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Potomac ALMANAC



Carmella enters pool with the help of swim coach Erica Dale at the K9 Aquatic and Wellness Center.

30-Minute Workout

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PHOTO BY BILL BRONROTT

MAY 16-22, 2018

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Running for At-Large Council Seats

BY PEGGY McEWAN
THE ALMANAC

With the Maryland Primary Elections scheduled to be held June 26, the Potomac Almanac is profiling candidates in a crowded field. Especially crowded is the run for Montgomery County Council at large seats.

As described on the Montgomery County Council website

(www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council): “The Montgomery County Council is the legislative branch of County government. It has nine members, all elected at the same time by the voters of Montgomery County to serve four-year terms. The term of the present Council, elected November 2014, began at noon on Dec. 1, 2014 and will continue until noon on Dec. 3, 2018. Five members of the Council are elected by the voters of their respective Council districts. Four members are elected at-large by all voters

of the County. The Council officers are elected by the Council from among its members in December for a one-year term.”

Each of the major party candidates, four Republican and 33 Democratic — Maryland does not list third party candidates on the primary — was sent an email asking the candidate to submit a paragraph explaining why they are running for the County Council and what voters should know about them when making their voting decision.

Candidates were asked to supply:

Name, age, city of residence and a paragraph explaining why they are running for the County Council and what voters should know about them when making their decision re voting.

Of the 37 emails sent, only nine were returned completed. They were from Republican Robert Dyer and Democrats Gabe Alborno, Marilyn Balcombe, Evan Glass, Neil Greenberger, Will Jawando, Melissa McKenna, Jill Ortman-Fouse, and Michele Riley.

These are the responses:



Gabe Alborno

Democrat, 42, Kensington

I love Montgomery County. As a life-long resident who is committed to my community both through volunteering and working as the director of the County's Recreation Department, I believe that elected office is a noble profession and provides a clear opportunity to impact economic, and social change and serve as a bridge between communities. There are challenges ahead and limited fiscal

resources. As an inclusive leader, I want to make sure all voices are heard and respected to find solutions that work for everyone.



Evan Glass

Democrat, 41, Silver Spring

I want to make sure that Montgomery County remains a wonderful place to live, work and play. As a long time resident, I have been engaged at all levels in civic, nonprofit and political organizations. I currently serve as the executive director of a nonprofit that provides free after school programs to disadvantaged youth. My local leadership includes tenure as president of two civic associations

and board service to organizations that provide affordable housing, environmental protection and public safety. Professionally, I was a CNN journalist for 12 years covering Congress and national affairs. As a result of these professional experiences, I know firsthand the importance of neighborhood safety and stability, as well as providing oversight and accountability. I want to ensure that our government is helping all of our communities and residents. If elected, I will be the watchdog to ensure our government gets things done right.



Marilyn Balcombe

Democrat, 60, Germantown

This is a landmark election. With at least four new Council members and a new County Executive we need to elect new leaders who have a comprehensive knowledge of the complexity of the issues facing our County. I have been active in our community for the past 25 years on a number of issues such as transportation, master plans, zoning, budgets, legislation, nonprofit funding. I've

worked on projects as large as opening BlackRock Center for the Arts or as small as getting a new traffic light installed. I've advocated for libraries, parks, police stations, schools, and the arts. I am also an accountant with over 35 years of experience in budget and finance. I have a Ph.D. in Organizational Psychology and know how effective organizations should operate. I know the job requirements for County Council and there is no doubt that I am one of the most qualified candidates in this race.



Neil Greenberger

Democrat, 63, Damascus

I was a reporter/editor for The Washington Post for 20 years before going on to work in local government for the past 18 years (with the Maryland State Superintendent of Schools and as a senior staff member with the City of Rockville and with the Montgomery County government). I have spent most of the past 10 years working for the Montgomery County Council and had a hard time

watching some of the decisions the Council made in that time. I decided to give up my job and try to make a major difference in our county by serving on the Council. In my time with the Council,

SEE GREENBERGER, PAGE 11



Robert Dyer

Republican, 46, Bethesda

I'm running because our developer-controlled County Council no longer listens to our concerns about development, traffic congestion and school overcrowding. Murders are up 31 percent, schools are declining, and our County government liquor monopoly is killing our bars and restaurants. I'm the only candidate in this race with over a decade of experience and accomplishments

countywide as an activist, and a track record of fighting developers on behalf of residents. Can you trust the other candidates, who were MIA during all the citizen battles against the Council and Planning Board I was engaged in, to now protect your neighborhood when it counts?



Will Jawando

Democrat, 35, Silver Spring

I'm running for County Council At-Large to keep the Montgomery County Promise:

- ❖ High-quality public schools in every neighborhood, with affordable, accessible childcare and early childhood education opportunities, so we can close the opportunity-and-achievement gap before it opens.

- ❖ Safe, welcoming and diverse neighborhoods with mixed-income

housing built near transit, meaning affordable housing for new families, young professionals and our aging neighbors.

- ❖ A vibrant economy that encourages growth among small and mid-sized businesses, as well as drawing in major employers, so we have good-paying jobs that will stay in the county.

- ❖ Policies to protect our air, water and green space as we grow responsibly.

