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Potomac ALMANAC

HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 6

Adam Reinsch leads Nacho with Brianna Eldred riding during the open house on Sunday, May 4, at the Potomac Horse Center.

Going For a Ride

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Running for
County Executive

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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 11

PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

MAY 9-15, 2018

ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM

Running For County Executive

What sets candidates apart?

By Peggy McEwan
The Almanac

Primary Election Day is Tuesday, June 26, 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

With just over six weeks until the Maryland Republican and Democratic primaries for the Nov. 6, 2018 general election, it is time to focus on the candidates.

During the upcoming weeks The Almanac will run candidate profiles starting with this week's overview of the men and women running for the position of County Executive.

Current County Executive Isiah Leggett is retiring after this, his third term running the county. Leggett, a Democrat, was first elected County Executive in 2006.

The County Executive serves a four year term.

EACH CANDIDATE was asked the same questions:

Why are you running for Montgomery County Executive?

List past experience, political and/or professional.

What do you consider the biggest problem Montgomery County faces today?

What is your dream accomplishment for the county?

Is there anything else you think voters should know about your when deciding who to vote for?

More election information can be found at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/elections.

Roger Berliner

Democrat, 67, North Bethesda – Pike & Rose

Why are you running for Montgomery County Executive?

Our county is a very special place. It is one of the few places where we can truly say “if not here, where?” At home, my better three quarters, Karen Berliner, had the inspiration to have the word “imagine” etched on our living room wall. It is a daily reminder to think big. And I do think big. What a privilege it would be to lead this extraordinary county, to help us achieve our full potential, always striving to become a “More Perfect Montgomery County.”

I would not be doing this if I did not believe in my heart of hearts that I am the right person to lead us forward. I want to build a county where we grow economic prosperity and where that growth touches everyone – regardless of zip code or background. To reduce school overcrowding and see modern school buildings where all of our children's needs are met; to provide the finest transit options and state of the art traffic signals that reduce travel times by 15 percent; to ensure that we continue to lead the nation on sustainability and environmental protections; to make a difference in the lives of those who have not shared in the prosperity that many of us have experienced; and to create an economic ecosystem where entrepreneurship and businesses thrive. The County Executive has the unparalleled ability to make this happen. That's why I am running for this office.

Past experience: political and/or professional

Before joining the Montgomery County Council in 2006, I served as: Legislative Director for Howard Metzenbaum; Senior Policy Advisor for Congressman Henry Waxman; Legislative staff to the California State Assembly; Director of Congressional Liaison for a federal agency during the Carter Administration; Legal Counsel to the largest county in the country, Los Angeles County.

I started a small business, building a law firm that gained national recognition in the field of energy and consumer protection. I then went on to become a partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP before being elected to the Montgomery County Council where I have been a leading advocate for protecting the environment, investing in public schools, and creating greater shared economic prosperity. I have been elected by my colleagues either President or Vice President of the Council, 5 out of my 11 years and had the privilege of being elected by the region's leaders to Chair the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG).

What do you consider the biggest

See Berliner, Page 8



David Blair

Democrat, 48, Potomac

Why are you running for Montgomery County Executive?

I am a lifelong Montgomery County resident. I went to school here. It's where my wife and I met and where we're raising our kids. We love it here, and yet, I'm running for County Executive because our county is not reaching its potential. Our elected officials have over developed areas without properly investing in our schools and transportation – leaving us with overcrowded schools and some of the worst traffic in the country. And, because our economy has been stagnant for the past 10 years, our county officials continually raise taxes – making our county increasingly unaffordable for many.

We need new strategies and a fresh perspective to grow our economy, create high-wage jobs and generate new funding so we can pay for our education, transportation, senior services and other county programs that we all expect and deserve. I will invest in our education system to close the achievement gap by expanding early childhood education and adding more programs to ensure all students graduate high school college- or career-ready. I've developed a comprehensive Jobs and Economic Plan, with real solutions to get our economy growing so we can fully-fund our priorities without raising taxes (read the Plan at www.blairformontgomery.com).

I'm committed to our community, to preserving our tremendous resources and diversity, and to making our county an even better place to live, work, and raise a family. We all deserve better.

Past experience: political and/or professional

For the past several years, I've been increasingly active with our local government. I have been a community organizer and part of Ike Leggett's County Executive's Economic Advisory Group. I've also been actively involved in projects for the Bipartisan Policy Center, a nonprofit think tank, working to address a number of challenges facing the public sector, including creating a vibrant entrepreneurial environment, ensuring access to early childhood development and accelerating health innovation.

Previously, I founded and was the Chief Executive Officer of Rockville-based Catalyst Health Solutions, Inc. My team and I grew Catalyst into a Fortune 500 company in just over a decade, employing thousands of employees across the country and saving customers \$9 billion in prescription drug costs. The company received numerous prestigious awards including Fortune's World's Most Admired Healthcare Companies and Fortune's 100 Fastest Growing Companies, as well as individual awards



Marc Elrich

Democrat, 68, Takoma Park

Why are you running for Montgomery County Executive?

I am running for this position because I want every resident of Montgomery County to know that their concerns are being heard and addressed. I am known as the one elected official who consistently is accessible and willing to hear from residents, whoever they may be.

I am committed to closing the achievement/opportunity gap by working on making sure schools are adequately funded, but also by focusing on strengthening our communities. Poverty remains tied to students' struggles in schools and it's apparent that poverty impacts their lives in ways that make it challenging to be a successful student. Unstable housing and the struggles of parents to make ends meet place a social and emotional load on children that they should not have to carry. That's why I pushed hard for the minimum wage, why I want to make housing more affordable, and why I want to create job opportunities for children and their parents that offer a path up and out of poverty. I want to implement a racial equity lens on all of our county departments, including in planning, to be sure that we're aware of the impact of all of our decisions and so that we don't continue to plan housing patterns that perpetuate segregation.

I also want to expand the economy by focusing on small business development, worker ownership and cooperatives, and the creation of incubators that provide business training, develop new skills, and engender entrepreneurial skills in the community. My bus rapid transit plan will connect neighborhoods to job centers, reduce commute times, and foster business investment because we know our mobility issues make us less attractive as a destination. And I'll focus on our economic strengths to help existing businesses grow and prosper in the county. We need more of an emphasis on growing and nurturing businesses we already have, and we need to use our diversity of people and our multi-lingualism to attract new businesses that want to be in a community that embraces our multicultural future.

As County Executive, I will remain accessible to county residents and take your concerns seriously. People have a right to expect that the county will promote growth and solve the problems that come with growth, not dismiss residents who raise concerns about overcrowded schools and gridlocked roads. We are fortunate here to have beautiful neighborhoods, great schools, and diverse and engaged residents; we can use our strengths to build an even better Montgomery County.

I have a lifelong commitment to social and



See Elrich, Page 9

Politics

Robin Ficker

Republican, Boyds

Why are you running for Montgomery County Executive?

We need change as evidenced by the 70%, 300,000 votes for my 2016 Term Limits charter amendment, which was opposed by all our opponents in this race. I am the only candidate who opposed the unanimous 9% property tax hike, the 156% residential energy tax hike, the 30% real estate transfer tax hike and the 30% council pay hike before they took place. No tax increases for the next 4 years. I have never met a Montgomery County resident I didn't like.



Past experience, political and/or professional.

Elected MD House of Delegates from Potomac. Only County Executive hopeful with Honorable Discharge from U.S. Armed Services or with any experience in MD Courts — completed 35,000 cases — still in Court every day. Collected signatures for and passed, over the opposition of all other County Executive hopefuls, 2008 Charter Amendment requiring unanimous council vote to increase property taxes more than rate of inflation. It stopped property tax increases in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2017, saving the average homeowner \$10,000+!

