

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 6 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10
PHOTO BY PEGGY MCEWAN/THE ALMANAC

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Reliving Memories Before School Closes

Potomac Elementary alumni share their school days.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Former students of Potomac Elementary School were invited to the school Thursday morning, April 12, to take one last look at the school, meet old friends and relive memories before the building is demolished this summer.

"It was fantastic, it turned out better than we anticipated, people were showing up with boxes of photos and mementos," said Greg Barton, principal intern.

Sisters Suzy Potter Linger, who now lives in Ohio, and Carolyn Potter Summerville, of Bethesda, were among the first to arrive.

Both had fond memories of the school and mentioned that their father and uncle both attended Potomac Elementary in the 1920s when the school was located at the corner of Norton and Falls roads.

Beverly Simons Swain attend PES all six years, beginning in 1946. She was in the media center recording memories of her time at the school with the help of fifth grader Sarah Bland.

One of her questions was: "A time I got in trouble."

"I was in third grade," Swain said. "Virginia Poole was going to sit down, and I pulled her chair out. She landed on the floor. I was sent to the office and I had to make sorries to Virginia Poole. We ended up good friends."

Swain said she liked Potomac Elementary. "It was a good school, we bonded well," she said.

Sarah Bland said she liked hearing people's answers about the time they got in trouble.

What was her answer to the same question?

"One time [in fourth grade] I made a lot of noise at lunch," she said. "I had to spend the rest of lunch sitting on the stage."

Cathy Greer, who graduated from the school in 1968 and her brother, Bill Greer, 1966, attended the reunion. Bill Greer said he attended the school for fifth and sixth grades.

Cathy Greer had a box of memorabilia including a Washington Post article from November 1968 showing some PES students on horseback.

"I'm kind of amazed by the vivid memories from the two years I was here," Bill Greer said.

Besides meeting old friends and sharing memories, alumni were treated to guided tours of the school by fifth grade student ambassadors. Along the way, there were places for the visitors to answer questions



Former Potomac Elementary School students linger outside the school and continue to share memories.

that current students could read.

Questions like: What was your favorite game? Or my school life was like....

Under that question, posted outside a Chinese Immersion classroom, someone wrote "I walked one and one-half miles to school."

That was possible years ago, some of the visitors told of crossing fields to get to school, but not now. Less than five current students walk to school daily, according to a list of fun facts the tours guides shared.

Another fact is that "PES is 91 years old, the most recent modernization was in 1976."

Suzy Potter Linger wandered the halls looking for one of her old classrooms and finally found it. Evidently, she

PHOTOS BY PEGGY MCEWAN/THE ALMANAC



Sister and brother Cathy Greer and Bill Greer were among the Potomac Elementary School alumni who visited the school Thursday, April 12.

said, the last renovation required a change in the hall configuration and the room she was looking for appeared to be in a different place.

"It was Mrs. Tamzarian's classroom," Linger said. "She was a very encouraging teacher, she took you under her wing and let you fly."

Denise Jackson Johnson, who now lives in Gaithersburg, said she came from a big Potomac family with aunts, uncles and cousins who all attended Potomac Elementary School.

"I wanted to at least pop in and let some of the memories kick in," Johnson said. "I can still remember learning the Pledge of Allegiance."

The reunion was just the thing for the school to host before the building is gone forever, according to Ginny Willis, who now lives in Urbana.

Willis attended the school from 1958-64 and her daughter, Heidi Hazel, teaches second grade there now.

"I'm very glad they will have a new building for the community," Willis said. "I'd like the positive memories to carry tradition on during construction."

As of July 2018, Potomac Elementary School faculty, staff and students will be housed at Radnor Holding Facility in Bethesda for the duration of construction on the new school. The expected date of return to the River Road site is January 2020.



Desi Amprey, Arya Chimnaswamy and Amitis Fatemi were among the Potomac Elementary School fifth grade ambassadors who took guests on school tours during alumni visiting day.