Between my experience working on Capitol Hill and in the Obama Administration, and my record of public service in the community, I can bring personal knowledge of our issues and a deep policy background to the County Council. Between that and

SEE JAWANDO, PAGE 11



Melissa McKenna

Democrat, 47, City of Gaithersburg

For the past four years, Melissa has devoted her time and energy to being a very strong schools advocate. What gets her out of bed in the morning is ensuring that our students get the best education and opportunities to prepare them for the real world. Our students only get one shot, and their future and success are critical to our collective future as a County. With historic turnover taking place on our

County Council in 2018, we need proven leadership more than ever. Melissa McKenna is a champion for all ... especially the underdog, the forgotten, and the otherwise silent voices. She levels the playing field. She gets results. She is beholden to no one while genuinely listening to everyone. Melissa builds coalitions, dazzles with a near encyclopedic knowledge of facts and figures, and works tirelessly when it comes to getting the job done. She knows and works well with elected officials at all levels, from our cities to the statehouse in Annapolis. While her platform covers Education, Opportunity, and Livability, Melissa has distinguished herself as the education candidate with a track record of success. She will use that experience and team building to bridge to a new Council and Executive and apply it to serve the County as a whole.



Jill Ortman-Fouse

Democrat, 54, Silver Spring

I'm running for Montgomery County Council At-large because we need a County that works better for all residents. When I began my service as a Board of Education At-large member four years ago, I sought to improve relationships with the Council and our legislators in order to work better together to meet the needs of our schools and students. I also wanted to increase transparency

and responsiveness to the community. As chair of the Board's Strategic Planning Committee, I have worked hard to bring the community's voice to the work of the system, create more access to the information residents need, and to be an outstanding steward of the public's investment of half the budget of the County.

On the County Council I pledge to continue to build those relationships to address our current challenges. We must create the best opportunities and environments for our students to learn and grow with universal access to pre-K, smaller class sizes, and by addressing school overcrowding. We must better support our small businesses, which are the backbone of our economy; attract

SEE ORTMAN-FOUSE, PAGE 11



Michele Riley

Democrat, 48, Silver Spring

I am running for County Council At Large because we need a councilmember who is focused on growing our economy by helping businesses large and small locate here and do business here. I will also ensure we are spending tax dollars, the most precious of resources, to provide services that our citizens need and want. This type of common sense approach to governance has been

missing from the council for quite some time. I am a CPA and a business owner and have served my community through my church, PTA roles, my neighborhood's civic association, and other citizens' advisory committees. My private sector experience gives me a deep understanding of the interaction between business and government, and my financial expertise makes me one of the few candidates in this race who can understand our budgetary "big picture," which is very important as we are entering an era of large anticipated deficits. My community service informs my thorough understanding of land use and planning issues, which is a large part of the council's work.

COMMUNITY

It's A Dog's Life

Lap dogs of a different kind paddle for fun and fitness at Potomac Aquatic Center.

BY BILL BRONROTT
SPECIAL TO THE ALMANAC

One in three Maryland households have a dog, and most are considered a member of the family. Little wonder the buzz about a modest storefront on Travilah Road that is home to pools built exclusively to exercise and entertain our canine kids in Montgomery County and beyond.

Upon walking through the doors with my seven-year-old Spinone Italiano, Carmella, we were greeted by Dominique Darcis. An admitted “Lab addict,” the Parisienne transplant was inspired by her Labrador retrievers to “build the pools they were dreaming of.” And, thus was born the K9 Aquatic and Wellness Center, which celebrates its two-year anniversary this month.

Darcis led Carmella and I into the aquatic center, revealing five glistening swimming pools reminiscent of the healing baths of ancient Rome that are now a modern-day oasis for our four-legged family members.

The four-foot deep pools are heated and equipped with ramps for easy egress. An abundance of floating toys is nearby to entice pups to paddle forward.

Each dog is assigned a swim coach who



Carmella sits on the ramp on her inaugural swim, seen here with swim coach Erica Dale.

works with them one-on-one in the water on a tailored program to meet their specific health or recreational needs across the age and abilities spectrum.

LOW IMPACT, HIGH RESULTS

Over the years of caring for her many Labs, Darcis found that swimming was the best answer to treating their arthritis or rehabbing them after surgery, and for the fun of retrieving sticks. She first took her Labs across the river to a swim facility in

Middleburg for both horses and dogs. “It was not heated and the lanes lacked ramps,” she said. “Ramps are important because dogs often cannot see stairs.”

Darcis set aside her antiques business to launch the aquatic center for dogs across the age and abilities spectrum. “Dogs don’t stop playing because they grow old; they grow old because they stop playing,” she said. “One minute of swimming is like four minutes of running. It’s the ideal low impact, high results exercise for them.”

EXERCISE FOR K9 HEALTH

Darcis professes the many benefits of swimming for health management and a wide range of medical purposes, including:

- ❖ Mobility issues like arthritis, hip dysplasia, and joint stiffness
- ❖ Weight reduction and management
- ❖ Improved body condition and physical performance
- ❖ Cardiovascular and respiratory fitness
- ❖ Stress relief, including working dogs (assistance dogs and police K9)
- ❖ Pain management
- ❖ Post-surgery conditioning

“There is nothing more rewarding than seeing dogs having fun and our senior swim-



Carmella paddles ahead, with guidance from swim coach Erica Dale.

mers becoming young pups again.”