What do you consider the biggest problem Montgomery County faces today?

There is a hostile reception to new business. I shall be open-armed and welcoming. The county government will be kinder, gentler, and smarter with half of my appointments being female. I won Maryland's definitive sex discrimination lawsuit, outlawing ratings of female job applicants as to physique and facial features, and eliminating questions about child care arrangements and marital status.

What is your dream accomplishment for the County?

To put the people back in charge of the County government instead of vice versa. I shall move the County Executive office down to the first floor and each Monday morning, from 6-9 a.m. shall hold "County Executive Open, First-come First-served Hours" with you, my boss the voters.

Is there anything else you think voters should know about your when deciding who to vote for?

I lived in Potomac for many years and placed and passed the charter amendment forbidding the county to put the county garbage dump where the Avenel golf course is today. Also passed charter amendment forbidding trenching of sewage sludge in residential zones and placed before voters about 20 other charter amendments which sought to make count government more thrifty and efficient. Please visit robindeliversforyou.com.

Bill Frick

Democrat, 43, Bethesda

Why are you running for Montgomery County Executive?

This is my hometown and I care deeply about its future. For too long, we have had the right social values — celebrating diversity, striving for equality, respecting public service — but not the right economic values. As recent reports have shown, our private sector economy is languishing, and that spells trouble for our county and the revenues needed for social services. My vision for Montgomery is a community that can have it all. Worldly residents and world-class businesses, progressive social values and economic progress, excellent public schools and modest tax rates. I know that I can help enact that vision. As an outsider to local government, I have the freedom and fresh perspective to move the County forward. But as a veteran of Annapolis, I know how government works and how to get hard things done.



Past experience: political and/or professional.

Professional Experience: Attorney (Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, 2000-present)

Political Experience: Member, Maryland House of Delegates (2007-present); House majority leader (2017-present)

What do you consider the biggest problem facing Montgomery County today?

I am deeply concerned about our economic trajectory. Demographically, the County is growing but growing among families in poverty. Many in our traditionally affluent suburban communities are shocked when I tell them that nearly half of our elementary school students receive Free And Reduced Meals and a quarter require ESOL support. To meet additional needs of these students and families requires significant resources, and we do not want to shortchange the school experience of other families, or neglect other critical areas such as transportation and public safety. The neglect — at times even contempt — our Council has shown the private sector has directly led to our anemic economic performance, making it that much harder to supply the resources we need. I want to reverse that trend, making Montgomery a place where businesses, employers, and young professionals are our surging demographic and poverty is on a steady decline.

See Frick, Page 8

Rose Krasnow

Democrat, 66, Rockville

Why are you running for Montgomery County Executive?

I believe the county is at a crossroads and that I am uniquely qualified among the declared candidates to lead it to a successful future. The term limit vote clearly indicated that the county is ready to move in a new direction. For too long, we have promised roads and transit infrastructure that have not been built. For too long, we have ignored the achievement gap in our schools. We have also made it difficult for businesses to be successful here, which has resulted in frequent tax increases for our residents. I am a strong and responsive leader who wants to restore our county to a position of strength.



Past experience: political and/or professional.

I served three terms as Mayor of Rockville, as well as two terms on the Rockville City Council. I also worked for 13 years at the Montgomery Planning Department, overseeing the Zoning Code Rewrite and numerous Master Plans. I also worked as the Smart Growth Policy Analyst at the National Governors Association and as the Executive Director of the Montgomery County United Way. In addition, I worked at Oppenheimer & Co., Inc. as a government bond trader for four years.

I have an undergraduate degree in Political Science from Washington University in St. Louis, where I was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and graduated Summa Cum Laude. I also have a Master's Degree in Urban & Regional Planning from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Anything else you would like us to know about you in your bid to be the next Montgomery County Executive?

I believe that the County needs an Executive who is proactive, not reactive; who is willing to make the tough decisions that will be necessary to solve the issues that confront us, and who will strive to make the county a leader in economic development and opportunity for all. I know that I can be that leader.

What do you consider the biggest problem facing Montgomery County today?

One of the primary reasons I decided to run for this office is that I am concerned that, while our county celebrates its great diversity, we are increasingly becoming more divided, as indicated by the fact that even though we have seven wealthy zip codes, many of our residents are struggling with a variety of issues, including a lack of affordable housing, schools with a high

See Krasnow, Page 8

George L. Leventhal

Democrat, 55, Takoma Park

Why are you running for Montgomery County Executive?

I am running for County Executive because I love Montgomery County. I was raised in this extraordinary place, and along with my wife Soraia, have raised our two sons in this community. I have served as your County Councilmember for 15 years, and am proud that we've advanced the most progressive policies in the nation. I was raised on the values of hard work, community, equality, social justice and opportunity for all of us, not just the wealthy and the well connected. I have never been afraid to speak truth to power — that doesn't always make me the most popular person in halls of government, but it gets results for Montgomery County families.



My Mom and Dad were both physicians, and they always taught me that health care is a basic human right, not just for the people who can afford it, but for everyone. While Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress attempt to destroy the Affordable Care Act and strip coverage from millions of poor and middle income Americans, here in Montgomery County, I established the Montgomery Cares program, providing 70,000 doctor visits annually to patients without insurance. It's why I have worked to ensure prenatal care for expectant mothers without insurance, and to secure health insurance for all Montgomery County children.

As a young man, I got my start in public service as Senator Barbara Mikulski's Legislative Director. She taught me a great deal about leadership and toughness, and is one of the reasons I am an outspoken champion for women, equal pay, and a woman's right to choose.

As your next County Executive, I will continue my advocacy for all members of our community, including the most vulnerable. Through my work, we have housed every homeless veteran in Montgomery County and provided property tax credits for the elderly and disabled. As County Executive, I will require that any new residential construction includes affordable units, so families of all income levels can afford to live in the county.

But I know that we cannot fully achieve social justice unless we have a prosperous economy that treats workers fairly and an education system that gives all children a path to career success. I successfully fought to raise our county's minimum wage to \$15. I am working to make pre-kindergarten available to all Montgomery County children. And I have a plan to eliminate tuition at Maryland Public Colleges and Universities for Montgomery County students who commit to 5 years of working in a civilian

See Leventhal, Page 9



Photos by Deborah Stevens/The Almanac



Angela Mamani and Fany Arcilla at the Festival of Colors.

Festival of Colors

Holi DC, the annual festival of colors, gave families and friends a chance to playfully throw colors at one another and create fun and happy memories on Sunday, May 6, at the ISKCON of DC Temple, 10310 Oaklyn Drive, Potomac. The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) is also known as the Hare Krishna Movement.



Michal, Itzik and Dafna Havakuk



Participants are covered in pink, purple, and blue hues of color.

Bulletin Board

MEALS ON WHEELS

Delivers meals to house-bound seniors, convalescents and persons with disabilities. It receives minimum government funding and relies instead on contributions. Donations are needed to help with unmet meals costs for clients who cannot afford to pay. If you can help, send a check to Rockville Meals on Wheels at P.O. Box 465, Rockville, MD 20848-0465 or visit the website to contribute through Pay Pal at www.rockvillemealsonwheels.org. For more information, call 301-340-1559, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - noon.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 16

Author/Speaker. 7-9:30 at Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. Witness the unfolding of a mosaic-like representation of the figure and importance of Mary Magdalene, through the lenses of archaeological

discoveries, historical texts, scriptural sources, and local traditions. Jennifer Ristine has been serving at the recently excavated site of ancient Magdala in the Holy Land since 2014. She is a consecrated woman and member of the Regnum Christi Movement. Suggested donation to attend: \$25 per person. Visit www.ourladyofbethesda.org.