OPINION

Send in Mother's Day Photos

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 13 this year, and as every year at this time, This newspaper calls for submissions to our Mother's Day photo gallery.

Send photos of mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, with children or without children in the photos. Please name everyone in the photo, the approximate date taken, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. We will not print your full address or contact information.

You can upload photos and information directly to www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/ or email to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com.

Mother's Day is just one of many occasions throughout the year that we would love to receive photos from our readers. Send us photos

and notes when anything of note is happening in your family, neighborhood, school, club ... Be sure to include basic information: Name everyone in the photo, the approximate date taken, describe what is happening in the photo and include your name, address, email address and phone number. We will not print your full address or contact information. Send to editors@connectionnewspapers.com

Soon after we publish our Mother's Day photo galleries, we will begin to ask for submissions for our Father's Day galleries. Father's Day is June 17 this year.

Each year we seem to receive many more photos for Father's Day. We're curious whether that is because it is the second of the set so readers are more aware or because mothers are more likely to send in images of the Dads.

Twice a year we ask you to send photos and tell us stories about your pets and how they have come into, touched and left your lives,

publishing the last week in July and the last week in February.

In late summer, we invite readers to share what they know about their community for neighbors and newcomers alike.

And wrapping up the year, we gather writing and art from local students to fill our holiday edition. Each year, through an enormous effort by area teachers and school staff we receive an amazing display of student talent.

Regular contributions to our entertainment calendars, community bulletin boards, school notes, and business notes help us to share news in your community. We also always welcome photos and captions from community organizations (Scouts, sports teams, faith groups, school activities, etc.) and local businesses.

Please start by sending in photos for Mother's Day, preferably by May 4. www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday/.

EDITORIAL

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.

SATURDAY/APRIL 21

Voices of Transracial Adoptees. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at The McLean School, 8224 Lochinver Lane, Potomac. Voices of Transracial Adoptees is an opportunity for transracial adoptive families and the professionals who serve them to team up for learning, engagement with one another, and community building for families and children. \$50-\$60. Space is limited. Register at www.adoptiontogether.org/events/conferences/voices-transracial-adoptees.

TUESDAY/APRIL 24

Public Hearing. 1:30 p.m. in the Third Floor Hearing Room of the Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville. The Montgomery County Council will hold public hearings on the following Special Appropriation and Expedited Bills:

- ❖ Special Appropriation to the County Government's FY18 Operating Budget, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).
- ❖ Expedited Bill 13-18, Taxicabs - Transportation Services Improvement Fund.
- ❖ Expedited Bill 14-18, Economic Development - Strategic Plan to Promote Prosperity and Increase Opportunity.

Those interested in testifying at the public hearings can sign up at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/phsignup.html or by calling 240-777-7803. The deadline to sign up is April 23 at 5 p.m. Call 240-777-7910 to obtain copies of the special appropriation or the bills or go to <https://tinyurl.com/ya5kyv2z>.

FRIDAY/APRIL 27

Spring Rummage Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, 11815 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. Featuring antiques and collectibles, art, bicycles, books, clothing, jewelry and more. There is a Ride-On Bus



Learning about Journalism

Potomac Almanac writer Colleen Healy is interviewed April 13 by teacher Carolyn Cohen and the reporters of the Little Bulldog, the lower school newspaper at the Bullis School.



Potomac Almanac writer Colleen Healy and teacher Carolyn Cohen with The Little Bulldog staff.

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 5

Potomac Woman Starts Award-winning Company

Encouraging healthy skincare habits.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Spend just a little time with Renan Kennedy and you will be reading not just food labels, but labels on every moisturizer and skin care product in your arsenal.

Kennedy is the founder of Sans Skincare, a natural, plant-based skincare brand.

"Sans," she said, "means 'without' in French."

And her products are without harsh chemicals, even not harsh chemicals, anything that works against the natural environment of the skin.

A rule of thumb, she said, when looking at the ingredients of skin care products, is to look for water.

"Then you know it's not an all-natural product," she said. "Water in a formulation means you have to put in a preservative, which is fine, but the problem is, when you put it on your skin, you destroy the ecosystem on the body. Bacteria on skin is so important — it protects us."