MEET CARMELLA

Swim coach Erica Dale suited up Carmella with her required floatation vest. Carmella’s specific challenge is trimming some weight off of her 94-pound physique while strengthening her heart, leg muscles and joints.

Erica led her onto the ramp where Carmella temporarily staged a sit-down strike. Taking it in stride, Erica gently led her into the pool and she immediately put her webbed paws to the test pushing against the water. All the while her good-natured swim coach carefully guided her to the end and the pool, helping her turn around to finish her first of numerous laps that session.

Afterwards, Carmella rested contently and slept most of the ride home. She has since been back for another 30-minute workout, which seemed easier than her inaugural session. A great way to supplement her frequent walks in the neighborhood. She will be back!



Meet Maddie

Maddie, age 7, has been coming to the aquatic center since the doors opened in May of 2016, explained her owner, Marilyn Poole of Poolesville.

“She got arthritis early in life in her hind knees” Poole said. “She’s been going to the aquatic center every Sunday since it opened, and it’s really helped her a lot.”

Darcis added that Maddie “didn’t like to swim first, but the low impact exercising makes her feel really good, and she now can swim circles around some of the others.”



CONNECTING WITH K9 AQUATIC AND WELLNESS CENTER

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“WILD WEDNESDAY” SWIMS \$30

FRIDAY SWIM SESSIONS

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NEWS

Tribute to Vietnam Veterans

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett will unveil the Montgomery County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall at a dedication ceremony with local officials and Vietnam War era veterans on Monday, May 21, 1 p.m. at Memorial Plaza, Rockville. The Montgomery County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall is a tribute to the 130 residents from Montgomery County who were killed or reported missing in action during the Vietnam War. Each of the county's fallen or missing heroes will be honored for their sacrifice and service to our country at the ceremony. In addition, there will be a wreath-laying ceremony and remarks from Vietnam veterans.

Hearing on Human Trafficking

The County Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 12, at 1:30 p.m. on the following bill:

Expedited Bill 18-18, Human Rights and Civil Liberties - Human Trafficking Prevention Committee - Amendments, would modify the membership of the Human Trafficking Prevention Committee; remove the requirement that each voting member be a resident of the county; add two voting members from the community; and generally amend the laws governing the prevention of human trafficking.

The County Council will also hold a public hearing on Tuesday, June 19, at 9:30 a.m. on the following bill:

Expedited Bill 19-18, Technical Corrections, would correct technical, typographical, grammatical, reference, and codification errors in, and make stylistic, clarifying, and conforming amendments to, various provisions of County law.

The public hearings will be held in the Third Floor Hearing Room of the Council Office Building, which is located at 100 Maryland Ave. in Rockville. The meetings will be televised live by County Cable Montgomery (CCM) on Cable Channels 996 (high definition) and 6 (standard definition) on Comcast; Channels 1056 (HD) and 6 (SD) on RCN; and Channel 30 on Verizon. It also will be available live via streaming through the Council website at <http://tinyurl.com/z9982v8>

Those interested in testifying at the public hearings can start signing up on Thursday, May 17 online at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/phsignup.html> or by calling 240-777-7803. The deadline to sign up is June 11 at 5 p.m. for Expedited Bill 18-18, and June 18 at 10 a.m. for Expedited Bill 19-18. Call 240-777-7910 to obtain copies of the bills or go to https://apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/ccllms/bill_List.aspx

Vote by Mail Applications Available

Any registered voter who wants to vote by mail may now request an application for the Gubernatorial Primary Election. If you request a vote by mail ballot, it will be your official ballot and you will not be able to vote on the paper based, digital image scan voting system at the polls on Election Day, June 26, or during Early Voting, June 14 - 21.

You may apply for a vote by mail ballot in one of three ways:

- ❖ Visit www.777vote.org and select Absentee. Follow the instructions for completing the application which may be mailed, faxed (240-777-8560) or e-mailed absentee@montgomerycountymd.gov to the Board of Elections.

- ❖ Visit <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1> to complete an online application. You must have a valid Maryland Driver's License or Motor Vehicle Administration issued ID and enter your name and date of birth exactly as reflected in the voter registration database in order to use this method. Follow the prompts to complete and submit your application.

- ❖ You may apply in person at the Montgomery County Board of Elections - 18753 N. Frederick Avenue, Suite 210, Gaithersburg, MD 20879 - between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The deadlines for receipt of your completed application are as follows:

- ❖ If you want your ballot mailed to you, your deadline is Tuesday, June 19. If you mail or deliver this form, your election office must have it by 8 p.m. If you fax or email it, they must have it by 11:59 p.m.

- ❖ If you want to print your online delivery ballot from the State Board of Elections' website, your deadline is Friday, June 22. If you mail or deliver this form, your election office must have it by 5 p.m. If you fax or email it, they must have it by 11:59 p.m.

For more information on voting by mail call 240-777-VOTE.

