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Potomac **ALMANAC**

HomeLifeStyle

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Rescue During Flooding

News, PAGE 3

The county's Swift Water Rescue Team responded to a report of occupants in a car trapped by high water on Bradley Boulevard Aug. 1.

Artificial Turf's Next Home?

News, PAGE 3

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5 12021 Evening Ride Drive — \$1,717,500



8 12512 Noble Court — \$1,570,000



3 11548 Springridge Road — \$1,840,000



6 11708 Wood Thrush Lane — \$1,575,000

June, 2018 Top Sales

IN JUNE 2018, 74 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$2,160,000-\$525,000.

2 10823 Burbank Drive — \$2,140,000



4 11213 Marwood Hill Drive — \$1,725,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price ...	Type	Lot AC ..	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold		
1 8511 RAPLEY PRESERVE CIR ..	5	..	5	..	3	POTOMAC ...	\$2,160,000 ...	Detached	0.50	20854	AVENEL	06/20/18
2 10823 BURBANK DR	6	..	6	..	2	POTOMAC ...	\$2,140,000 ...	Detached	2.39	20854	POTOMAC VILLAGE	06/01/18
3 11548 SPRINGRIDGE RD	6	..	7	..	2	POTOMAC ...	\$1,840,000 ...	Detached	2.00	20854	DARNESTOWN OUTSIDE ...	06/29/18
4 11213 MARWOOD HILL DR ...	5	..	6	..	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,725,000 ...	Detached	0.73	20854	MARWOOD	06/29/18
5 12021 EVENING RIDE DR	7	..	6	..	2	POTOMAC ...	\$1,717,500 ...	Detached	1.02	20854	MERRY GO ROUND FARM ...	06/29/18
6 11708 WOOD THRUSH LN	5	..	4	..	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,575,000 ...	Detached	0.44	20854	ESTATES AT GREENBRIAR PR .	06/29/18
7 13643 MAIDSTONE LN	6	..	7	..	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,575,000 ...	Detached	2.38	20854	RIVERS EDGE	06/08/18
8 12512 NOBLE CT	6	..	4	..	2	POTOMAC ...	\$1,570,000 ...	Detached	2.00	20854	PALATINE SUB	06/15/18

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PHOTOS COURTESY MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE

The county's Swift Water Rescue Team aided occupants in a car trapped by high water on Bradley Boulevard Aug.

Rescue Follows Flooding of Bradley Boulevard

Danger of flash floods.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue responded last Wednesday, Aug. 1, to the report of a vehicle in high water on Bradley Blvd.

At 1:28 a.m. the Swift Water Rescue Team posted photos after successfully removing

the occupants of a car trapped in the creek which covered the road on Bradley east of Kentsdale Drive. The Swift Water Rescue Team was assisted by other units from Montgomery County Fire and Rescue and from the National Institutes of Health.

An average of 75 people have died in the U.S. from flash floods each year from 2004-2013. According to the National Weather Service, an average of 75 people have died from flash floods each year from 2004-2013.

"The single worst decision you can make in a flash flood is driving your vehicle into floodwaters of unknown depth," according to Weather.com website. "It's easy to misjudge the depth of floodwater, particularly at night. Sometimes the bridge or road masked by flood water may have been undermined or completely washed out."

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on weather.com: "Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of

control and potential stalling.

* A foot of water will float many vehicles.

* Two feet of rushing water will carry away most vehicles, including SUVs and pickups.

* Once your vehicle is floating, the floodwater becomes your steering wheel. If that water is moving, your vehicle could be swept away, tipped on its side or flipped."

As the National Weather Service has campaigned for years: "Turn around, don't drown."

Artificial Turf's Next Home?

Complaints follow removal of Richard Montgomery High School field material.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

With Montgomery County Public Schools replacing the first of its artificial fields this summer, disposal of the old material has been called into question.

A copy of an email came to the Almanac a few weeks ago criticizing the removal and disposal of Richard Montgomery High School artificial turf. The person who sent the email refused to be identified in print. But others concerned about the potential environmental damage of improper disposal of the county's artificial turf fields came forward to question whether the county guidelines were being followed.

Kathleen Michels said she has been following the pros and cons of artificial turf for 10 years and has an arsenal of facts to use in making her case against its use in playing fields.