Kennedy, who spent years working as a graphic artist, said she became interested in skin care products when her mother was undergoing chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer.

"Her skin was so dry, [my sister and I] were lotioning her every day," she said. "A friend who worked for a company that formulates lotions said not to use them on [my mother]."

So, Kennedy started looking for some-

thing else.

"I didn't understand, there is so much bad stuff in [skin care formulas]. I was just an average person, so I started looking up the words on products," she said.

Her research led her to create natural, plant-based products that work with the skin, she said.

"I came to this from the back end," she said. "My love is not mixing ingredients; my love is learning about the ingredients."

Kennedy's mother died in 2012 and within six months she realized that so many friends were asking for her moisturizers that she began to think about creating a business.

"When I started selling, I became a company," she said.

At first her focus was on "word of mouth" advertising but she soon realized the need for a long-term business plan.

That is when she turned to SCORE, an organization of volunteer business experts providing free small business mentoring sessions and workshops services to clients in nationwide.

Kennedy said her mentor is experienced in retail.

"He has been wonderful," she said. "He is smart, knowledgeable, and resourceful."

This year Kennedy entered SCORE's American Small Business Championship and was selected one of two winners from Maryland. The other state winner is also a local business: The Pediatric Development Center, LLC, of Silver Spring, submitted by Amy Wetherill.



PHOTO BY PEGGY MCEWAN/THE ALMANAC

Potomac resident Renan Kennedy, creator of Sans Skincare natural products, shows some of her products at her home on Thursday, April 12. She started a line of natural skincare products after searching for soothing moisturizers for her mother who was undergoing chemotherapy.

Reno, Nevada to compete against other state winners and two from the District of Columbia for one of three \$15,000 awards to invest in her business.

Kennedy already knows what she will do with the money when she wins.

"It would be huge for me to go to a trade show and get my products in front of people," she said.

"I really do feel that we are doing something good. It's my mission. People don't understand the complicated world of chemicals and we've taken it upon ourselves to educate. I lost my mother and just recently my sister to cancer. This has got to end. I vet every single ingredient that goes into my skincare for purity and safety. I'm a home-grown girl, people in my community know me and trust me. They know I've made it my passion to build a business that stands for honesty and keeping people healthy. It's much more than just pushing products. It's about doing event after event and talking to people, especially young girls who need to develop healthy skincare habits. It's about educating so people can make informed decisions about what they bring into their lives. I want to teach people what I've learned about living a healthy life. Because of my losses to cancer, I do many events to raise

money for cancer. We've all got to make a difference, and it starts right in our own backyards," Kennedy said in her contest entry.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 4

(Route #47) stop at the Church driveway. Call 301-762-8040 or visit www.stjamespotomac.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 28

Chocolate. 2 p.m. at Davis Community Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Montgomery County Public

Libraries is offering free STEM Smart programs in which children ages 10-14 will have the opportunity to learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and do hands-on experiments led by retired scientists. Children can participate in all sessions or select sessions of interest. Registration is required for each session. Call 240-777-0006 or visit

montgomerycountymd.gov/library/.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/MAY 3-4

Potomac Elementary School is holding Kindergarten Orientation on May 3 and May 4. Children who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2018 are eligible for enrollment for the upcoming school year. Parents/guardians should notify the school at

301-469-1042 to receive enrollment information and to set up an appointment to participate in the Orientation Program.

SATURDAY/MAY 12

Electronics. 2 p.m. at Davis Community Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Montgomery County Public Libraries is offering free STEM

Smart programs in which children ages 10-14 will have the opportunity to learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and do hands-on experiments led by retired scientists. Children can participate in all sessions or select sessions of interest. Registration is required for each session. Call 240-777-0006 or visit montgomerycountymd.gov/library/.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: "Essence." Through April 28, gallery hours at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Featuring painter John Bodkin's colorful abstract paintings. Visit www.bethesda.org.

