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Potomac ALMANAC

HomeLifeStyle

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Jamie Cheng, Esther Quackenbush, Angela Chien, Esther Li, and Shawna Dougherty at Churchill High School's graduation on Wednesday, June 6.



Farewell to Churchill

NEWS, PAGE 3

Running in 8th District

NEWS, PAGE 6

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Farewell

Churchill graduates say goodbye to high school years.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

On Wednesday, June 6, 469 graduates from Winston Churchill High School participated in ceremonies at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C.

Guest speaker Dr. Jonathan Holloway, Provost, Northwestern University encouraged the students to embrace life's journey.

"[His] general message was that life is going to be full of the unexpected so don't

try to plan everything ... embrace the journey instead," graduates Olivia Wang and Daniel Pyo said in an email.

Dr. Joan Benz, retiring principal of Churchill, served 44 years as an Montgomery County Public Schools employee, almost 21 as principal at



Michael Liu

Churchill. "She applauded the class ... and said she couldn't have asked for a better class to finish her journey at Churchill with," Wang and Pyo wrote. "Dr. Benz also spoke to the tight-knit, resilient and caring relationship of our class through our loss of a classmate and our fight to promote mental health." "The fantastic WCHS chamber orchestra performed 'Pomp and Circumstance' as well as 'Send in the Clowns,' Wang and Pyo wrote.



Suuba Demby, Bethany Chen, and Sadia Demby



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Umar Sanusi, Adama Kanu, Henncia Williams, Mar Jamal Jaffa, Banaru Smith, Abdul Sasso, and Phebean Williams at Churchill High School's graduation on Wednesday, June 6.

Bittersweet Moments Fill Whitman Graduation

Guest speaker Dana Milbank tells graduates: "We are all counting on you."

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Close to 500 students received diplomas at the Walt Whitman High School graduation ceremonies Friday, June 8 at DAR Constitution Hall.

It was an inclusive ceremony, with Principal Alan Goodwin calling out activities, classes, clubs, volunteer work and just about anything students at the school may have participated in during their years at the school and asking students to stand, and remain standing, as his list continued.

Soon just about the whole graduating class was standing and, in case anyone was left out, he even included those who ever attended a Whitman sporting event and announced that they were all "Whitmaniacs." Parents too.

"This class had fun, but worked hard,"

SEE WHITMAN, PAGE 7



PHOTO BY ANDIE SILVERMAN

Rising seniors at Walt Whitman High School pose last June at a senior night event for the students to get to know each other as a class and make plans for senior year. Now they are graduates of the Class of 2018.

Running in the 8th Congressional District

Raskin seeking reelection.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Maryland's 8th Congressional District stretches from the border of Washington, D.C. and Mont-

gomery County north to the Pennsylvania border. It reaches into Potomac, includes Rockville then moves north east until reaching Frederick County where it spreads out, east and west. Democrat Jamie Raskin currently represents District 8 and is running

for reelection. The number of candidates running against Raskin is relatively small, compared to other races.

Three Republicans; Bridgette Cooper, John Walsh and Victor Williams; and two Democrats: Utam Paul and Summer Spring,

are working to unseat Raskin.

Each candidate was asked to submit a profile to the Potomac Almanac telling why he or she is running for the office and the difference he or she expects to make in Washington.

Democrats

Sumati Mathur

Democrat. Running under the name Summer Spring.

I was one of the few brown-skinned females who, at the age of 15, was accepted into and studied engineering at an Ivy League university on a full ride scholarship. After graduation and gaining work experience, I founded a cybersecurity and management consulting firm which I have run as the CEO for more than a decade.



Recently, I became the mother of two beautiful little girls. Throughout my different roles in life (as a student, employee, business owner, and mother), I have had the opportunity to interact with diverse groups of individuals from all walks of life. I've experienced hardships, adversity, encouragement, and success. These experiences taught me to listen, ask questions, and learn as much as possible from my fellow man. I got to know people in my communities. During my interactions with residents of district 8, I observed that most residents don't identify with the extreme views of either party (Democrat or Republican). They felt that Congress hardly spent any time on matters that they cared about and, I realized, they were right! We need to change that and I am going to help.

I'm the only candidate running as a moderate Democrat because I want to represent Marylanders on issues that

SEE MATHUR, PAGE 11

Utam Paul

Democrat

Washington is struggling to find solutions of American issues for decades. Affordable housing, affordable healthcare, affordable and quality education access, infrastructure, immigration, reduced taxes, debt and deficits are some of the important issues. I can help Washington find solutions on those issues.



Jamie Raskin

Democrat, Incumbent, 55.