Now that MCPS is at the point that it needs to replace some of the fields, more issues are involved.

According to Michels in an email: "Turf Reclamation Solutions (TRS) President Mark Heinlein notes that per field: greater than 40,000 pounds of plastic per field and greater than 400,000 pounds of tire waste or other similar synthetic polymer infill per field go mostly to landfills (#1 on the infographic at right). A very little is burned (#2). A little is "repurposed" (#3) as batting cage surfacing for example — but then goes to landfill. Wishful thinking

on (#4) — recycling — as noted there — the removal must be carefully and expensively done with sorting of the infill separate from the plastic rug — but even then there is now no market to actually recycle back into synturf carpet (the preferred solution to save natural resources and trash) or into other plastic products."

MCPS is reassuring the public that it has safely disposed of the material from Richard Montgomery.

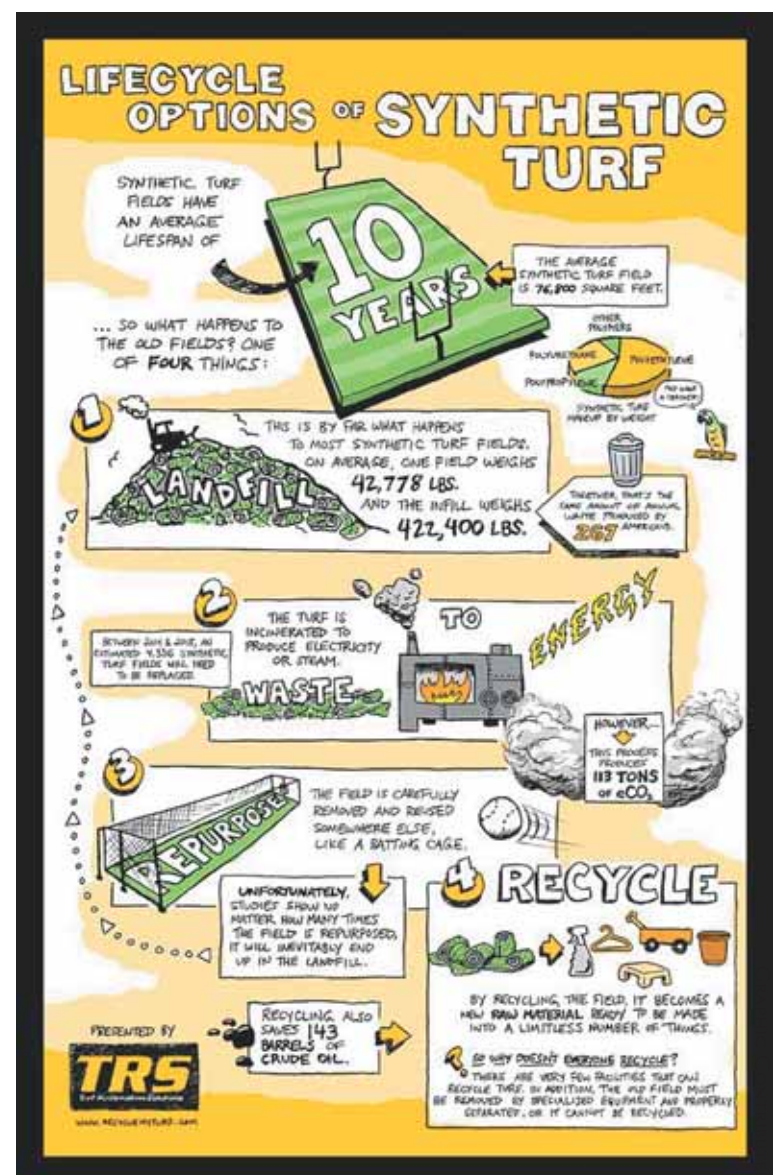
Andrew Zuckerman, chief operating officer, Montgomery County Public Schools, wrote on July 21:

"Dear MCPS Community,

"This week, contractors began work to replace the artificial turf field at Richard Montgomery High School. The existing artificial turf material has been removed and sent for recycling. The entire system, including turf fibers and infill, will be repurposed as a continuation of the overall lifecycle of the materials.