Photography Exhibit: "The Space Around Us." Through May 20, gallery hours at Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, Md. "The Space Around Us: Photographs by Ira Tattelman." Tattelman, a registered architect and full-time artist, and guest curator Iason Demos will feature photos that call attention to the planned and unplanned outcomes of human actions. Exhibit reception scheduled for Sunday, April 22, 4-6 p.m. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

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.; 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.

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



Danika and The Jeb.

Live Music

Danika and The Jeb will perform. Sunday, April 29, 7 p.m. at Focus Bethesda at Positano's Restaurant 4948-4940 Fairmont Ave., Bethesda. Tickets are \$18 in advance at www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets and for members, \$20 at the door.

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.

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 18-22

"Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play." April 18-21 at 8 p.m.; April 22 at 2 p.m. at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Mr. Burns explores what it would be like to take a TV show and push it past an apocalypse, to see what happens. Visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/pac.

THURSDAY/APRIL 19

Women Behind LBJ. 7-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. LBJ: the Women Behind the Man. Speaker Joan Angelo Adams on how the women around President Lyndon Johnson influenced his life and the politics that surrounded him. All welcome. Free. Email info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org or call 240-221-1370.

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/APRIL 19-20

Local Writer's Showcase. Bethesda Urban Partnership will host the Local

Writer's Showcase, with two award ceremonies celebrating writers from Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia. On Thursday, April 19 at 7 p.m. will be the Poetry Contest Awards Ceremony and Reading by poet E. Ethelbert Miller at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. The second, the Bethesda Essay & Short Story Contest Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday, April 20 at 7 p.m. at Bethesda Hyatt, 7400 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Over 700 pieces were submitted to this year's Poetry, Essay and Short Story contests as writers competed for a chance to win up to \$500, a free class and membership to The Writer's Center and have their work published in Bethesda Magazine's July/August issue. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 20

Visual Arts: MoCo's Got Talent. MoCo's Got Talent is a countywide talent competition for middle and high school students to showcase their talents in the visual and performing arts. Participants must register to audition in advance at ActiveMONTGOMERY.org, using one of the activity number: 49678. After registering, participants must call

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 7

Upcycled Wedding Fair This Sunday

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

It's a wedding fair with a difference: the Upcycled Wedding Fair to be held Sunday, April 22 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rockwood Manor, 11001 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac.

A perfect event to be held on Earth Day.

The idea, according to Amy Burkett, Rockwood Manor outreach coordinator, is to recycle, reduce, reuse.

People are invited to sell their gently used wedding items to others who are planning their weddings. Things like centerpieces, candles, tablecloths and table ware, even gowns and veils,

Burkett said.

"It just makes sense," she said. "What's the use in throwing [items] away when it can be reused?" Sunday's event is the first upcycled wedding fair to be held at Rockwood and Burkett thinks it's a great idea that will catch on.

There is no admission cost, but sellers pay \$20 to participate.

"We will also have a caterer, a DJ and a wedding planner at the event to add to the experience," Burkett said.

Those planning their weddings can get free advice from the wedding planner and from the former brides and grooms who can share their experiences.

ENTERTAINMENT



Lyndon Baines Johnson and his wife Lady Bird.

Secret of LBJ's Success: The Women Behind the Man

In today's world where more and more women are taking the lead on local, state, national and world stages, Potomac Community Village's speaker Joan Adams pulls back the historical curtain and reveals the real story of "LBJ - The Women Behind The Man." The presentation is on Thursday, April 19 at the Potomac Community Center, Falls Road, Potomac.

Fifty years since LBJ decided not to run for re-election, his life and legacy are still being debated. Starting with his mother, his wife, daughters and others, Adams reflects on who LBJ was and what prompted his political actions as the 36th President of the United States. This chapter in the country's political life is part of series Adams created looking at the women behind Presidents and their influence on their lives and legacies, from George Washington to George W. Bush.