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Ingleside at King Farm is expanding with the proposed building of 121 new independent living apartments, 32 private assisted living memory support suites, and a Center for Healthy Living, subject to approval by the Maryland Department of Aging.

OPINION

Story of Lily of the Valley The official May Day flower.

BY CAROLE FUNGER
THE ALMANAC

Years ago when I was living in Paris, I was awakened one spring morning by a knock at the door. Opening the door, I discovered a basket of tiny white flowers on the threshold. I had just received my first *brin de muguet*, a gift of lilies of the valley, a flower exchanged each year in France on the first of May.

In France, lily of the valley (commonly known as *muguet* in French) has been given as a gift for centuries. Legend has it that the custom began in the mid 16th century when on May 1, 1561, King Charles IX received a sprig of the tiny flower as a token of good luck. He so liked the idea that he decided to start a tradition. From that day on, on the first of May, he presented bouquets of lilies of the valley to each of the ladies of his court. The Fête du Muguet (Lily of the Valley Day) was born.

Here in the United States, lily of the valley is one of May's most celebrated flowers. Depending on the climate, it typically flowers in mid-to late-April and retains its blooms for most of May. The small-sized plant has a pair of glossy, tongue-shaped leaves enclosing a single stalk of sweetly scented, white or soft pink bell-shaped flowers.

THE STORY OF LILY OF THE VALLEY AND THE NIGHTINGALE

There's an old legend that tells the tale of how the first lily of the valley was in love with a nightingale. Every night the nightingale would come to the garden to sing. The lily of the valley was shy, though, and hid herself from the nightingale. In time, the bird grew lonely and flew away.

Alone in the garden, the lily of the valley waited in vain for the nightingale to return. She eventually grew so sad that she stopped blooming. She resumed flowering only when the nightingale reappeared in May and her happiness was restored.



PHOTO BY CAROLE FUNGER/THE ALMANAC

Lily of the Valley.

SYMBOL OF ROMANCE

In the early 20th century in France, it was customary for men to give bouquets of lilies of the valley as tokens of affection. They presented their gifts, in accordance with tradition, on the first of May. In their absence, the men sent romantic postcards with elaborate drawings of the flower accompanied by wishes of good luck. The ritual of sending Fête du Muguet cards is still practiced today.

HOW TO GROW LILIES OF THE VALLEY

Lilies of the valley are indigenous to temperate Eurasian climates and are believed to have originated in Japan. Spreading by tiny rhizomes underground, they naturalize quickly and can become invasive in gardens. Unless you're up to digging out their roots to control them, it's best to plant the flowers in their na-

tive woodland or in a contained area in the yard. Lilies of the valley prefer shade and moist, well-drained loamy soil and will lose their color, even browning, when planted in full sun.

Unimpeded, lily of the valley will spread rapidly, but that's not the only drawback. All parts of the plant are considered poisonous if ingested. When handling the plants, it's best to wear gloves to prevent any residue from being transmitted to food. Symptoms of lily of the valley poisoning include stomach ache and blurred vision. Since it coincides with National Labor Day on the first of May, the Fête du Muguet is a public holiday in France. Sprigs and bouquets of lilies of the valley are sold everywhere from thousands of roadside stalls that spring up all over France. Sales of flowers on public streets, which are normally forbidden, are permitted on this day in honor of the long-standing tradition.

Send Father's Day Photos

Father's Day is Sunday, June 17, and once again this newspaper will publish a gallery of Father's Day photos.

Every year at this time, we put out the call for photographs of fathers and their children, grandfathers and their children and grandchildren. Send in photos with the following information: the town where you live, the names of everyone in the picture, the approximate date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and a sentence or two about what is happening and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to tell us your town name and neighborhood. Photos are due by June 12. You can submit your photos online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday. You can also email photos to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com.

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.

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

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POTOMAC ALMANAC

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

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.

Art Exhibit: “A Color Affair.” Through May 26 at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Born in Argentina, Alexandra Arata moved to the Greater Washington, D.C. area in 2002. Additional events throughout the month include, “Networking for Artists: Featuring Guest Speaker Danielle Glosser” on Thursday, May 17, 6:30-7:30pm and “Art Meets Poetry: Featuring Guest Poet Alberto Avendano” on Saturday, May 19, 4-6pm. Visit www.bethesda.org.

25th Anniversary Exhibit. Through



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JESSICA YURINKO

Folklore ensemble Strazilovo from St. Sava Serbian Orthodox h (Toronto, Ontario)

SerbFest Spring Festival

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. 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.) at Saint Luke Serbian Orthodox Church, 10660 River Road, Potomac. Visit www.serbfestdc.com/.



Art by Alexandra Arata.

Art Exhibit: ‘A Color Affair’

Born in Argentina, Alexandra Arata moved to the Greater Washington, D.C. area in 2002. Her work has been shown both nationally and abroad, appearing in several private collections. Through May 26 at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Additional events throughout the month include, “Networking for Artists: Featuring Guest Speaker Danielle Glosser” on Thursday, May 17, 6:30-7:30pm and “Art Meets Poetry: Featuring Guest Poet Alberto Avendano” on Saturday, May 19, 4-6pm. Through May 26 at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Visit www.bethesda.org.

June 2 at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East West Highway in Bethesda. 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.