"In addition, any remaining debris left over from the removal of the turf field will be cleared. We have taken steps to mitigate the impact of the field removal process on the surrounding environment. In addition to sweeping up debris, the stormwater management system under the surface at Richard Montgomery High School is designed to contain debris within the system to allow for thorough, periodic cleaning. Other preventative measures, such as the use of mesh screening over turf materials waiting to be hauled away, are also in place.

SEE COMPLAINTS, PAGE 6



OPINION

An Open Letter to Readers and More

Buy an ad in our annual Newcomers and Community Guide, please.

Adapted from a 2016 editorial ...

Has your organization been featured in the Connection Newspapers, or the Alexandria Gazette Packet or the Mount Vernon Gazette or the Centre View or the Potomac Almanac?

Have any of our papers taken note of your business when you and/or your employees pitch in to help the community? Or when you opened your doors or celebrated a milestone?

Are you an elected official whose messages are enhanced by coverage of issues in the Connection?

Do you work for a part of local government that has asked for help getting the word out about a need or a new initiative or accomplishments?

I have a special favor to ask:

Buy an ad in our 2018 Newcomers and Community Guide. Please.

Show your support for our organization which continues to be here to support the forces of good in our communities.

Our annual Newcomers and Community Guide is a pullout section that will appear in the the Aug. 22, 2018 edition of all 15 Connection Newspapers, published by Local Media Connection. Deadline is Aug. 16.

We are striving to create a quality special issue, and we need your help. Whether you invest in a small ad in a single paper (super af-

fordable), or a full page in all 15 of our papers (super value), we appreciate your help this month.

To put on my publisher's hat (and not my editor's hat) for a minute, if you have a marketing budget, and you value coverage of local newspapers (not just ours), why wouldn't you spend a portion of that budget (any portion) supporting that platform? Heed the cautionary tale in the closures of many newspapers in the last couple of years.

But this request is more than a charitable effort.

Share Tips about Community

We need help from our readers for our annual Newcomers and Community Guide.

We're hoping to share special places, activities, events, organizations and volunteer opportunities. What should someone new to your neighborhood know about? Events that should not be missed? Organizations that do a great job? Places to volunteer? Tips for navigating your PTA or your school's front office? A great place to see the sunset? We'd love to have your photos to go along with your suggestions.

What are your favorite parks? Favorite historic sites? Lunch place? Spot for coffee? What tips do you have for someone getting to know the community?

We will publish a selection of local tips along with a plethora of information useful to new-

For the same reasons that organizations, businesses and campaigns know they want local newspaper coverage, newspaper advertising is an effective way to reach voters, residents, clients. The Connection reaches more than 150,000 readers, in print and online, including remarkable demographics. Our readers include local and national decision makers in the public and private sector.

The deadline for the Newcomers and Community Guide is Aug. 17. Digital enhancements and support are available. Email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431 for more information.

comers and long-time residents alike, including our award-winning Insiders Guide to the Parks, and information on how to vote and more.

See last year's community guides by going to www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scrolling down to Newcomers.

Email tips and photos to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or send as a letter to the editor via the website at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/> by Wednesday, Aug. 15.

— MARY KIMM

For information on advertising, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431. See www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising.

EDITORIAL

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THROUGH SEPT. 12

Trauma Arts Therapy. Wednesdays through Sept. 12, 2-4:30 p.m. at

Family Justice Center Rockville, 600 Jefferson Plaza #500, Rockville. Join any time. A safe space for creative engagement using art therapy and trauma-informed care for healing survivors and allies. Come find community with other survivors and take control of your story. Workshop includes free childcare and reimbursement for transportation.

Reach out to request interpretation, childcare or transportation. Workshop is free. Call 240-671-7266 or visit dvrp.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 8

Executive Roundtable: Synthetic Drugs of Abuse. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Courtyard Marriott Chevy

Chase, Mayfair Room II, 5520 Wisconsin Ave., Chevy Chase. The seminar will conclude with a discussion of best practices in seized drug analysis and what changes in regulation may be necessary to stay ahead of the epidemic. Visit vuvanalytics.com/drugs-of-abuse-east-coast-2018/ to register.



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Joys of Summer

Rafting Group 1, Calleva camp fun with Micah Selengut, staff member at the C&O canal.