THURSDAY/MAY 17

Mind-Body Connection. 7-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Potomac Community Village hosts: "Mind-Body Connection: Keys to Healthy Aging," Psychologist Heidi Hsia, Ph.D. on how a positive outlook helps attain and maintain quality of life, longevity; offers practical lifestyle changes. Free. Call 240-221-1370 or visit www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org.

TUESDAY/MAY 22

Free Grant Workshops. Noon-4 p.m. at Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave., Rockville. Maryland Humanities will present a free grants workshop for nonprofits and government entities offering programming related to the humanities, arts, or heritage preservation. The workshop will provide information about grant programs and application procedures for statewide and local organizations. The roster of presenters also includes the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County, Maryland Heritage Areas, Maryland Historical Trust, Maryland State Arts Council, and Preservation Maryland. Free but registration is required. Register at www.mdhumanities.org/grants/grant-programs/upcoming-grants-workshop.

Self-Determination at End of Life. 1-2:30 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac.

Potomac Community Village hosts: "Ensuring Self-Determination at the End of Life," with Rosalind Kipping, of Compassion and Choices of Maryland, on medical aid in dying, planning for care at the end of life, the proposed End of Life Options Act. Visit www.potomaccommunityvillage.org or call 240-221-1370.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 23

Alzheimer's Association Workshop. 6:30 p.m. at Brookdale Potomac, 11215 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. "Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research." At any age, there are lifestyle habits people can adopt to help maintain or even potentially improve their health. These habits may also help to keep brains healthy as we age and possibly delay the onset of cognitive decline. Free. For more information and to register, call 800-272-3900.

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Parents Question Provider Change

Wayside to have new before and after care provider.

By Peggy McEwan
The Almanac

When parents with children in Wayside Elementary School learned April 22 that the nonprofit organization, Farmland Child Development Center (CDC), providing before and after care lost its contract at the school they were very unhappy, according to Gina D'Angelo, a CDC board member and Wayside parent.

Actually, more than unhappy. So unhappy that they held a Town Hall meeting at Potomac Community Center Thursday, May 3. About 40 people attended the meeting to learn about the change in providers and express their concern about how the change came about.

"This is a very emotional things for us," D'Angelo said. "I feel blindsided. Why would you replace a great program with one you didn't know?"

CDC has been the before and after care provider at Wayside for 28 years, said Renee Sussman, director of the program who has been at the school 20 years.

No one ever thought CDC would lose the bid to continue at the school.

"Everyone was happy with it as far as I can tell," D'Angelo said.

As part of the Montgomery County Community Use of Public Facilities (CUPF) program, day care programs in schools must go through a competitive selection process every seven years.

This was the year for Wayside along with 11 other elementary schools.

The process began in the fall of 2017 according to the CUPF website. At that time, both the school principal and the childcare provider were notified that they were a site to be up for the bid process.

That process follows several steps throughout the school year including a principal appointed selection committee, Requests for Proposals and applicant interviews, ending with the posting of the result in mid-April. Kids Adventures, a for profit company located in Silver Spring, was selected for Wayside and will operate the program beginning in September 2018.

Not, however, if the CDC board of directors can block the decision.

"The county implemented a deeply flawed process in selecting and reviewing childcare organizations for the Wayside community," the CDC Board wrote in a letter to county Council member Roger Berliner. "Although county officials were required to adhere strictly to [regulations] and implement a system that was both transparent and inclusive, they — instead — manufactured an opaque process devoid of any meaningful input from the CDC community...."

The letter to Berliner listed eight areas in which the process was flawed.

See Parents Question, Page 11

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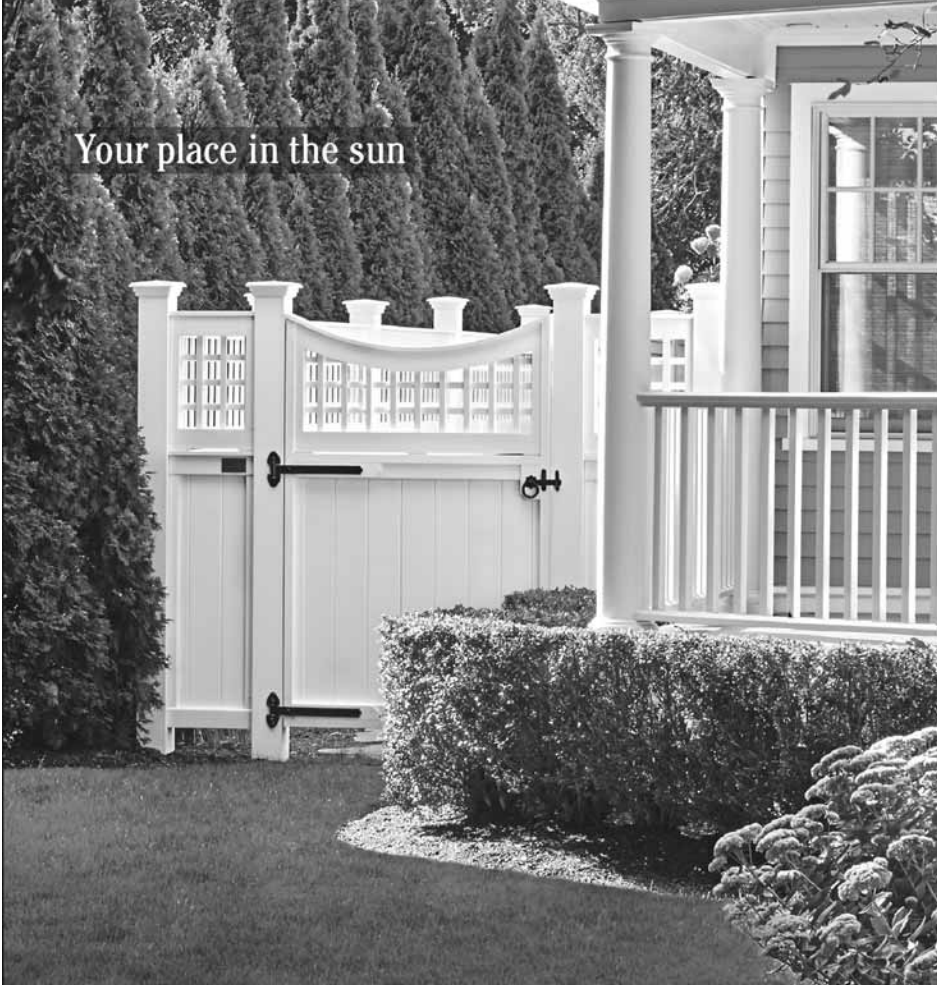
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HomeLifeStyle

Ready for Summer

Time to dust-off and spruce up patios for a season of al fresco entertaining.

By Marilyn Campbell

When designing the patio of her McLean home, interior design professor Jean Freeman of Marymount University, relied on the natural surroundings to create a backdrop for her outdoor oasis.

"I have an area in the backyard that has small stones and lounge furniture," she said. "Our backyard is next to Pimmit Run Trail and has lots of trees, some of which I planted. Also, I planted several holly trees so that the area would attract more birds and sometimes the bird chirping gets quite loud and wonderful."

Gentle breezes and mild temperatures are some of the pleasures of spring that beckon many outdoors for parties and family dinners, but turning a winter-worn patio into a space for entertaining can feel daunting. Breathing new life into a landscape dulled by snow and frost or creating an entirely new outdoor space might be easier than it appears.

When considering a patio furniture purchase, avoid the battle against Mother Nature by selecting pieces that can stand up to the elements. "The number one rule in furnishing your patio is to purchase quality furniture," said Anne Walker of Anne Walker Design LLC. "There are a lot of outdoor furnishings that look alike, but they are not all the same. Dedon, based in Germany and Janus et Cie, based in California, make excellent outdoor furnishings that will stand the test of time ... [and] will not fade, warp or degrade even if left outdoors in the elements for years."