Art Exhibit: Color Combustion.

Through June 27, office hours 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. 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/.

THURSDAY/MAY 17

Weekly Outdoor Concert. 6-8 p.m. in Veterans Park, at the corner of Woodmont and Norfolk avenues in Bethesda. Free evening concerts offer a range of music including rock, funk, jazz, swing, and reggae. Music by Oasis Island Sounds (Reggae) with food and drink by Hanaro Sushi. Call 301-215-6660 or visit

www.bethesda.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. Prizes are provided courtesy of the Johns Hopkins University Montgomery



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. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.



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4 11225 River View Drive — \$1,900,000



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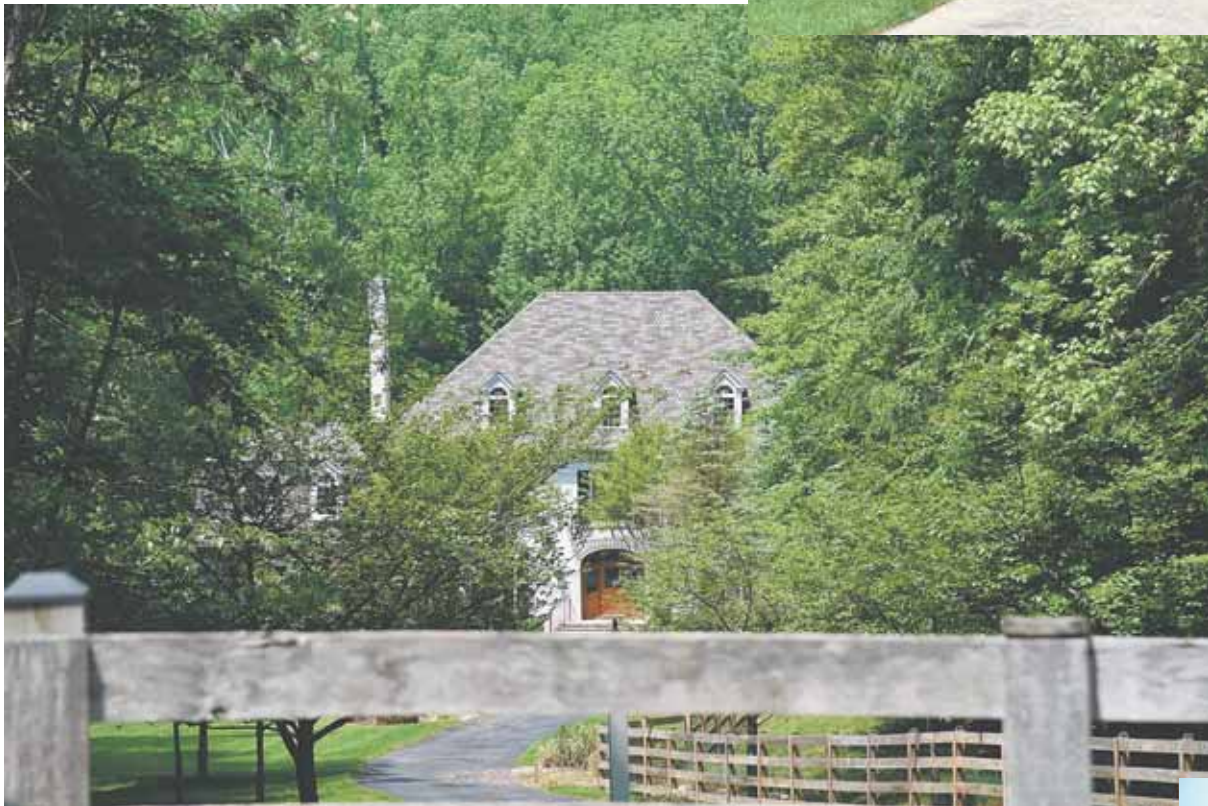
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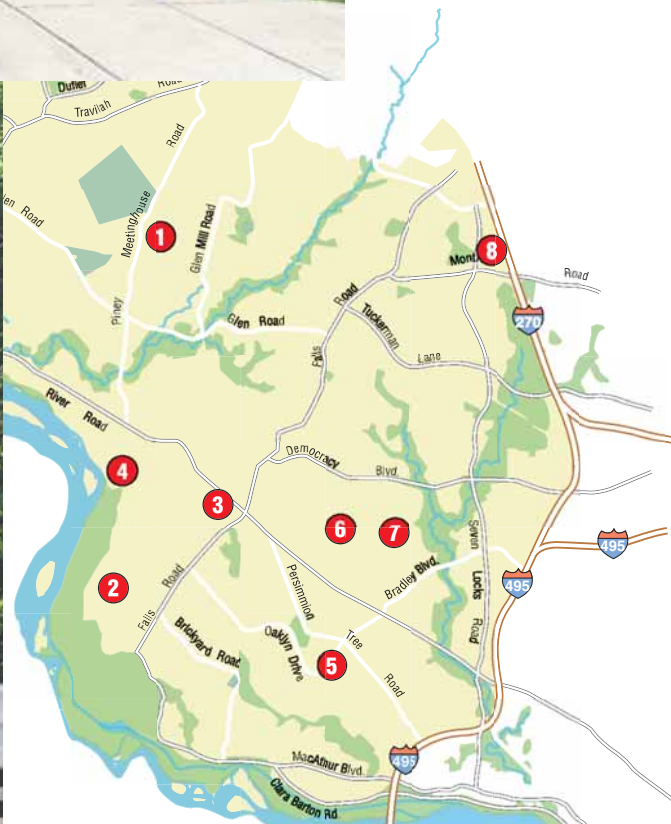
3 13 Potomac Manors Court — \$2,050,000