As your Member of Congress, a professor of constitutional law for more than 25 years and a three-term Democratic state senator in Maryland until 2016 (before getting elected to the House), I have been a leader for positive progressive change in our state for several decades. More than 100 of my bills saw passage during my decade in the State Senate, including Noah's Law to crack down on drunk driving, marriage equality, abolition of the death penalty, restoration of voting rights for former prisoners, lowering of the voter registration age to 16, statewide budget transparency, campaign finance reform, and the Maryland Farm-to-Schools Act. I have a proven record of legislative success and serious political organizing. Moreover, I am proud of the consistently superb and speedy constituent services my office renders every day to people across our district. During my first term in Congress, my background propelled me to the position of Vice-Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee as well as Member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. I am a passionate defender of the Constitution and Bill of Rights, our democracy, and the rule of law. I work seven days a week to push for progress for our people and I do everything in my power to provide the best constitu-



SEE RASKIN, PAGE 11

Early Voting To Begin

According to the Montgomery County Board of Elections website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections, early voting starts on the second Thursday before Election Day and runs for eight (days through the Thursday before the election. This year early voting is from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, June 14 through Thursday, June 21.

Montgomery County has several early voting centers: the closest to Potomac is Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road.

Deadline to request an Absentee Ballot by mail is Tuesday, June 19. To request a ballot visit <http://elections.maryland.gov/voting/absentee.html>.

— PEGGY MCEWAN

Republicans

Bridgette L. Cooper

Republican, 50, Silver Spring

My name is Bridgette L. Cooper; I am an award-winning classical singer whose career and work ethics have been featured on ABC Here and Now, Black Enterprise Magazine, Scholar Magazine and more. I served over 10 years as a music educator in Washington D.C. and Baltimore City, where I was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year, and nominated for New Teacher of the Year by DCPS.



Outside of being a single parent, entrepreneur, and advocate for the arts, I am a community leader who has spent countless supporting students, parents, and teachers as PTA President. As a performer, I spent over 20 years touring and performing around the world, which gave me a valuable and unique perspective on the world and my place in it. While on tour, I created fundraisers on behalf of local homeless women and children's shelters and was recognized in Ottawa, Canada for my efforts. Although this is my first run for political office, my personal, professional and educational experiences have prepared me for the

SEE COOPER, PAGE 11

John Walsh

Republican

I'm running for Congress as a moderate Republican to do my part to restore decency and common sense to Congress, to find common ground with representatives of all persuasions and to address unresolved issues in a practical, yet creative manner. To end the winner take all political approach, if elected, I will nominate a nationally respected non-member of Congress to be Speaker, to form a bi-partisan coalition that will restructure Congress to be more effective and representative. For example, healthcare and immigration are two major issues but neither one of them has its own standing committee with the necessary resources and focus to move the country forward. I am dedicated to providing the best constituent services possible, doing away with a stationary office in Rockville and having vans roam the district and come to you with many additional innovations to give you greater access. I have lived in Maryland for the past 32 years, splitting time about evenly between Potomac and Silver Spring.



Victor Williams

Republican, Bethesda

Victor Williams is an attorney and law professor who lives in Bethesda. He is the Pro-Growth and Law & Order candidate.

Williams has been an ardent Donald Trump supporter since early 2016. Williams fully supports President Trump's "MAGA" and "America First" policies.

For many years Williams taught at Catholic University Law School, and he now teaches at the University of Maryland's Law School.

A first-generation college grad, Victor Williams holds a graduate degree (Ed.M. Harvard) and three law degrees (J.D. Cal-Hastings; LL.M. Columbia; LL.M., George Mason).

As a Trump Republican, Williams is for Pro-Growth, Pro-Faith, Pro-Israel, Anti-Crime, Fair/Reciprocal Trade, Immigration Restrictions, and Destroying/Deporting MS 13 and other alien gang members.

My website address: www.trumpcongress.com



Making Education Top Priority Strong Schools Maryland team works to create better schools.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Schools throughout the State of Maryland are facing poverty issues, a shortage of qualified staff and declining student achievement. Much of the decline in the system is due to the shortage in funding for public schools.

Strong Schools Maryland — a non-partisan statewide grassroots advisory organization composed of teams of community leaders — is working to elevate education to the number one issue in the 2018 elections. A Potomac team of citizens is one of the Strong School Maryland teams that have been meeting since September, 2017 to discuss current educational topics, make recommendations and take action.

In 2016, the General Assembly and Gov. Larry Hogan created the Maryland Commission on Education and Innovation, better known as the “Kirwan Commission.” This commission, led by William “Brit” Kirwan, the former chancellor of the University System of Maryland has been charged with examining how to make Maryland a world-class education system.

The commission will be recommending legislation to update the current funding formula as well as advising where Maryland



Robin Gordon, Kathy Deerkoski, Debbie Stine, Lynda Honberg, and Cathy Kazierezak.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

should invest resources to meet the needs of every student. Such an examination of the funding formula has not been completed since 2002.