Less expensive look-alikes will fall apart after just a few years or months of exposure to the elements, continued Walker. "I can't stress it enough: invest in high-quality outdoor furnishings or you will just be throwing your money away. Buy the best you can afford, and work little by little if need be to complete your outdoor space. You won't be sorry."

When choosing fabrics for that furniture, Todd Martz, co-owner of Home on Cameron in Old Town Alexandria, says, "Accessories like pillows and draperies as well as chairs, sofas and rugs are all available in low maintenance fabrics."

Selecting smaller, easy-to-move pieces of furniture over large sectionals will produce a design plan with versatility. "You'll be happy to have the flexibility to move things around when you entertain or when the sun shifts and you want to get into or away from the direct sun," said Walker.



Photo courtesy of Anne Walker

One design technique that Anne Walker has incorporated into the design of her own patio is choosing smaller, moveable pieces of furniture — like these Dedon Barcelona lounge chairs — over large sectionals to allow for a versatile design plan.

Incorporating potted plants into the landscape design offers versatility. "Mix several sized plants ... very large as well as different types of plants in smaller planters," added Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Proxmire, Inc. "Vary the textures as well as the color of green leaves such as ferns, palms and flowering plants."

Use planters to create architectural features like walls and borders. "The plants will add beautiful visual interest, and the planters are moveable, allowing flexibility in use and design," said Walker.

For those who want to build a stone patio, go for variety, but establish a solid base to avoid costly repairs later. "Combinations of flagstone and brick are elegant and more interesting than use of only one type of materials," said Walker. "Make sure you have a professional set your patio in concrete. It's much less expensive to set the stone in stone dust, but within a year or less the stones will begin to shift and weeds will grow through the gaps."

Lighting matters, says Proxmire, and she suggest that when designing or even sprucing up patio, "Use different sources of light [such as] inside-outdoor lamps, different sizes of lanterns, candlesticks with glass hurricanes," she said. "The candles with batteries are great for using outside because the wind isn't an issue."

Now that summer is on the horizon, Walker has a plan for getting her patio guest-ready. "I will power wash with my personal home power washer, plant a few flowers and boom! Ready to entertain," she said. "We love to entertain on our patio. It's our favorite space."



Photos by Stacy Zarin Goldberg

Kelley Proxmire suggests using plants and planters in a variety of sizes — such as these blue and white ceramic pots to create a light and airy patio space.



Todd Martz of Home on Cameron designed this patio and says that exterior spaces can be treated like an indoor room by using bright, fresh fabrics designed specifically for outdoors.

Urban Farming

Provides new meaning for locally grown.

By Ashley Claire Simpson
The Almanac

Just a few years ago, Bethesda residents would find a standard strip mall at 11580 Old Georgetown Road in North Bethesda. Today, it's the site of the Pike & Rose, a community complete with condominiums, apartments, office buildings. The residents of these buildings are a stone's throw from restaurants, shops and just about every type of venue one could imagine.

Mixed-use communities like Pike & Rose are developed to improve both human and environmental health. The developers behind Pike & Rose are taking these eco-priorities one step beyond – literally – with a rooftop gardening initiative.

Federal Realty, in partnership with Up Top Acres, a provider of rooftop farms, is launching 17,000 square feet of agriculture on at the top of Pike & Rose residential buildings.

"Federal Realty is trying to re-develop its properties to become mixed-use," said Chris Brown, Federal Realty's Director of Sustainability. "We did Bethesda Row, Pentagon Row, and other local projects. One thing about mixed use and high density developments is that it helps people in those communities focus on health. It's all about having live, work and play options together in one spot. The farm will galvanize residents to eat healthier and will add to the community that they glean from."

Pike & Rose's farm will thrive on urban farming roof space to date, benefitting the hundreds of residents and employees who work at businesses at Pike & Rose as well as the North Bethesda community.

"Green roofs are often installed to facilitate high performance energy, and rooftop gardens take it to a whole new level," Brown said. "They produce crops, but they are also good for stormwater management. When you can turn an otherwise unutilized space it into something that produces food for the community, something for residents to use, that's exciting."

Federal Realty has already experienced success with Up Top Acres.

"A few years ago, we were introduced to the founders of Up Top Acres, and they were looking for an opportunity to convert an existing green roof into a garden," Brown said. "Since Bethesda Row had a green roof, we partnered



Photo Contributed

A 17,000 square feet of agriculture on at the top of Pike & Rose residential buildings.

with them for them to build a 7,000-square-foot garden. Now it's been a solid partnership of three years. Both Federal Realty and Up Top Acres are always looking to expand and recreate. The opportunity to do a larger scale farm, make it an interactive part of the community and offer community supported agriculture is something we are looking forward to."

Up Top Acres was founded by three DC locals with a shared passion for their hometown and a collective goal to make it an even better place.

"We started working on the idea in 2014," Up Top Acres co-founder Kristof Grina said. "Each member of the founding team has a different specialty, and I'm the one with the agricultural background. We were all captivated by the concept of rooftop farming. We got inspired and thought it would be great to bring to DC. We opened our first, pilot rooftop in 2015 [with Bethesda Row] and since then we have grown to seven different rooftops — collectively we're farming more than two acres."

The 17,000-square-foot rooftop garden at Pike & Rose is Up Top Acres' biggest project to date.

"Our mission aligned with that of Federal Realty for the garden at Pike & Rose," Grina said. "We are opening it officially this spring to provide produce for the local community – for the residents, whole-

sale clients, restaurants in the Pike & Rose development, and to the greater North Bethesda community."

Up Top Acres' farm will ensure that Pike & Rose's city slickers will

benefit from a full spectrum of farm fresh vegetables.

"We are growing everything from lettuces, mixed greens, herbs, peppers, radishes, and so much more. There are 16 differ-

Home Sales

In March 2018, 61 Potomac homes sold between \$3,000,000-\$500,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$3,000,000-\$775,000 range.