Holding bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Maryland in history and urban planning, Adams has over four decades of academic experience, including teaching middle and

high school students in Prince George's County Public Schools, as an adjunct instructor for the Seasoned Adults Growing Educationally (SAGE) program for Prince George's Community College, an adjunct professor for the School of Graduate and Professional Studies at Washington Adventist University, and an instructor for the OSHER program through Johns Hopkins University.

PCV's April 19 meeting takes place at 7 p.m. at the Potomac Community Center on Falls Road in Potomac. PCV is a non-profit network of neighbors and friends geared to enabling older Potomac residents to age in place in their existing homes by creating social connections and providing volunteer services such as transportation, computer assistance and simple home repairs. For more information, to volunteer or get volunteer help, contact 240-221-1 3 7 0 , info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org or check out www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org or www.Facebook.com/PotomacCommunityVillage.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 6

240-777-8080 to receive details about how to submit artwork.

Opening Reception: Color Combustion. 6-9 p.m. at Serendipity Labs, 4500 East West Highway, Suite 125, Bethesda. The Abstract Artists' Collective presents a group exhibition of work by women painters at Serendipity Labs. Their "Color Combustion" show runs through June 27. Eleven painters are included in the show: Tory Cowles, Lauren Chelec Cafritz, Camilla David, Jennifer Duncan, Patsy Fleming, Eleanor Glatty, Marthe McGrath, Michele Morgan, Hester Ohbi, Debra Perkins, and Helen Power. Visit serendipitylabs.com/our-locations/serendipity-labs-bethesda-md/.

SUNDAY/APRIL 22

Paws in the Park. 12-4 p.m. at Bohrer

Park at Summit Hall Farm, Gaithersburg. Early bird registration \$15; or \$25 after April 21. Raise funds for homeless animals with a personal Web page you can create when you register. Prizes for top fundraisers — hotel stay, mosquito service and more. Presented by the Montgomery County Humane Society in partnership with the City of Gaithersburg. Register now at www.firstgiving.com/event/mchsm/paws-in-the-park-2018.

Photography Exhibit Reception. 4-6 p.m. at Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, Md. "The Space Around Us: Photographs by Ira Tattelman." Exhibit runs April 14-May 20, 2018. Tattelman, a registered architect and full-time artist, and guest curator Iason Demos will feature photos that call attention to the planned and unplanned

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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1 10400 BIT AND SPUR LN	5	..	5	..	2	ROCKVILLE ...	\$1,325,000 ...	Detached	2.52	20854	POTOMAC MANOR	02/16/18
2 10508 STABLE LN	5	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,190,000 ...	Detached	0.34	20854	RIVER FALLS	02/28/18
3 11121 SMOKY QUARTZ LN	6	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,150,000 ...	Detached	2.20	20854	SADDLE RIDGE	02/16/18
4 9516 FALLS BRIDGE LN	5	..	3	..	1	ROCKVILLE ...	\$1,095,000 ...	Detached	0.39	20854	HERITAGE FARM	02/13/18
5 8405 KINGSGATE RD	4	..	2	..	2	POTOMAC ...	\$1,050,000 ...	Detached	0.48	20854	FAWCETT FARMS	02/28/18
6 9024 ROUEN LN	4	..	3	..	0	ROCKVILLE	\$965,000 ...	Detached	0.48	20854	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS	02/09/18

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Teaching Money Management

April is Financial Literacy Month.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

In an era when consumers can purchase merchandise and deposit money into a bank account using a smartphone, teaching money smarts to children can be fraught with complications. April is Financial Literacy Month and local financial advisors say teaching children how to manage their money responsibly is a necessary part of becoming a financially responsible adult.

"How a parent treats cash is the way their kids will treat cash; lead by example," said Andrea Foster, professor and department chair of Business, Economics, Accounting, Computer Applications and Paralegal Studies (BEACAPS) at Montgomery College. "If your kid sees you cutting coupons and budgeting, when they grow up they will do the same. They will see the benefits and the value of your thriftiness."

One of the most important financial lessons that a parent can teach is how to save, advises Foster. "Teach them how to budget so that they can learn how to save for what they want," she said.