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2 11507 SKIPWITH LN	6	5	2	POTOMAC	\$2,169,000	Detached	2.68	20854	POTOMAC FALLS	03/28/18
3 13 POTOMAC MANORS CT	7	8	2	POTOMAC	\$2,050,000	Detached	1.60	20854	POTOMAC MANOR	03/15/18
4 11225 RIVER VIEW DR	6	6	1	POTOMAC	\$1,900,000	Detached	1.72	20854	MARWOOD	03/09/18
5 9400 CRIMSON LEAF TER	6	6	2	POTOMAC	\$1,750,000	Detached	0.62	20854	AVENEL	03/09/18
6 9731 SORREL AVE	7	7	2	POTOMAC	\$1,700,000	Detached	2.30	20854	FALCONHURST	03/21/18
7 9806 KENDALE RD	5	5	1	POTOMAC	\$1,595,000	Detached	0.57	20854	MCAULEY PARK	03/07/18
8 7802 CADBURY AVE	4	3	2	POTOMAC	\$1,429,000	Townhouse	0.05	20854	PARK POTOMAC	03/28/18

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5 9400 Crimson Leaf Terrace — \$1,750,000

More Than Apple for Teacher

Gifts for those who educate children.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As the school year nears an end, it's time to thank those whose jobs run the gamut from comforting kindergartners with separation anxiety to teaching biology to hormonal teenagers. End-of-year teacher gifts are seemingly ubiquitous in June, but how does one choose a useful present that doesn't get re-gifted or donated? Local tastemakers offer their take on gifts for teachers that teachers actually want to receive.

"Teachers can always use extra supplies for their classrooms," said Courtney Thomas of the Picket Fence in Burke. "Put together a goody bag full of pencils and markers, notepads, page flags and sticky notes or anything your teacher needs to keep his or her desk stocked. Tie it all up in a reusable bag they can repurpose to carry papers and books to and from school."

Treat your teacher to a spa day at home, advises Thomas. "Get a collection of your favorite lotions, soaps and candles and give your teachers a much appreciated excuse to pamper themselves."

Flowers are a cheerful present to offer those who teach children, but fresh flowers have a limited lifespan, advises Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Old Town Alexandria who suggests bouquets with longevity. "Felt flowers always look fresh and add a bit happiness to every day," he said.

Sometimes the most treasured gifts are those that don't come with a price tag. "My favorite handmade teacher gift is a thoughtful note of thanks, said Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center in Alexandria. "Taking the time to say thank you and be specific about how an adult has impacted your child's growth is a powerful way of affirming the work teachers do. I think it is great to encourage kids to write letters of thanks as well and to think through what specifically they can name that they have learned or gained from a teacher."

"A beautiful and thoughtful gift for all teachers are



PHOTO COURTESY OF SONORAN ROSE BOUTIQUE

Wine-scented bath bombs from Napa Valley are the perfect gift for the teacher who needs a little pampering.



COURTESY OF KATHRYN CONEWAY

Notepads make useful end-of-year teachers gifts, suggests Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria.

guest towels," says Cristina Chiotti of Sonoran Rose Boutique in Potomac, Md. "[We have some] that come from South Africa and are available in a variety of lovely prints and designs," she said. "Delicious wine-scented bath bombs from Napa Valley are the perfect gift for the teacher who needs a little pampering."

For teachers with a preppy spirit, Amanda Mertins, of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria, advises, "Some of the most thoughtful gifts for teachers who go above and beyond to educate our children are gift monogrammed items, gifts cards and notepads."

And for teachers who enjoy spending time outdoors, Chiotti says an ideal gift includes "Pairing some local Maryland honey with our gardening tool kit for the perfect springtime gardening gift."



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PICKET FENCE

Candles, soaps and lotions in a gift bag will make luxurious end-of-year teacher gifts, says Courtney Thomas of The Picket Fence in Burke.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ART AT THE CENTER

A note written on a handmade card such as this collage with mulberry paper and acrylic medium on watercolor paper by Kathryn Horn Coneway of Art at the Center, makes meaning teacher gifts, says Coneway.

HANNA

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PHOTOS BY JILL AND JOHN PHILLIPS

The Maryland Canoe & Kayak Racing Series event began at Rocky Island on the Potomac River just above Wet Bottom Rapid and continued for 7.5 miles to Sycamore Island.

Whitewater Race

John and Jill Phillips of Potomac volunteered to help with the Canoe Cruisers Association Potomac Downriver whitewater race on the Potomac River on Saturday, May 12, and helped out near the finish of the race at Sycamore Island.