For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR	FB	HB	.....	Postal City	.....	Sold Price	Type	.....	Lot AC	Postal Code	.....	Subdivision
19 PINEY GLEN CT	6	7	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$3,000,000	Detached	.....	10.68	20854	.....	PINEY GLEN FARMS
11507 SKIPWITH LN	6	5	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$2,169,000	Detached	.....	2.68	20854	.....	POTOMAC FALLS
13 POTOMAC MANORS CT	7	8	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$2,050,000	Detached	.....	1.60	20854	.....	POTOMAC MANOR
11225 RIVER VIEW DR	6	6	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,900,000	Detached	.....	1.72	20854	.....	MARWOOD
9400 CRIMSON LEAF TER	6	6	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,750,000	Detached	.....	0.62	20854	.....	AVENEL
9731 SORREL AVE	7	7	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,700,000	Detached	.....	2.30	20854	.....	FALCONHURST
9806 KENDALE RD	5	5	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,595,000	Detached	.....	0.57	20854	.....	MCAULEY PARK
7802 CADBURY AVE	4	3	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,429,000	Townhouse	.....	0.05	20854	.....	PARK POTOMAC
10700 LOCKLAND RD	6	3	1	.....	ROCKVILLE	.....	\$1,425,000	Detached	.....	1.89	20854	.....	POTOMAC OUTSIDE
9210 PEGASUS CT	5	5	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,380,000	Detached	.....	2.06	20854	.....	POTOMAC RANCH
11810 CHAREN LN	6	5	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,320,000	Detached	.....	0.33	20854	.....	REGENCY ESTATES
12575 ANSIN CIRCLE DR	5	3	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,305,000	Townhouse	.....	0.05	20854	.....	PARK POTOMAC
10 LAKE POTOMAC CT	6	4	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,275,000	Detached	.....	2.00	20854	.....	LAKE POTOMAC
10415 BOSWELL LN	4	5	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,265,000	Detached	.....	1.04	20854	.....	PT ROCKVILLE OUT RES. 3
10828 BARN WOOD LN	6	4	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,250,000	Detached	.....	2.02	20854	.....	RIVER OAKS FARM
13309 MORNING FIELD WAY	5	4	0	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,226,500	Detached	.....	0.19	20854	.....	PINEY GLEN VILLAGE
9801 HALL RD	6	4	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,200,000	Detached	.....	0.47	20854	.....	POTOMAC OUTSIDE
11005 RIVERWOOD DR	5	3	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,192,900	Detached	.....	2.08	20854	.....	POTOMAC VIEW ESTS
7805 GATE POST WAY	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,152,500	Townhouse	.....	0.09	20854	.....	RIVER FALLS
131 BYTHAM RIDGE LN	3	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,100,000	Attach/Row Hse	.....	0.77	20854	.....	POTOMAC HIGHLANDS
10407 DEMOCRACY LN	5	4	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,068,000	Detached	.....	0.23	20854	.....	INVERNESS FOREST
123 BYTHAM RIDGE LN	3	2	2	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,062,000	Detached	.....	0.06	20854	.....	POTOMAC HIGHLANDS
9007 BELMART RD	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,050,000	Detached	.....	2.17	20854	.....	GREAT FALLS ESTATES
10337 WINDSOR VIEW DR	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,040,000	Detached	.....	0.35	20854	.....	WINDSOR HILLS
9415 TURNBERRY DR	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,040,000	Townhouse	.....	0.08	20854	.....	AVENEL
11801 HUNTING RIDGE CT	5	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,032,000	Detached	.....	0.35	20854	.....	GLEN OAKS
11732 CANFIELD RD	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,000,000	Detached	.....	0.36	20854	.....	WINTERSSET
10005 SOUTH GLEN RD	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$995,000	Detached	.....	0.46	20854	.....	POTOMAC OUTSIDE
8506 HUNTER CREEK TRL	5	2	1	.....	ROCKVILLE	.....	\$950,172	Detached	.....	0.25	20854	.....	FOX HILLS
9001 ROUEN LN	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$939,000	Detached	.....	0.43	20854	.....	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS
10226 DEMOCRACY LN	4	2	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$905,000	Patio Home	.....	0.10	20854	.....	EAST GATE OF POTOMAC
8504 HORSESHOE LN	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$900,000	Detached	.....	2.00	20854	.....	POTOMAC RANCH
12532 ANSIN CIRCLE DR	4	4	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$895,000	Townhouse	.....	0.03	20854	.....	PARK POTOMAC
11436 CEDAR RIDGE DR	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$895,000	Townhouse	.....	0.06	20854	.....	POTOMAC CREST
12404 BEALL SPRING RD	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$850,000	Detached	.....	2.00	20854	.....	BEALLMOUNT
11413 ROUEN DR	5	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$850,000	Detached	.....	0.38	20854	.....	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS
10906 CANDLELIGHT LN	4	2	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$850,000	Detached	.....	0.27	20854	.....	FOX HILLS
11700 DEVILWOOD CT	5	3	0	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$840,000	Detached	.....	0.38	20854	.....	REGENCY ESTATES
8800 HARNESSTRL	4	2	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$835,000	Detached	.....	0.25	20854	.....	FOX HILLS
12430 ANSIN CIRCLE DR	4	4	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$820,000	Townhouse	.....	0.03	20854	.....	WHEEL OF FORTUNE
9405 WOODINGTON DR	4	3	1	.....	POTOMAC	.....	\$805,000	Detached	.....	0.41	20854	.....	BEDFORDSHIRE
8009 GRAND TETON DR	3	2	2	POTOMAC	\$775,000	Semi-Detached	0.16	20854	INVERNESS FOREST

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Berliner

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problem facing Montgomery County today?

I believe that the biggest challenge facing our county is increasing our revenues – without increasing taxes – in order to have the funds we need to address school overcrowding, congestion, and the growing poverty in our midst. That means we must grow our tax base, which translates into creating more jobs in our county. Our county has for far too long been overly dependent on the Federal government. We must focus on diversifying our economy if we are going to succeed. I believe the future of the economy is the “innovation economy,” which includes the bio-health community, IT, and the Googles, Apples, and yes, the Amazon’s of the world. We must position ourselves to attract them and at the same time, make it easier for small businesses to thrive. I have worked diligently at these sets of issues for the past 12 years on the Council, but my ability to make significant strides will be exponentially increased as County Executive.

I think we can support employer growth and success by 1) creating a culture that is welcoming, appreciative and supportive of small business owners, 2) investing in work force development to ensure talented/highly trained workforce strategically targeted at identified industries, 3) investing in our relatively new business run organization in charge of economic development, the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation, and holding them accountable based on sound strategic plan and reliable metrics, 4) growing a climate of innovation by expanding the Chief Innovation Officer into a thriving Office of Innovation to help put our county at the forefront of new technologies, creative solutions, and cutting-edge service delivery, 5) investing in and expand transit service/infrastructure by building the purple line, a BRT network, and the CCT in order to enhance mobility throughout the county, 6) supporting small businesses by increasing the role of the Small Business Navigator and Business Solutions Group, and 7) streamlining regulations in a meaningful way that provides a predictable and timely regulatory process.

What is your dream accomplishment for the County?

Implementing a universal Pre-k-14 integrated education system that provides all of our children with the skills they need to succeed. Our children are the future of our county. If we aren’t investing in them we aren’t investing in our future.

Is there anything else you think voters should know about you when deciding who to vote for?

Bringing people together in order to achieve real tangible results is part of my DNA. I am a Common Ground guy. The Washington Post described me as “progressive but pragmatic.” I take issue with the “but.” You must be both to do this work and make big things happen. I take the time to learn all the details, dive deep into the issues – fully recognizing that they are generally not as black and white as they are often made out to be – and bring all the stakeholders together in order to find answers to tough questions. It is this kind of leadership that earned me the Scull Award for outstanding regional service and the endorsement of the Sierra Club for my commitment to sustainability and the environment.

Blair

From Page 2

including Forbes’ America’s Most Powerful CEOs 40 and Under.

What do you consider the biggest problem facing Montgomery County today?

Our economy is stagnant. Our county leaders have created an unfriendly business environment. We’ve only added six net new business establishments over the last five years. Fairfax County had more than 3,000. We’ve added fewer than 4,000 private sector jobs over the past 15 years while our population has increased by 150,000 – that’s one job for every 38 people. It is no wonder that 200,000 of our residents commute to places like DC and Virginia each morning for work. I am concerned that many of our young residents leave for college and then don’t come back – they are finding better employment and more affordable living elsewhere. There’s no greater urgency facing our county right now than our economy. I’m the only candidate to have put forth a comprehensive Jobs and Economic Plan to address this challenge. The plan was born out of discussions with hundreds of employers, government officials, community groups and residents; best practices from around the country; as well as my own business experiences with one goal in mind: to identify the best ideas to move Montgomery County forward.

What is your dream accomplishment for the County?

We need an education system that works for everyone and responds to the changing needs of our growing county. As our student population continues to expand, new resources are needed to ensure every student can succeed in the classroom. My dream accomplishment is to expand our school funding to:

- ❖ Provide high-quality, pre-K programs in all Montgomery County schools;
- ❖ Reduce classroom sizes;
- ❖ Build new schools or modernize existing ones so our kids do not have to learn in portables;
- ❖ Ensure 100% of our high school graduates are college- or career-ready;
- ❖ Close the achievement gap through early education initiatives for 0-3-year old’s; and
- ❖ Invest in after school and summer programs for our students.