Children pay attention to and learn from the

ways in which their parents manage money and it's critical that they learn financial literacy at home, suggests Victoria G. Henry, assistant vice president at West Financial Services, Inc. in McLean.

"Explaining the concept of savings early to children is key," added "It is natural to want to spend everything right away, so it may be hard to understand why it is important to set a little aside for future expenses. Perhaps it could be explained by saying the savings will come in handy if a favorite toy breaks or is lost."

An ideal time to offer a lesson in saving is when a child receives money as a present for a birthday or other occasion, says Henry. "It is a good practice to have them save even 10 or 20 percent of the gift, and let them have the rest to spend how they want," she said. "If they decide to spend their fun money on something and then quickly return asking

for money for something else, it is a good to remind them that maybe they should think more carefully about how they want to spend their money in the future. This will help them get into the practice of making wise choices with spending and saving down the road when they start earning money as well."

Foster also suggests helping children develop savings goals. "[Whether] by piggy bank, envelope, can, or jar, a vessel is an important tool for teaching kids how to save for major milestones," said Foster. "Identify a goal for the saving and have them save towards that goal."

Transparency builds enthusiasm, adds Foster. "Using

a clear jar for saving creates enthusiasm and motivation as the kids see it fill up with the coins," she said. "[Saving] also teaches then self-reliance and not counting on their parents to help them for everything. By giving a reward, kids can learn the value of money and how to spend money."

Foster also suggests encouraging children to keep a spending diary and limiting the amount of money they can spend or the number of items they can purchase when shopping for themselves. "Show them that stuff costs money," she said. "Have them keep track of all the money that mom and dad spend on them in one month, from food to clothing and other things. They will real-

ize how much it costs to maintain them and how much all the stuff that they want costs."

Involve children in a family's charitable donations, advises Henry. "Ask your children to think about what kinds of charitable efforts the family should support," she said. "Have them research and pick a charity and then make a small contribution to that organization on their behalf."

"Have children earn their allowance and let children experience the pain of not having enough money if they don't budget correctly," said Dr. Brian Hollar assistant professor of Accounting, Economics & Finance at Marymount University. "Experience is a good teacher and learning when the stakes are low is invaluable."

Hollar underscores the importance of teaching solid math skills. "It's hard to develop strong financial literacy without understanding exponential growth," he said.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Teaching young children about the concept of saving money is a critical part of financial literacy.

"Explaining the concept of savings early to children is key. It is natural to want to spend everything right away, so it may be hard to understand why it is important to set a little aside for future expenses."

**— Victoria G. Henry,
West Financial Services, Inc.**

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If Only It Were That Simple



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Though I immerse you regular readers in the excruciating details of my cancer-affected life, rarely do I bombard unsuspecting conversationalists who unknowingly yet sincerely wander into territory with which many of you are intimately detailed. Not that I don't have stories to tell, and/or perhaps even unsolicited advice to offer; generally speaking, if I can avoid it, I don't want to drag the conversation into a cancer-centric black hole.

It's not because I'm uncomfortable talking about cancer, or that I would feel it an inappropriate invasion of my privacy, or that I would feel the need to blather on non-stop. Hardly. But I would see it as the end of an innocent inquiry undone that then takes on a more empathetic, sympathetic and possibly even pathetic tone, some of which might make me uncomfortable.

The reason being: part of what feeds my self-preservation and sense of well-being is reading and reacting to the feedback I receive from others when the subject matter turns to cancer, however well-meaning their intentions may have been.

Sometimes the reactions I get aren't helpful ("Tell me Ken, how's it feel to know you're going to die?"). Sometimes, I find myself rationalizing, explaining and revisiting issues and experiences more helpful and of interest to the party that asked the question rather than to yours truly who's now having to answer the question. Not that I don't want to be helpful or have difficulty empathizing; nothing could be further from the truth.

It's more that I don't want to see their expressions/hear their apologies when their innocent question ("So what do you do?") elicits an extremely unexpected answer. "Not too much. I have stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer."