This Maryland Canoe & Kayak Racing Series event begins at Rocky Island on the Potomac River just above Wet Bottom Rapid and continues for 7.5 miles to Sycamore Island. The race also will be a USA Wildwater Ranking Race.

This is a race for any whitewater paddler from the pros to parent/child tandem teams, but this is not a novice race. All participants should have experience in, and be comfortable with, Class III rapids.



Barbara Brown, chair of the chair of the Canoe Cruisers Association, at the end of the race.

Participants may enter with any type of a boat provided it is properly outfitted with adequate flotation (air bags) and all occupants

of the boat are wearing a helmet and a PFD (life jacket). To learn more about the Canoe Cruisers Association, see www.ccadc.org.



Pairs of canoeists at the end of the race.

Calendar

FROM PAGE 7

County. 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. 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

Weekly Outdoor Concert. 6-8 p.m. in Veterans Park, at the corner of Woodmont and Norfolk avenues in Bethesda. Free evening concerts offer a range of music including rock, funk, jazz, swing, and reggae. Music by Moonshine Society (Blues) with food and drink by Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 27

Organ Grinders. At Great Falls Tavern, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. The National Capital Chapter of Music Box Society International demonstrates this unique and historic type of entertainment. Programs at Great Falls Tavern are free, but there is an entrance fee of \$10 to the park per vehicle. Call 301-767-3714.

Waltz Dance. 3:30-6 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Featuring the ensemble Addison Bleufonte playing a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couples dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Introductory Waltz Workshop from 2:45-3:30 p.m. Social dancing follows until 6 p.m. Admission is \$13. No partner required. Go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org.



Tory Cowles, # 849, 60" x 60"

Color Combustion

The Abstract Artists' Collective presents a group exhibition of work by women painters at Serendipity Labs. 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. Through June 27, office hours at Serendipity Labs, 4500 East West Highway, Suite 125, Bethesda. Opening reception takes place Friday, April 20, 6-9 p.m. Visit serendipitylabs.com/our-locations/serendipity-labs-bethesda-md/.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

POLITICS

Greenberger

FROM PAGE 3

I heard an increasing number of people say they could no longer afford to live here, or that they will have to give up on their plans to retire here. The Council should have never raised property taxes by 8.7 percent last year. Our county has plenty of money — your money. We just need to spend it better. If elected, I will work like a reporter to find the wasted money in our budget and have the County start spending it to improve our schools and fund programs for our neediest residents. In that regard, I will use the county law — approved by voters — that allows one Councilmember to ensure that the government runs more efficiently. That law allows a Councilmember to block an increase in property taxes above the Charter Limit (the rate of inflation). I will use that law to guarantee that property taxes will not increase above the Charter Limit for four years. I will never vote for a development plan that does not include realistic plans for infrastructure support with roads, transit, parking spaces and school capacity. And I want to see our quality of life return to what residents want. Speed cameras are effective near schools. No county residents ask for them to be hidden behind bushes and on downhill slopes. We are a better county than that. I have more experience with the Council than any other candidate. I want to bring a realistic approach to running our county — and I will get things done while making sure your property taxes do not increase.

At-Large Candidates

Dyer, Robert RepublicanWebsite
www.RobertDyer.net
Fiotes, Chris P. Jr. RepublicanEmail
chrisfiotes18@comcast.net
Musser, Penny RepublicanEmail
pennymusser79@gmail.com
Skolnick, Shelly
Republicansshelly.skolnick@starpower.net
Albornoz, Gabe DemocraticWebsite
GabeForCouncil.com
Arkoian, Rosemary O. DemocraticWebsite www.
rosemary4council.com
Balcombe, Marilyn DemocraticWebsite
www.marilynbalcombe.com
Barkley, Charles DemocraticWebsite
www.charlesbarkleyforcouncil.com
Bhatnagar, Shruti DemocraticWebsite https://
www.shrutibhatnagar.com/
Branson, Cherri L. DemocraticWebsite
Branson4council.com
Brooks, Brandy H. M. DemocraticWebsite
www.brandy4moco.com
Carozza-Caviness, Craig DemocraticWebsite
www.ccc4moco.com
Colbert, Ron DemocraticWebsite
www.colbertforcouncil.com
Conway, Bill DemocraticWebsite
www.billconwayforcouncil.com
Dang, Hoan DemocraticWebsite votedang.com
Falcinelli, Tom R. Jr. DemocraticEmail
aifadirector@aol.com
Forde, Lorna Phillips DemocraticWebsite http://
www.LornaPhillipsForde.com
Fouse, Jill Ortman DemocraticWebsite
www.jillortmanfouse.com
Garcia, Loretta Jean DemocraticEmail
attorneygarcia@aol.com

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

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

Jawando

FROM PAGE 3

my agenda to keep the Montgomery County Promise, our campaign has won more endorsements than any other candidate: the Sierra Club, SEIU Local 500, Montgomery County Education Association, CASA in Action, UFCW Local 1994 MCGEO, the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 35, LiUNA, Progressive Maryland, the Latino Democratic Club, the Coalition of Asian Pacific American Democrats, SEIU 32BJ, The Collective, UFCW Local 400, and a 100 percent rating from NARAL.