I’ll work on creative solutions to increase funding for schools such as establishing a private foundation to supplement public investment; and team up with local colleges and business leaders for mentorship and support programs to ensure all children have a fair chance to excel.

Is there anything else you think voters should know about you when deciding who to vote for?

Last year, my wife Mikel and I opened Badlands Playspace, an innovative education center in Rockville where families can come together to play and learn. My wife and I are also philanthropists and actively support various local organizations aiming to end poverty and homelessness, promote healthy living, empower children with disabilities and provide quality early childhood education.⁹

We have great passion for our county and take pride in the work that we do. If elected County Executive, I’ll work hard to build the diverse, high-performing, job-growing county that we all want and deserve.

For more information visit BlairForMontgomery.com

Frick

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What is your dream accomplishment for the County?

As County Executive, I’ll strive to achieve three primary objectives:

Objective 1: Improve Quality of Life. Ensure that we are making the right investments in the essential services that local government exists to provide: education, transportation, and public safety. Good schools and safe neighborhoods are the reason so many of our families came to Montgomery County in the first place, and they are essential to our future. I will make sure our funding priorities reflect these public priorities.

Objective 2: Recharge Our Economy. A critical aspect of funding these services, and allowing our neighbors to build stable lives is access to good jobs with good wages. Montgomery County has developed a reputation as a county that is hostile to private enterprise, leading too many small and large businesses to choose D.C. or Virginia. When that happens, our property tax base shrinks and our income tax revenues suffer. As County Executive, I intend to show that we can be a progressive, inclusive community that also boasts a thriving and exciting private sector economy.

Objective 3: Reform Local Government. Montgomery County needs to provide a great public education, safe communities, and the transportation infrastructure to let families spend their time together instead of stuck on congested roadways. The County does not need to be in the liquor business or the cable media business, for example. In my administration, we will improve our delivery of the core services by reducing our involvement in unnecessary and ancillary enterprises and by better embracing technology.

Krasnow

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FARMs rate, a paucity of daycare resources, and so forth.

I want everyone in this county to have a chance to be successful, and I believe my priorities will move us in the right direction. Certainly, my views on closing the minority achievement gap address this issue. Improved transit options will improve the mobility of all of those in lower socio-economic classes who cannot afford single occupancy vehicles and who face challenges getting to and from work and to other destinations that are important to them. Finally, workforce development programs for the unemployed and underemployed will provide important training that will help many in the lower socio-economic classes obtain the skills, certifications, and licenses needed to compete and achieve middle class jobs; ones that will provide a path to successful careers in the building trades, health and healthcare services, information technology, life sciences, or hospitality industries.

What is your dream accomplishment for the County?

I want to significantly accelerate the growth of businesses and well-paying jobs in order to expand the tax base without increasing the tax burden on our residents. This is essential if the county government is going to have the resources required to address our significant needs in local education, public safety, and transportation.

Is there anything else you think voters should know about you when deciding who to vote for?

Voters need to realize that elective legislative experience does not necessary translate well or prepare a person for being County Executive. I am the only candidate with elective executive experience (Mayor of Rockville for 3 terms) and an outstanding record of accomplishment while in office. Further, my background in the financial sector is a huge advantage for me to be an excellent steward of the county’s finances with the ability to make the decisions necessary to preserve the county’s AAA bond rating.

Elrich

From Page 2

economic justice and a deep understanding of how county government works, and I am a practical problem-solver. I have found that people are more empathetic than we often give them credit for and that seeing the possibility of building a better society is something that a lot of people are hungry for; I believe my wide range of experiences will help me show people that possibility.

Past experience: political and/or professional.

I was elected to the County Council in 2006 and was the top vote-getter in the at-large County Council races in both 2010 and 2014. I chair the Public Safety Committee, serve on the Education Committee, and am the County Council's representative to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Transportation Planning Board. From 1987 to 2016, I served on the Takoma Park City Council. During my time in public office, I have successfully pushed for two minimum wage increases, tenant rights legislation, paid sick and family leave, environmental protections — including leading the fight to save Ten Mile Creek, protecting the viewshed of the C&O Canal from encroachment, protecting the tree canopy, and opposing a second bridge crossing over the Potomac — and more responsible master plans.

While I was on the Takoma Park City Council, I taught fourth and fifth grade for 17 years at Rolling Terrace, a high-poverty elementary school. And before I first ran for public office, I was in the private sector for 16 years, including as a manager in a large corporation and a small business. I was a founder and one of the original worker managers of the Takoma Park food co-op; I understand the issues involved in meeting payroll and know what it takes to run an organization effectively. I also did tenant and community organizing, served on master plan committees, and served on the county's Transportation Policy Review Task Force.

What do you consider the biggest problem facing Montgomery County today?

Since the Great Recession, county revenues have been relatively static. The taxable wage base has not recovered along with jobs because many new jobs pay lower wages than the jobs we lost. And bond rating agencies have expected us to meet higher reserve requirements than existed before the recession, meaning that tens of millions of dollars that would have ordinarily gone to restoring services are now sitting in reserve funds and unavailable for operating expenditures. These two factors have made it harder to maintain services, let alone address the county's rising needs.

I plan to address this problem as the next County Executive. I am not willing to accept the status quo. I intend to change the way the county government operates so we can ensure that we can invest sufficiently in priorities like schools, transportation, and environmental sustainability in the coming years. I believe that we have the ability to achieve this goal because I will partner with our employees and the unions that represent them. They have a shared interest in making sure the county is sustainable, and they have endorsed me for County Executive because they trust my leadership. I have outlined a First 90 Days Financial To-Do List, which you can read more about at <https://www.marcelrich.org/making-government-work-better>; that will help us begin to pivot people and resources to address what we cannot do today and put us on a more sustainable path.

What is your dream accomplishment for the County?

My dream accomplishment is to realize our county's full potential by closing the opportunity gap in the county with an "inside/outside" strategy that builds both stronger communities and well-resourced schools, filling our vacant office space by enhancing quality of life and helping small, local businesses start and thrive, and making government services more equitable and more effective for residents. I think we can be engaged in truly smart growth where we provide the transportation and schools necessary to support our development and not leave the area in gridlock with overcrowded schools. It is important to make these decisions in a way that preserves existing affordable housing and light industrial areas, which are important for job preservation and creation. We know that quality of life is central to why businesses want to come here; I believe we can and should remain one of the most attractive places to live and work in the country.

Is there anything else you think voters should know about you when deciding who to vote for?

I am participating in Montgomery County's new public financing program, which limits contributions to \$150 so no one person or organization has undue influence. I am the only member of the County Council and the only candidate running for County Executive who is not taking and has never taken money from developers; developers stand to make millions of dollars from the decisions county leaders make. While I am known for my open-door policy and will meet with anyone, I have the freedom to make decisions that may not be popular with powerful interests, and you will never have to question whether I am working for you or for big-money donors.

You can learn more about me and my policies at my website, www.marcelrich.org.

Leventhal

From Page 3

public service job in the county.

Life in Montgomery County is so enriched by our diversity. My grandparents, my mother and my wife are all immigrants to America. As County Executive, I will stand up to the Trump administration in their efforts to intimidate and terrorize immigrant communities.

I'm not running as an outsider to county government. I'm running as the guy who knows how to get results by advancing policies that reflect our progressive values. I offer progress and experience that money can't buy.

Past experience: political and/or professional.

I have been a Montgomery County Councilmember for 15 years. Prior to that I was the Chair of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee for five years. I was Senator Barbara Mikulski's Legislative Director for five years. In December, 2017 I earned my PhD in Public Policy at the University of Maryland.

What do you consider the biggest problem facing Montgomery County today?