Then I have to decide how I involved I want to get them in my life. Since I'd just as soon not get them involved for all the reasons I've outlined, usually I deflect their questions and/or redirect them away from me and back to them. I don't exactly shut them down. It's more like a gentle closing. I'm not rude or the least bit off-putting. I'm more like a traffic cop re-routing emotions to avoid any accidents – for all parties engaged.

My experience has been that responding to an innocent question with a "I have terminal-cancer"-type bombshell tends to take the conversation in an entirely different direction than likely intended. The seriousness of my response/situation and the emotions – maybe even memories it stirs in the person who asked the question, can hijack an evening and cause at least for a few minutes anyway, a rather dreary dynamic. All of which I don't want to happen and more so, don't need to happen. As a cancer patient, I don't need dreary. I don't need pity. I don't need negativity. I need humor. I need encouragement and compliments. I need to be made to feel, as Tony the Tiger might say: "Not just good, but GREAT!"

When I assess my nine-plus years post-diagnosis; having lived now years beyond my original "13 month to two-year" prognosis, I can't quite attribute my amazing good fortune to anything in particular. However, I will admit to this: trying not think about my diagnosis/prognosis too much, trying to remain positive, trying to be funny and self-effacing, and trying to avoid people and situations where I might feel bad, are all components. Are they working to keep me alive more than the medicine, my pills and my miscellaneous non-Western alternatives are?

Yet another question or two I'd rather not answer.

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

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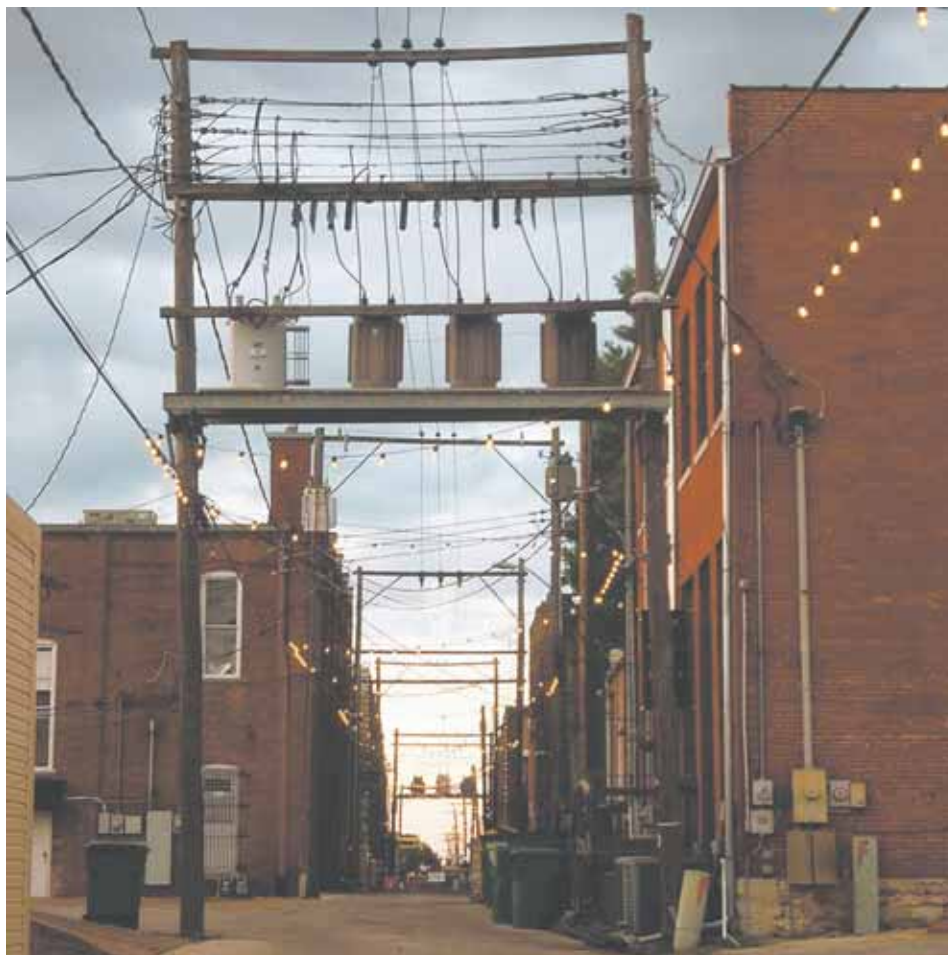
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ENTERTAINMENT