The Kirwan Commission has discussed the relevant issues and in their Phase 1 report proposed that Maryland set the following as priorities: invest in early childhood education, hire high quality and diverse

teachers and leaders, create college and career readiness pathways, provide more resources for at-risk students, and provide governance and accountability. Phase two of their work is to determine how much each of their recommendations will cost and then present a final report to the governor and the General Assembly.

Strong Schools Maryland was created by

Kirwan to provide grassroots input and advice on solutions to changing and improving the school system throughout Maryland to the Kirwan Commission. Individuals and organizations from around the state have been recruited to form teams which meet monthly to learn about and discuss current educational issues. More than 100 teams in 14 counties were created. Each group is provided with the same discussion materials and action items. In addition to their monthly meetings, these teams meet with legislators in Annapolis and in their respective counties, and interview candidates for their positions on education reform.

The Potomac task force consists of Deborah Stine, Kathy Deerkoski, Robin Gordon, Cathy Kazmierczak, Lynda Honberg, Gael Cheek, Barbara Nouveau, Trip Rothschild and Samir Paul. They met on May 29 to discuss Bill HVB 1415 (The 2018 Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan) Legislation) which has passed both the House and Senate and is waiting for the Governor’s signature. This bill extends the life of the Kirwan Commission through 2018 to provide their funding report. They are hoping to complete the publishing of the report by Sept. 5 in order to give time for public debate before the November election. Strong Schools Mary

SEE WORKING, PAGE 10

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ME & MY DAD



My Dad, Louis Dwyer, is 96 years old. I am his daughter, Esme Dwyer Frensilli, living in Avenel. At Easter, going to search for Easter eggs!



Peter Kimm, Papa, with great-grandson Declan Peter Dixon, 3, in Potomac.



Peter Kimm of Potomac, with daughter Mary Kimm.

Peter and Grace Kimm with grandson Colin Dixon and his wife Anna Dixon and great grandchildren Ada and Declan.



Colin Dixon, Potomac native, with Declan, 3 1/2, and Ada, 7-months, hiking from the Fairy Pools in Isle of Skye, Scotland last month.

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.

CRISIS PREVENTION SERVICES

EveryMind Crisis Prevention and Intervention specialists are available by phone, text and chat every hour of every day. The community can also look to EveryMind for mental health professionals who are prepared to talk about warning signs and ways anyone can help to prevent suicide from ending lives far too soon. EveryMind is an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Visit Every-Mind.org. More resources include:

- ❖ Call or Text Montgomery County Hotline: 301-738-2255
- ❖ Chat: Crisis Prevention Chat: <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat/>
- ❖ Call: National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255
- ❖ www.every-mind.org/services/crisis/
- ❖ www.every-mind.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Talking-to-Kids-about-Suicide.pdf
- ❖ suicidepreventionlifeline.org

❖ www.suicidology.org

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Montgomery County Recreation and Montgomery Parks have hundreds of programs and classes to promote active and healthy lifestyles this summer. Summer registration is now open. To view the guide and register online, go to ActiveMONTGOMERY.org. Print copies are available at community recreation centers, park facilities, aquatic centers, senior centers and public libraries.

SATURDAY/JUNE 23

Grateful Shred. 9 a.m.-noon at the Clara Barton Community Center (CBCC), 7425 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John. Bring unwanted documents to "The Grateful Shred," and watch an industrial-size shredder reduce papers to confetti, safe from fraud and identity theft. \$5 donation per one-cubic-foot parcel of paper. Proceeds help support events and programs at CBCC. Call 240-777-4910 or visit www.friendscbcc.org.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 7

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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Whitman Graduation

FROM PAGE 3

he said, announcing that the class, so far, earned over \$16 million in college scholarships.

"You are truly an outstanding group of students."

Much to Goodwin's surprise, as he finished calling his student participation list, the tables were turned on him.

At the end of his remarks to the students, his voice breaking just a little as he began to reminisce about his 19 years at the school as vice principal and principal, a shout came from the audience.

Was it "We love you?" A little hard to tell but graduates and guests alike cheered, then stood and saluted Goodwin with loud and long applause.

Guest speaker for the graduation was Washington Post writer and syndicated columnist Dana Milbank.

He was chosen, by the students and faculty, Goodwin said in a phone conversation before the ceremony, after taking part in a panel discussion last fall at the school.

"He impressed the students and the adults," Goodwin said.

Milbank told the students they are coming of age in a most unusual time and gave a rundown of

Presidential [gaffs] from the previous week. Then reminded them that graduation speeches are not to tell graduates, "We are doomed."

"I've come to tell you how you are going to save us," he said.

Milbank told the students Trump would not destroy American democracy. He said, Trump is not the cause of the problems [in our country] he is a symptom.

Milbank also took the students through a bit of U.S. history giving examples of other, even worse times the country has weathered.

"Now we have a stronger Republic," he said. "The real problem is not from Trump, but the forces that brought him to office."

He encouraged the graduates to take an active part in the politics of the county, telling them their generation is different from the one that elected Trump.