The issue of de facto segregation in our schools is the top structural inequity in Montgomery County, and it is too important for our future for the next County Executive to take a hands-off approach. For too long, we have failed to address the fact that outcomes for Black and brown kids are deeply inequitable, as compared to outcomes for white and Asian American kids, and that access to the programs that can change kids' lives and trajectories are concentrated among families that already have the most resources. It's a disgrace that in our community, where we express progressive values and promote diversity and inclusion, that we would tolerate schools where segregation by race and income is increasing (<https://ggwash.org/view/31601/de-facto-segregation-threatens-montgomery-public-schools>).

What is your dream accomplishment for the County?

My dream accomplishment would be to ensure that our schools provide opportuni-

ties for every family in our community regardless of race, income, or zip code and that access to health care is guaranteed.

Is there anything else you think voters should know about you when deciding who to vote for?

I have a deep desire to help those who most need a government on their side. I have some ideas:

Affordable Housing – When Ike Leggett was elected to his first term as County Executive, I suggested to him that he create the position of Faith Liaison, which both Fairfax County and the District of Columbia had already. The position is currently filled by the Rev. Mansfield "Kasey" Kaseman. If I'm elected County Executive, I will significantly increase the portfolio of that position. Kasey has been working to develop a GIS mapping system of houses of worship, which I would like to see us put to use to identify locations where affordable housing could be developed. Then, we should work to partner willing houses of worship with developers to utilize available land for a multiplicity of affordable housing types, ranging from multi-family buildings to collections of tiny homes. Religious institutions are mission-driven, and many of them have land that could be made available at a below-market price. I will also double the amount of money in the Housing Initiative Fund in my first term as County Executive.

Education - If elected County Executive, I will initiate a program whereby the county pays in-state higher education costs for residents with critical workforce skills (especially language skills), in return for a reciprocal obligation, where the residents agree to come back and work for the county for five years after getting a degree. This would assist in meeting the acute need for speakers of Spanish and other critical languages in the school system, law enforcement, Health and Human Services, and other areas.

I have been endorsed by the LGBTQ Democratic Club, the Latino Democratic Club, Congressman Kweisi Mfume, Delegate Sheila Hixson, former Senators Karen Montgomery and Ida Ruben, former Delegates Saqib Ali, Bill Bronrott, and Herman Taylor, Garrett Park Mayor Peter Benjamin, and many, many other local leaders.

FRIDAY/MAY 11

25th Anniversary Party. 6-9 p.m. at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East West Highway, Bethesda. In recognition of this milestone, Waverly has planned a Special Anniversary Exhibit from May 6-June 2, featuring the work of present and past Waverly Street Gallery members from D.C., Maryland and Virginia. The Gallery is open Wednesday – Sunday, noon-6 p.m. Call 301-951-9441 or visit www.facebook.com/waverlygallery/ or visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 12

Choral Concerts in Montgomery County. 7 p.m. at Asbury Methodist Village, 201 Russell Ave., Gaithersburg. The Encore Chorales and the Encore ROCKS, rock 'n' roll choruses, of Montgomery County invite the community to attend their free choral concerts. No tickets or reservations required. Visit



Jewelry by Debra Adelson.

Bethesda Fine Arts Festival

The Bethesda Urban Partnership will hold the 15th annual Bethesda Fine Arts Festival, a two-day event highlighting more than 120 contemporary artists from across the country who will showcase and sell their original painting, drawing, photography, furniture, jewelry, woodwork, ceramics and more. Six blocks from the Bethesda Metro station. Free parking is available adjacent to the event. Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, May 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle along Norfolk and Auburn avenues. Visit www.bethesda.org or call 301-215-6660.

encorecreativity.org, call 301-261-5747 or email info@encorecreativity.org.

Stand-Up Comedy. 8 p.m. at Highwood Theatre, 914 Silver Spring Ave., Silver Spring. All female line-up featuring Sara Armour, Kandace Saunders, Michele Sometimes, Sandy Bernstein and Violet Gray. Giveaways and treats for the women in the audience. Cost is \$24/advance /\$28/door. Tickets at www.improbablecomedy.com.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 12-13

Bethesda Fine Arts Festival.

Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle along Norfolk and Auburn avenues. The Bethesda Urban Partnership will hold the 15th annual Bethesda Fine Arts Festival, a two-day event highlighting more than 120 contemporary artists from across the country who will showcase and sell their original painting, drawing, photography, furniture, jewelry, woodwork, ceramics and more. Six blocks from the Bethesda Metro station. Free parking is available adjacent to the event. Visit www.bethesda.org or call 301-215-6660.

"Snow White." Saturday, 1 and 5 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Lost in the forest, Snow White takes refuge in the house of the seven dwarfs to hide from her stepmother, the wicked Queen. Filled with forest friends and creatures, Maryland Youth Ballet's adaptation of the classic fairy-tale is for audiences of all ages. Also presenting Alvin Mayes' contemporary piece Eireann Kente and the classic ballet La Bayadere, Act II, Kingdom of the Shades. Cost: \$18-\$26. Email: tickets@marylandyouthballet.org. Visit www.marylandyouthballet.org.

20th Maine Regiment Civil War Camp Reenactment. At Great Falls Tavern, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. Enjoy two days of living history at Great Falls Tavern by experiencing the tavern area as it would have looked like throughout the Civil War. Programs at Great Falls Tavern are free, but there is an entrance fee of \$10 to the park per vehicle. Call 301-767-3714.

SUNDAY/MAY 13

Waltz Dance. 3:30-6 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Featuring Blue Bamboo playing a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango and Polka. Introductory Waltz Workshop from 2:45-3:30 p.m. Social



Crowds visit a previous Bethesda Fine Arts Festival.

Bethesda Fine Arts Festival

The 15th annual Bethesda Fine Arts Festival will feature artists from across the country artists from across the country to showcase and sell their original painting, drawing, photography, furniture, jewelry, woodwork, ceramics and more. Bands will be performing and Bethesda restaurants will be on site. Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, May 13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle along Norfolk and Auburn avenues, rain or shine. Admission is free. Visit www.bethesda.org or call 301-215-6660.

dancing follows until 6 p.m. Admission is \$13. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 18-20

SerbFest Spring Festival. At Saint Luke Serbian Orthodox Church, 10660 River Road, Potomac. SerbFest DC's Spring 2018 Festival brings authentic Serbian food, culture, crafts and entertainment, dance and music performances, gifts and boutique items and family-friendly activities. Hours are Friday, May 18 (11 a.m.-9 p.m.); Saturday, May 19 (11 a.m.-9 p.m.); and Sunday, May 20 (12 noon-6 p.m.). Visit www.serbfestdc.com/.

SATURDAY/MAY 19

Fifteenmile Creek Pride. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Lockhouse 28, 3705 Canal Road, Point of Rocks, Md. Volunteers needed to help remove vegetation from historic Lockhouse 28, spruce up Lockhouse 28 and the nearby picnic area, repaint picnic tables and visitor facilities, and remove invasive plant species and trash. Projects are suitable for ages 12 and older. SSL hours are available. Registration is required. Visit www.canaltrust.org/pyv_events/canal-pride-days-at-point-of-rocks or email Heidi Schlag at schlag@canaltrust.org.

Gaithersburg Book Festival. 10

a.m.-6 p.m. at Gaithersburg City Hall, 31 S. Summit Ave., Gaithersburg. Free workshops for adults, teens and children. Some workshops for adults and teens include: How to Write a Mystery – Alan Orloff; Where Your Story Begins – Hildie Block; Flash Fiction 101 – Tyrese L. Coleman; Story Writing – Con Lehane, and more. Visit <http://gaithersburgbookfestival.org/gbf-programs/workshops/> to see the complete adult/teen workshop schedule and descriptions. Visit <http://gaithersburgbookfestival.org>.