Untitled, by Ira Tattelman

Photography Exhibit: 'The Space Around Us'

Exhibit features photographs by Ira Tattelman. Tattelman, a registered architect and full-time artist, and guest curator Iason Demos will feature photos that call attention to the planned and unplanned outcomes of human actions. Exhibit runs through May 20 at Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Exhibit reception scheduled for Sunday, April 22, 4-6 p.m. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 7

outcomes of human actions. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

National Philharmonic Chamber Players. 3 p.m. at the John Kendall Recital Hall, Potter Violins in Takoma Park. Under the direction of National Philharmonic Concertmaster Colin Sorgi, the National Philharmonic Chamber Players perform the works of Schubert and Mendelssohn. The concert showcases gifted students from the Philharmonic's Summer String Institutes performing the Mendelssohn Octet in E-flat Major alongside members of the Philharmonic Chamber Players. Children 7-17 are free; adult tickets are \$20 and can be purchased here: classicalmusicconcert.org/event/national-philharmonic-chamber-players-5/.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 27-29

Spring Dance Concert. Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. The Montgomery College-Rockville Dance Company continues its annual tradition with a program of original dance works by Montgomery College students and faculty, as well as Washington, D.C.-area choreographers. Visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/pac.

SATURDAY/APRIL 28

National Philharmonic Northern Lights Concert. 8 p.m. at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Philharmonic Chorale Artistic Director Stan Engebretson leads a concert juxtaposing the rich traditions of Rachmaninoff's *Vespers* with new sounds by popular Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo and local/wunderkind/

composer Alistair Coleman. A pre-concert lecture by Philharmonic Associate Director Victoria Gau begins at 6:45 p.m. in the Concert Hall. Tickets start at \$23 and can be purchased at nationalphilharmonic.org or 301-581-5100.

SATURDAY/APRIL 29

Pike's Peek 10K. Prompt start at 7:50 a.m. Pike's Peek, now in its 22nd year, is one of Montgomery County Road Runners Club's premier racing events. The 10k race, known as a PR Course, has runners starting at the Shady Grove Metro Station and finishing on Rose Avenue just south of Montrose Road. Celebrate at the finish area with food, family activities, music & exhibits at the Post-Race Festival hosted by Pike & Rose. Visit www.pikespeek10k.org.

Easter Egg Hunt. 2-6 p.m. at Our Lady of Bethesda, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. Easter Egg Hunt, petting zoo, pony rides, bounce house, carnival games, crafts, food and a family mass. The egg hunt is for children ages 0-12. The Mass runs from 2-3 p.m. Visit www.ourladyofbethesda.org/.

"The ABCs of Collecting Photography." 4 p.m. Photoworks Gallery, in Arcade room 302/303, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. For potential buyers, stepping into collecting may seem daunting, and for photographers, offering work up for sale may come with uncertainty. Gallerist Iason Demos will explain what one should seek when buying or selling a print. Visit glenechophotoworks.org/

Live Music. 7 p.m. at Focus Bethesda at Positano's Restaurant 4948-4940 Fairmont Ave., Bethesda. Danika and The Jeb will perform. Tickets are \$18 in advance at www.focusmusic.org/buy-tickets and for members, \$20 at the door.

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AVENEL, BETHESDA, MARYLAND
Beautifully renovated 4BR, 3.5BA courtyard home in The Gates at Avenel. Sought after floor plan, large family room/kitchen w/FP. 2 car garage. Master BR w/sitting room. Fully finished LL. \$1,179,000
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