"Your generation has a dramatically different view," he said. "Good luck ... Class of 2018," he said as he finished speaking. "We are all counting on you."

Goodwin pointed out that the Whitman class of 2018 had logged 83,000 hours of community service. "That gives us hope for the future," he said.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

TUESDAY/JUNE 26

Opioid Overdose Training. 5-7 p.m. at Department of Health and Human Services, 401 Hungerford Drive, 1st floor conference room, Rockville. Residents concerned about a friend or family member with an opioid addiction are invited to learn about reducing unintentional and life-threatening opioid overdoses with the use of Naloxone, a prescription medication that reverses the effects of an opioid overdose. Training is free, but registration is required at OpioidResponseProgram@montgomerymd.gov or 240-777-1836.

MONDAY/JULY 9

Vehicle Technology Workshop. 10:30 a.m. at Oasis at Macy's Home Store, 2nd Floor, 7101 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Technology is changing the driving experience. The brand-new AARP Smart Driver TEK workshop will enable participants to use the safety features in a current or future car. Learn about blind-spot warning systems, forward collision warnings, smart headlights, and more. \$5. Space is limited. Register at www.aarp.org/findaworkshop9 or call 1-877-805-4115.

FRIDAY/AUG. 31

Contest Entry Deadline. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources is now accepting entries for its annual photo contest. Photographers – novice or professional – can enter online or by mail for the chance to win cash and other great prizes. Photographers may submit up to three entries for \$10 with additional entries (no limit) at \$3 each Visit dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/photocontest.aspx. Support Groups

The Alzheimer's Association's Memory Cafes offer a fun and relaxed way for people living with early-stage memory loss to get connected with one another through social events that promote interaction and companionship. The memory cafe in Rockville (4860 Boiling Brook Parkway) operates the third Wednesday of each month from 2:30-4 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Contact Lindsey Vajpeyi at 240-428-1342 or lvajpeyi@alz.org.

Suicide Grief Support Group. At JSSA, 6123 Montrose Road, Rockville. This ongoing bereavement support group is for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. This group meets every first and third Monday. No charge. Pre-registration is required to attend. Call 301-816-2708.

Because I Love You is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting parents of troubled children of any age. The group helps parents deal with drugs, runaways, truancy, verbal abuse, physical abuse, curfew violations and other misbehavior, as well as help parents deal with themselves, to manage and live their own lives without obsessing over their child's behavior.

The group meets 7:30-9:30 every Thursday at Bethesda United Methodist Church Room 209, 8300 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. Visit www.becauseiloveyou.org, email hbrite1@netzero.com or call 301-530-3597.

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

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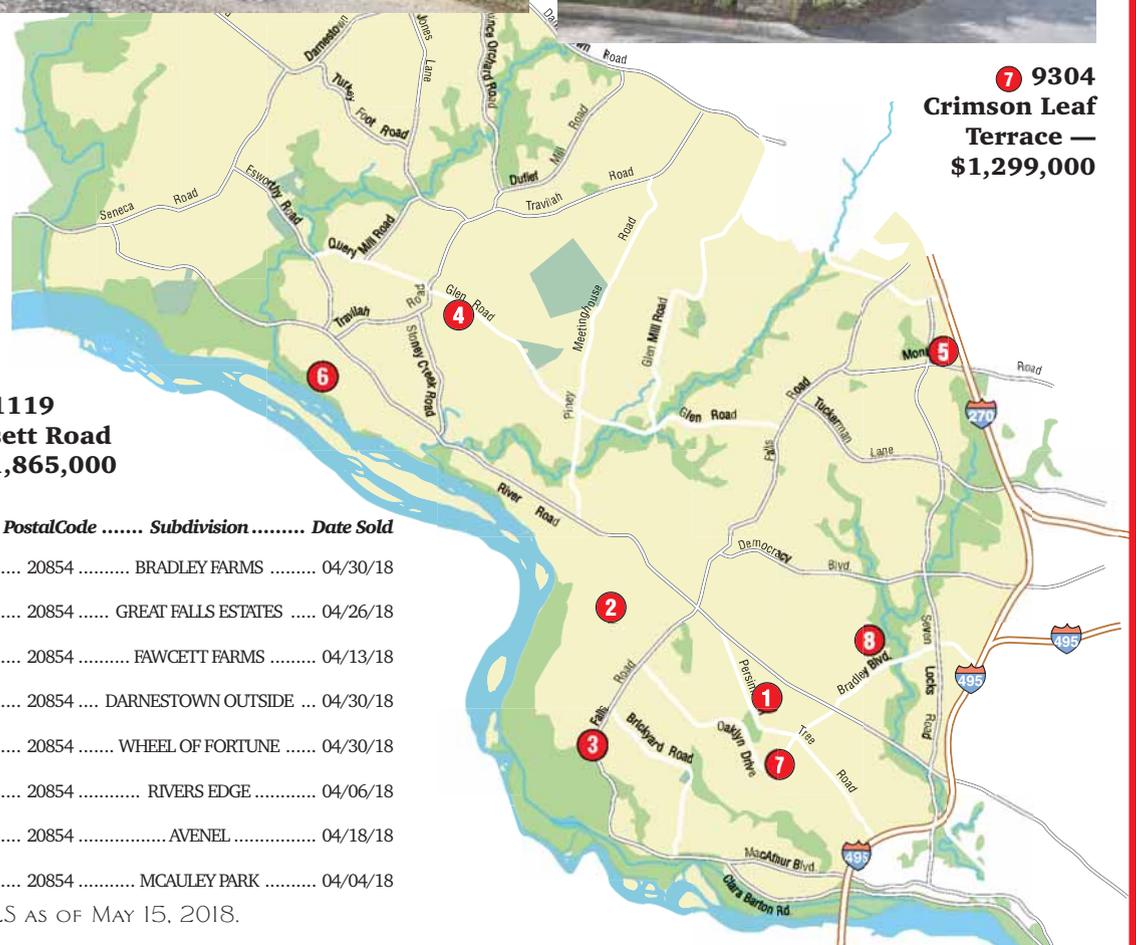
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Preparing Home for Summer