Gaithersburg Book Festival Finalists. The Gaithersburg Book Festival has announced the names of finalists for its Short Story Contest for high school students. The local finalists are: Keira DiGaetano, Richard Montgomery High School; Madeline Hudson, Gaithersburg High School; Nathalie Jabbour, Walter Johnson; and Natalia Pereira, Walter Johnson High School. The first-, second- and third-place winners and the fan favorite will be announced at the Festival on May 19. Voting for Fan Favorite Story closes May 7. Prizes for first-, second- and third-place winners are \$250, \$100 and \$50, respectively. The fan favorite winner will receive \$25. Visit www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org or follow on Twitter @GburgBookFest.

SUNDAY/MAY 20

5K Race/Walk and 1K Fun Run. 8-11 a.m. Fundraiser to support

Muskaan India Inc. of Potomac. To be held at Fairfax Corner Center, 4100 Monument Corner Drive, Fairfax. The organization Muskaan is a U.S. based 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports Muskaan, a NGO in New Delhi, India. Started in 1982, as a small place for children with disabilities to have fun and spend time together, it now focuses on empowering students with a comprehensive education, life skills, vocational training and work opportunities so that they are able to lead a quality life with respect and dignity. Visit www.muskaanthengo.org.

Potomac Hunt Races. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. on the Kiplinger estate in Poolesville. The Potomac Hunt Races is an annual tradition, celebrating the sport of steeplechase racing. Amidst the thrill of thundering hooves and soaring horses, race day festivities include a car display, mounted police demonstrations, a Kid Zone, and Vendor Village. Visit www.potomachuntraces.com.

Choral Concerts in Montgomery County. 7 p.m. at Asbury Methodist Village, 201 Russell Ave., Gaithersburg. The Encore Chorales and the Encore ROCKS, rock 'n' roll choruses, of Montgomery County invite the community to attend their free choral concerts. No tickets or reservations required. Visit encorecreativity.org, call 301-261-5747 or email info@encorecreativity.org.

MONDAY/MAY 21

Memorial Dedication. 1 p.m. at Memorial Plaza, at the Government Complex Center Terrace, 101 Monroe St., Rockville. County Executive Ike Leggett, local officials and Vietnam War veterans will dedicate the Montgomery County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall. The memorial will include the names of 130 service members from Montgomery County who were killed or reported missing in action during the Vietnam War. Montgomery County is inviting family members and friends of these fallen heroes to participate in the ceremony. For more information and to RSVP, call Community Outreach Manager Betsy Tolbert Luecking at the Commission on Veterans Affairs at 240-777-1256 or send an email to Betsy.Luecking@montgomerycountymd.gov.

THURSDAY/MAY 24

Moonshine Society (Blues). 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park, corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues, Bethesda. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org.

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Open House

Photos by Deborah Stevens/The Almanac

The Potomac Horse Center held an open house on Sunday, May 4, with horse rides, hay rides, food, and face painting. The Friends of Potomac Horse Center are embarking on a capital campaign to raise \$1 million over the next 10 years to repair, rebuild, and upgrade the center's facilities.



Andy Van Wye and Stormy



Shai Kaplan and Hali Hartman

Parents Question Provider Change

From Page 5

When asked if the process was followed according to regulations, Elizabeth Haberman of the Office of Community Use of Public Facilities replied by email. "CUPF staff take great care to follow all of the steps in the regulation. I am not aware of any variations," she wrote.

Thursday's meeting included an explanation of the flawed process as the CDC board sees it and input from parents or others involved with CDC. Many parents spoke about the positive role CDC plays in their families.

Board members announced they would meet with a lawyer experienced in working with the county and its regulations on May 7 and work for change following the tack that the process was not transparent enough and the county did not adhere to its own guidelines.

A few parents expressed deeper concerns, alluding to personnel problems at Kids Adventures.

"Two employees of Kids Adventures are currently indicted for crimes," Sussman said. "In the fall of 2016 an employee at [the Kids Adventures program] was accused

of improper touching, that is reported in the Washington Post; and the other, reported April 2 on WJLA, involved a fight and robbery between two employees. This speaks to the type of people they hire."

Kids Adventures was asked about these allegations and how they would reassure parents about care in its hiring practices.

"In accordance with our policies and procedures, we conduct both state and federal background checks on all staff that remain open throughout their tenure of employment," Drew Phillips, executive director of Kids Adventures, wrote in an email. "Ensuring a safe environment for the students in the program is our top priority."

Will the CDC Board be able to put the decision on hold while they appeal?

"The regulation provided for a review of the process. If a request for review is timely, the decision would be put on hold, while CUPF's board, the Interagency Coordinating Board for the Community Use of Public Facilities (ICB) committee reviews CUPF's compliance with regulation. The ICB cannot overturn a school committee's decision," Haberman replied in her email.

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Still Haven't Seen the Light



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Wow!. I just saved "Up to \$504 ** " (not including the two asterisks), and all I did was buy a six pack of LED light bulbs. So it says on the package anyway.

Maybe I should buy another six-pack and save even more money? There are only two problems (just two?) with this plan. First, I don't see a rebate-type form to complete and return and; in lieu there of, neither is there a guarantee, considering my health situation, that I'll even live long enough ("Lasts 13+ Years") to realize the benefit/savings of not spending additional money on light bulbs. (Are they even called light bulbs any more? I don't see it printed on the package anywhere.)

And while I'll definitely enjoy not spending money on light bulbs – or whatever they're called, I won't enjoy wondering if I've now spent money on light bulbs that I don't actually need and/or likely will never even use. I mean, I have previously – because as a country/consumer we've had no other choice, given that the incandescent light bulb ship has sailed – bought replacement light bulbs. I don't remember however, if the bulbs were LED, Halogen, Incandescent, CFL, Fluorescent or who knows what? Literally. Certainly not me.

My only light-bulb-related talent is screwing them into the fixture as I've written about previously. (Do you remember I called myself "Taurus Bulba"?) In fact, I may very well have already installed light bulbs that are going to last for years so it's possible there isn't even a need to allocate dollars and sense to bulb inventory – or even to write this column.

I suppose that if I'm serious and/or inclined to shine a light on this problem, I need to get organized, either on my computer or in pen in a notebook (Sort of like how my wife's Italian grandfather, Cesare, did regarding Christmas cards. He had years of notebooks with names listed with boxes alongside, checked or not, for cards sent and/or received) to identify which lights/fixtures have which kind of light bulbs so I'll know whether it's likely I'll actually need to spend money on replacement light bulbs.

If the light bulbs really are going to "Last 13+ years," (as is also printed on the package) then I might not need to buy them any more, for awhile, anyway. As a result, light bulbs will no longer be a regular purchase like toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, etc. Instead, they will become an irregular purchase like batteries, sponges and the like.

Now, if I really can stop this unnecessary light-bulb-redundancy, I should have a few extra dollars that I can allocate elsewhere on real necessities – like candy, cookies and ice cream.

Having sorted out the light bulb task ahead of me; in addition to saving money, I will have saved time as well. And who wouldn't want to save time and money? Everybody. However, saving it in this excruciatingly boring/mundane manner has limited appeal, I would guess.

But, we're not just saving pennies here; potentially, according to the light bulb's packaging, we are apparently saving hundreds of dollars, and hundreds are worth saving.

Unfortunately, the dollars saved are not exactly in-pocket. They're more dollars which won't be spent out-of-pocket. Not as direct as a rebate, but more like an indirect benefit such as money saved from the installation of energy-efficient windows or placing insulation in your attic.

Either way, it's money not in somebody else's pocket. I just wish the manufacturers could figure out a way to pay me today, especially since I paid them yesterday.

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

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