Ortman-Fouse

FROM PAGE 3

and retain higher wage jobs; and ensure our workforce is ready for those jobs. Our most urgent needs in Montgomery County are transportation-related, and we must improve that infrastructure to decrease traffic and provide more manageable ways for residents to access affordable housing, employment, higher education, services and amenities. Access fuels economic development, supports businesses and improves quality of life. Together we can create a brighter future for our all in our County.

Geller, Paul S. DemocraticWebsite
www.alohapaulgeller.com
Glass, Evan DemocraticWebsite
www.EvanGlass.com
Gottfried, Richard DemocraticWebsite
votegottfried.com
Greenberger, Neil H. DemocraticWebsite
greenbergerforcouncil.com
Grimes, Seth DemocraticWebsite http://
sethgrimes.org
Jain, Ashwani DemocraticWebsite
voteashwanijain.com
Jawando, Will DemocraticWebsite
www.willjawando.com
Lipscomb, David V. DemocraticEmail
davidlipscomb6@gmail.com
McKenna, Melissa DemocraticWebsite
www.mckennaformoco.org
Meitiv, Danielle DemocraticWebsite
www.daniellemeitiv.com
Rierner, Hans DemocraticWebsite
hansrierner.com
Riley, Michele DemocraticWebsite
michele4moco.com
Rivera-Oven, Graciela DemocraticWebsite
www.gracielariveraoven.com
Romero, Darwin DemocraticWebsite
www.darwinromero.us
Siddique, Mohammad DemocraticEmail
msiddique00@gmail.com
Smith, Jarrett DemocraticWebsite
smithformoco.com
Solomon, Steve DemocraticWebsite
votestevesolomon.com
Wilhelm, Chris DemocraticWebsite
www.wilhelmforcouncil.com
Willard, Tim (Seeking to be Nominated by Party but appearing in General Election Only)
GreenWebsite www.timforcouncil.org

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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Musing About Infusing

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Seven weeks between chemotherapy infusions; I could get used to this. Here I am sitting and writing on Wednesday, May 9 and my next scheduled infusion isn’t until Friday, June 1. That’s another three-plus weeks. It’s a “staycation,” of sorts, meaning: I’m not going anywhere, but due to the new extended chemotherapy infusion interval – from six weeks to seven, I don’t have to.

Though it’s hardly an ideal vacation – either staying or going – for a cancer patient still undergoing treatment, not having to go the Infusion Center is about as good as it gets. What’s even better is receiving scan results (which at present are still scheduled quarterly) which show “stable,” “shrinkage,” or even “N.E.D.,” which means “no evidence of disease” (I’m “stable”). All of which I can live with. Despite ending that last sentence with a preposition.

With respect to “N.E.D.,” unfortunately, being asymptomatic as I generally am – and mostly have been, is not necessarily an indicator that all is well.

Neither do symptoms always confirm “progression” (medical jargon for growth and/or movement). Sometimes the pain is scar tissue. Other times it’s a side effect of the medicine you’ve been infusing or the pill you’ve been swallowing. (Presently, there are targeted treatment options which enable patients to take pills at home, tarceva being one example. Which if I may quote the late Maurice Chevalier singing in “Gigi:” ‘I remember it well’ from the 11 months a few years ago when I didn’t have to commute to the infusion center.)

Throw in the occasional phone appointment I’ve had with my oncologist, post-scan, when he and I both know – per an email he usually sends, that the results continue to show “stable,” and when an in-office examination is likely not to “present” (more medical jargon; this one meaning, show) any contradictory findings and I’ve definitely had my moments of relative/comparative calm. Moments which, when they do occur, need to be cherished because, in the terminal cancer world, the news is not always good.

And since you have to take the good with the bad, with minimal control over both – acknowledging the good and not giving into the bad, become your stock and trade. It’s easy, maybe even inevitable that a cancer patient will get overwhelmed by his or her circumstances so finding a way to navigate the slings and arrows of the outrageous misfortune which has befallen you is more than crucial; it’s life sustaining.

Practically speaking though, how does one absorb the news and subsequent reality of a cancer diagnosis? What word I used to describe what I felt and heard at the initial Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist when he told me I had a “terminal” form of cancer: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, was “surreal.”

It’s a word I’ve heard many other cancer patients use when describing the moment when they first heard their devastating news. At that ground-zero moment, the words “non-small cell lung cancer,” at least for me, were almost incomprehensible, especially if there’s no cancer history in your immediate family (which was true for me). I mean, I understood him well enough, I just didn’t process the information.

Similar to when I received a call at work, from my internal medicine doctor, a few days after my biopsy (and a week or so before meeting my oncologist), advising me of the results. He asked me if I wanted to meet him at his office (that can’t be good I thought – and it wasn’t). I said, “No. Just tell me” And so he did.

He told me that they found tumors in my lungs which were malignant. My knee-jerk reaction? “What does that mean?” Upon hearing that kind of news/maybe just that word, “malignant,” you sort of lose control of your faculties. (At least I did.)

Thinking straight? Hardly. You’re thinking crooked. But as time goes by and you somehow begin to assimilate/compartmentalize your diagnosis/prognosis, it becomes quite clear: anything you can do to bring some normalcy into your life is a win-win for you and a lose-lose for cancer.

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



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