From finding spaces for wet swimsuits and school papers to adding new throw pillows, small touches can add a warm-weather feel.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

When school ends and summer begins, a home's functionality can change. From backpacks overflowing with a school year's worth of school papers and art projects that need a home to bedrooms that call for a warm weather refresh, local designers suggest small tweaks to interior spaces that can yield a big impact.

From breezy white sheets to beach-themed accessories, summer calls for a lightening up of home decor, advises interior designer Anne Madden of Mount Vernon. "I always encourage clients to refresh their home decor during warmer months," she said. "Remove heavy bed linens that were meant to keep you cozy and replace them with light and airy linens in neutral or cool colors. This is also a good time to swap out throw pillows made from heavy fabrics like wool and incorporate pillows made from lighter fabrics like linen into your home's design."

In addition to changing bedroom accessories, summer is also good time to breathe new life into bathroom decor. "Take an inventory of your linen closet and replace towels that are worn and frayed with thick, fluffy ones," said Madden. "Make sure your shower curtain and liner are fresh and free of mildew. If they aren't, replace those too."

Corralling pool necessities into a designated space is a key to maintaining an organized home during the summer, advises professional organizer Susan Unger of Clutter SOS. "When preparing to head to the pool with your children, it's a real time saver to have an area in the laundry room, entry or garage where all the necessary items are kept and they don't need to be gathered up each time," she said. "Keep a beach bag loaded with sunscreen, towels, snacks, toys and clothes. Perhaps each child could even have their own beach bag. Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home."

Create a space that is dedicated to summer crafts in a way that doesn't overtake a home's aesthetic, suggests Unger. "Having a

"Have a designated area in your home for wet towels and suits to be hung up to dry when returning home."

— Susan Unger, Clutter SOS

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANNIE ELLIOTT INTERIORS.



Adding new towels and shower curtain in light and airy colors, like those in the bathroom by Annie Elliott Interiors, can add a touch of summer to a bathroom.

separate crafts table for children is great or if space is an issue covering the kitchen table with a plastic tablecloth will work also," she said. "It also helpful to have a separate cart with plastic drawers or a small shelving unit with plastic bins to house craft items. I like plastic because it is washable."

Each drawer or bin can house items like paint, marker, crayons, coloring books or construction paper, continued Unger. "Put a printed label on each drawer or bin," she said. "I like to add a picture of the item as well which encourages younger children to start developing reading skills. They are then also able to match the item to the container when it comes to putting away the supplies. It is never too early to encourage cleaning after themselves."

The beginning of summer is a great time to sort through school papers and art projects collected thought out the year, says Unger. "As the parent, it will make it easier for your child if you do a presort and get rid of all the schedules, notices and worksheets before involving your child in the process," she said. "Then you both can decide on the special items to keep. I like to use a plastic file bin for each child and put each year's items in a hanging file with the grade on the file tab. This also creates a limited amount of space for the selected items to keep."

If you haven't already done so, schedule a maintenance service appointment for your HVAC system, suggests Maden. "It's better to spend the money now to make sure it's in good working order than to wait until breaks down during a heatwave and be at the mercy of overbooked repair companies," she said.



Adding throw pillows in light, airy colors like the one is the room by Annie Elliott Interiors, can make a space appear ready for summer.

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'Beauty and the Beast, Jr.' On Stage

The upcoming production of Bravo Productions' "Beauty and the Beast" will be true to its French roots — both historically and contemporaneously. Based on the traditional French fairy tale, "La Belle et la Bete" by Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve in 1740, Bravo's current cast of 45 is being included in a segment for French television about the American love affair with musical theatre. This documentary called "LA LA LA," co-produced by Scopia Films and French Channel 5, will explore the roots of this American cultural phenomenon by asking children why they feel so passionately about becoming triple threats in acting, singing and dancing as they practice, perfect and present this onstage art form.

The cast is led by Bravo veterans Prince/Beast Jack White whose credits include Winthrop and Emmett in "Legally Blonde the Musical" and double cast Belles, Cynthia Jacobson (Paulette in "Legally Blonde the Musical," Judas in "Godspell," Gertrude in "Seussical") and Norah Nappi (Pilar in "Legally Blonde the Musical" and Bless the Lord soloist in "Godspell"). Limited tickets for "Beauty and the Beast" at the Randolph Road Theater, 4010 Randolph Road, Silver Spring, are available at the door for \$25 for Saturday, June 16 at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, June 17 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Dress rehearsal tickets for \$10 will be available at the door Friday, June 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, June 16 at 1:30 p.m., 30 minutes before curtain.



Jack White (Prince/Beast) and Belle (Cynthia Jacobson) in Bravo's "Beauty and the Beast."

Working To Create Better Schools

FROM PAGE 5

land supports the commission publishing their recommendations far before the November election.

The group also discussed Bill SB1122 — the Education Trust Fund "Lock Box" Fix which will be on the ballot in November. The "Lockbox" bill creates a ballot question in November to allow all Marylanders to vote to close a loophole through a constitutional amendment which will ensure that all gambling tax revenue will supplement the current school funding formula. This was approved by voters as the original intent of the casino revenue — but has never happened.

When casinos were approved for Maryland in 2009, the state's share of the revenue from casino taxes was designated to be added to the educational budget to improve education.

The voters were "gamed" on this because the money from gambling taxes flowed into the Education Trust Fund — but from there, it went into the general fund and was used for other purposes and not to supplement education.

Maryland's educational funding in the past six years has remained flat, even as Maryland's six casinos have prospered. Nothing in the legislation passed required that school spending rise along with the

growth in gambling tax revenue. Thus, the funding for schools was never increased as voters believed would happen.

This can be changed by voting for the "Lockbox" Amendment. Del. Maggie McIntosh, who chairs the Maryland House Appropriations Committee, said, "This amendment would ensure that gambling taxes are not used to finance the state's K-12 educational funding formula but to enhance it." When the amendment passes, supplemental funding for education will be \$125 million in FY2020, \$250 million in FY 2021, \$375 million in FY2022 and \$522 million in FY 2023 and every year thereafter (correlated to revenue received from gaming.)

"This \$125 million is just a drop in the bucket with so many needs to be met — but it's at least a beginning," Stine said.

The team's discussion centered on writing postcards to Kirwan to encourage the Commission to have the budget finished and ready to present by Sept. 5.

"In order to distinguish among candidates and their priorities, we must have the commission's budget and funding recommendations. Then we can ask the pertinent questions and understand the candidate's thoughts about improving education and how he or she proposes to pay for it," said Honberg.

Their postcards read, "Thank you for your

leadership ensuring all students have access to a world-class education system. I understand you are not costing out the proposals. Please make sure the full funding report is published with enough time to be debated by the public will before the November election. This is far too important to be delayed."

Other topics of discussion were that all members should try to attend Town Hall meetings to meet the candidates and ask them about their views on educational funding.

"Every time I go, I eliminate a couple of candidates," said Stine. "We are looking for candidates who will make education their number one priority. We want legislators who will support Pre-K education, Career and College Readiness and more opportunities for at-risk students. We also need to know if candidates are planning to support passing Bill SB1122. And we need to make certain that voters understand the amendments they are voting on and what they mean to the future of education in Maryland."

CALENDAR

ONGOING

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/.

Mule-Drawn Canal Boat Rides, Great Falls Tavern. Through August, Call the C&O Canal National Historical Park at Great Falls visitor center, 301-767-3714 or visit www.nps.gov.

Bethesda Painting Award Finalists. Through June 30, gallery hours at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Suite E, Bethesda. Eight painters have been selected as finalists for the Bethesda Painting Awards, a juried competition and exhibition produced by the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District. Nearly 300 artists from Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. submitted work to the 14th annual competition created to honor regional painters. Visit www.bethesda.org for more.

THURSDAY/JUNE 14

PCV Social Lunch. Noon-1:30 p.m. at Tally Ho Restaurant, Falls Road, Potomac. Potomac Community Village hosts. Opportunity to meet, chat with neighbors about "aging in place." All welcome, admission is free; attendees pay for own meal. RSVPs preferred by June 11. Call 240-221-1370 or visit www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org for more.

Hard Swimmin' Fish (Blues/Jazz). 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park, corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues, Bethesda. Free. Part of weekly outdoor concerts produced by the Bethesda Urban Partnership. Contact 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 15-17

"Patience" Opera. Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. The Victorian Lyric Opera Company brings back a classic production of one of Gilbert & Sullivan's most famous collaborations. Cost is \$28/adults; \$24/seniors; \$20/students. Call 240-314-8690 or visit www.vloc.org to purchase tickets.

SATURDAY/JUNE 16

A Night of 1000 Laughs. 8 p.m. at The Highwood Theatre, 914 Silver Spring Ave., Silver Spring. Comedy for a good cause. Improbable Comedy presents A Night of 1000 Laughs with comedians Paris Sashay, Eddie Liles, Kasha Patel and Jon Yaeger. \$5 from every ticket sold will go to A Wider Circle. \$20 online, \$25 at the door; \$15/\$10 for students with ID. Drinks and snacks available for purchase. Visit eventbrite.com and search Improbable Comedy.

JUNE 18-AUG. 24

CityDance School & Conservatory Camp. Ages 4-14. At 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. CityDance's themed children and youth camps offer learning and fun through culture and creativity. Young dancers learn multicultural myths and themes from around the globe and are invited to explore how the tales relate to their daily lives. They take daily classes in ballet, modern, jazz, hip hop and world dance forms and learn challenging choreography in multiple styles. Visit www.citydance.net or email summer@citydance.net.

THURSDAY/JUNE 21

Jay Byrd & The Musical Trust (Alt. Country). 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park, corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues, Bethesda. Free. Part of weekly outdoor concerts produced by the Bethesda Urban Partnership. With food and drink by Hanaro Sushi. Contact 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 22

Science Rocks. 11 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Flumpa and Friends LIVE! is recognized for their method of presenting science through original music and movement with full audience participation. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library-Potomac Chapter. Free. Call 240-777-0690 or visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 23-24

Heritage Days 2018. Noon-4 p.m. Visit 40 parks, museums, and historic sites all open with free admission highlighting local history, culture, and outdoor recreation with live music, demonstrations and exhibits, tours, and special children's activities. Visit www.heritagemontgomery.org.

Mathur

FROM PAGE 4

matter to them, and not prioritize issues that matter to special interest groups.

The tyranny of the strong and the powerful over the weak and defenseless has recurred through history to our shame.

In Congress, I will fight for us all.

I will support the right of seniors to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid benefits.

I will support the right of animals to a cruelty-free life.

I will support the right to equality for women.

I will support the right to equality for all LGBTQ individuals.

I will support the right to equal opportunities for all ethnicities.

I will support the right to safety within the justice system (during arrests and within prison) for all prisoners and detainees.

I will support the right of the socioeconomically disadvantaged to have equal opportunities.

I will support programs that help the homeless.

I will support the entrance of women into STEM and politics.

I will support the retraining of our workforce to compete globally in this new cyber-driven era.

I will support equal access to affordable and quality childcare and education.

I will support environment protection measures.

I will support the "Dreamers" immigration program and the provision of globally competitive salaries to the highly skilled laborers (like doctors and engineers) who come to this country on H1B visas.

I will support the removal of super PACs and other vehicles that promote a 'pay to play' environment and essentially rob voters of their representation.

I will support common-sense gun laws that do not infringe on 2nd amendment rights.

I will support care of our veterans and military personnel.

I will support the rights of labor unions.

I will support balancing of our fiscal budgets so that the dollar that we have worked so hard to save, remains valuable.

As a CEO of a well-established cybersecurity and strategy management firm, as a woman in STEM, as the recipient of a full-ride scholarship without which I could never have afforded college, as a mother of two beautiful children, as a lover of Maryland and longtime resident, as an Indian, Jewish Italian, Jamaican and African American ethnic minority, as a high-ranking officer of the civil air patrol, as a religious person, I feel uniquely equipped to represent the residents of district 8 because I represent all of us.

My detailed proposals and platform on issues facing Marylanders in district 8 are available on my website summerforcongress.com under the menu item "Urgent Issues."

Thanks for the taking the time to learn about my stance. I hope to represent and serve you in Congress!

Raskin

FROM PAGE 4

ent services possible for the good people of Frederick, Montgomery and Carroll counties. The most pressing federal problem for Americans is that the government has been turned into a money-making operation for a handful of people, corporations and groups surrounding the President. This deep corruption of the Executive branch is a betrayal of the original design of a democratic government committed to the common good of all. We need to restore honest government by and for the people, an imperative all the more urgent for the people of my district, more than 80,000 of whom work for the federal government, taking care of our veterans, protecting our borders and national security, making scientific progress on the killer diseases, protecting us against climate change, and delivering Social Security checks and Medicare payments to our people. As a member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, I am defending federal employees and their missions against baseless partisan attacks, constant threats of salary and benefit cuts, and scandalous political interference with their work. The Administration's efforts to sabotage the ACA, decimate the federal workforce and silence scientists working on climate change are all thwarting the positive role of the federal government. I'm fighting every day to defend our federal workforce and advance the laws and priorities of the people.

Cooper

FROM PAGE 4

monumental task of representing the diverse constituents in District 8.

My platform includes 1) Family and Community 2) Excellence in Education 3) Veterans Rights 4) Superior Healthcare 5) Growing our Economy through small and agricultural based businesses.

One of the most significant differences that I will bring to Washington is my innate ability to relate to all people. I will effectively act on behalf of my constituents and reach across party lines when appropriate. I will not support legislation that does not promote the general welfare of District 8 or this country. I will work towards undoing gerrymandered districts that disenfranchise minority communities and political parties. In District 8, the statistics of possibly being represented by a Republican is less than 2 percent, the possibility of being represented by a Democrat is 98 percent. By the general election, the outcome is already predicted. When you look at these statistics, how does this create actual competition in a fair and balanced manner? I will work to represent District 8 by voting on legislation that will benefit our entire District when it comes to immigration, foreign and domestic policy, drug prevention, school safety, supporting our veterans, mental health and more. I am a committed, and compassionate candidate who will take great pride in representing District 8 as a public servant. Website: www.bridgettelcooperforcongress.com.

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Trying to Mind My Weekly Business



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

Usually I'm able to write my column because something is on my mind, or at least percolating in there somewhere. At the moment, nothing is on my mind or even remotely percolating. The reason for this lack of percolation is that as of Saturday, eight days after my last chemotherapy infusion, I still haven't been able to think clearly in my mind – or out of it, because I've spent the past week wallowing in it.

The post-chemotherapy experience to which I vaguely refer is the primary side effect of the drug with which I am infused. For the week or so following my treatment, I am not quite myself (nor am I anybody else for that matter). I am dull and void.

I am not interested in most tasks and less inclined to concern myself with trivialities and/or any responsibilities related or not. I am simply biding time, usually lying on the bed, fully dressed but minimally engaged. Sights and sounds don't bother me but neither do they motivate me in the slightest.

I am not exactly a shell of my former self, but the chemotherapy has definitely hollowed out a place for itself. Eating and drinking is very challenging. Consequently, I have difficulty swallowing the 60-odd pills that I take every day. If I'm not careful I will become less medicated and more constipated. As a direct result, I will sleep throughout the day – and night. Furthermore, I risk becoming dehydrated and vitamin and nutrient deficient.

Let me be clear: this column is not about me dying, or the feelings that I have during this post-chemotherapy "weak" thinking that I am. Hardly. It's more an attempt to explain – and perhaps justify, the minimal creative thinking I've engaged in this past week preparing to write this column. It reminds me of a particular Seinfeld episode when George explained to Jerry why he was unable to lie his way out of dinner with J. Peterman: "I dug down and there was nothing there."

All of the previous paragraphs being written, compared to myriad complications I could be experiencing – and am not, as well as the premature death "prognosed" by my oncologist: "13 months to two years" back in late February 2009, I am quite the opposite of a victim of my circumstances. I am a survivor. Nine-plus years. Though still an active patient and one never characterized as a N.E.D. ("no evidence of disease"), I continue to look forward not backward. My life is ahead of me, not behind. To invoke an old reference: "It beats Bermuda off-season."

When "Team Lourie" asked my oncologist back in early '09 if I could possibly live beyond my prognosis, he was not particularly encouraging. I remember him saying: "Could you be the one? Sure." ("One" being the operative word.)

And in the context of all that he was explaining/outlining, hardly was it offered up with any enthusiasm. It was more a verbal life preserver (no pun intended). Something for us to grasp as we continued to discuss and then ultimately decided to begin chemotherapy infusions six days later on the following Wednesday.

And here I still am, June 9, 2018, "Chronic Ken," as I've previously "monikered" myself.

I'm living proof of one of the recent goals of lung cancer research: to change a previously terminal diagnosis from a death sentence into a life sentence. And I can live with that, hopefully for many years. I have no doubt that research/clinical studies will make it all a reality.

New drugs/treatment protocols are being approved almost daily it seems, by the F.D.A. In fact, as many drugs have been approved in the past few years as had been approved in the previous decade. I have treatment choices now that I've never had before, immunotherapy is but one example.

As far as the subject matter for this week's column, this is all I could muster. I hope you don't mind.

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



Vote - June 26, 2018

To hold the line on taxes, Montgomery County needs more business job growth and sustainable spending. As the Washington Post recently stated "It's easy to overlook some ominous signs of fiscal and economic trouble ahead". A recent study by Sage Analytics found the Montgomery Co. economy is stagnant, we have fewer jobs than in 2006, the real estate market is soft and the tax base is shrinking.

But with a new focus and direction Montgomery County can continue to be a great place to live and raise a family.

**We recommend the following candidates.
They will work hard to make our County an even better place to live and work.**



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Council At-Large



Jill Ortman Fouse
Council At-Large



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