Stephen, Joe, Ellie, and Heath Muskett take a summer stroll.



POTOMAC ALMANAC

www.PotomacAlmanac.com

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Preparing for New School Year

Home organizing saves space and time.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The sight of store shelves overflowing with school glue sticks and crayons signals that the beginning of school is just around the corner. While squeezing in one last vacation, the thought of turning an eye to getting one's home in order before the school bell rings might be met with dread.

"It can feel like a daunting task to organize when artwork overflows from school or small trinkets come home from birthday parties, the end of summer is a great time to purge a lot of unnecessary items to make way for new school year ahead," said Allie Mann, designer-senior interiors specialist, Case Design/Remodeling. "And it's always a great time to donate gently used items as well."

"Especially now as families are preparing to get back to school, it's so important to get organized," added Anne M. Walker, Esq., Allied ASID, Owner + Principal Anne Walker Design LLC. "Nothing is more stressful than searching for something when you're already five minutes late, it's pouring down rain, it's picture day at school, and you have a big work meeting in 45 minutes."

Now that organization is often considered a part of interior design, the tools and hacks available are more stylish and innovative than ever, say local designers. "In a kitchen in Old Town, Alexandria I installed four shallow drawers underneath the countertop at the island — one for each family member," said Sarah Glenn, interior designer and project manager, Braswell Design+Build, Alexandria. "I designed the drawers to be just large enough to store school papers and a laptop so that each family member would have a dedicated temporary storage space without creating four individual junk drawers."

A Potomac, Md. family recently enlisted Walker's help in redesigning and reorganizing their home from top to bottom with an eye toward all things chic and stylish. She began in the bedrooms of the family's teenage daughter, creating custom closets.

"After the new closet was installed, I spent the better part of two days helping this teen fill the closet with all of her belongings, putting things where they were visible and readily accessible," she said. "Organization is important primarily because of the time it saves. If you can find what you need to get out the door right away, you can sleep 20 minutes later."



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICELY DONE KITCHENS AND BATHS
This kitchen by Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths features custom cabinets of painted Maplewood and quartz countertops. An abundance of drawer space helps with organization.



PHOTO BY STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Hooks for backpacks and jackets, like this one by Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling, are a must for an organized mudroom.

A similar closet was created for the family's middle school aged son. "Amazing how even young children can keep their rooms tidy as long as there's a system in place that they can understand and is practical enough for them to use," said Walker. "If you know exactly where all of your clothes are, and exactly where to put them back after laundering them, it will seem like you just won the lottery. You won't believe how many things you have, many of which have been long forgotten, stuffed in the back of some drawer or under the bed."

One of the most important tasks on Walker's agenda was organizing a large basement space with abundant shelving to create a home office. "In an office this size, children could easily use it for homework while the parent was working there, also," she said. "Sometimes it's calming and comforting just to be in the same space, even if you aren't actually helping the child with their work."

A home's mudroom is supposed to serve as a gateway into the main house, creating order and keeping clutter from overflowing into the home's interior, but often that isn't the case as clutter overtakes the space. In a recent mudroom project, Mann incorporated elements into the design that addressed the family's lifestyle. "Cubbies and bench storage for sports and after-school activities for older children are a must," she said. "If space allows, allocating a designated cubbie for each child is best to keep things separated and from getting lost."

"With organization, you are constantly trying to strike a balance between carving out enough space for a specific function without over-organizing to the point that you lose flexibility to change what you store as your life evolves," added Glenn.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE WALKER

Interior designer Anne Walker installed a custom closet by Capitol Closet Design in the bedroom of this Potomac, Md. home to create an organized space in time for school.

Want to help others? And learn about aging in place?



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Complaints Follow Removal of RMHS Field Material

FROM PAGE 3

“Contractors and MCPS staff are working diligently to remove the artificial turf in a safe and efficient manner and look forward to installing the new organic infill field shortly.”

Photos appear to show that there was no mesh covering the materials waiting to be hauled away and that rubber “crumbs” from the infill were spilled on the school parking lot.

Again, on July 30, Zuckerman shared this information during a Board of Education meeting: “We know that the board received additional questions over the weekend regarding disposal of the artificial turf field material from Richard Montgomery High School (RMHS). First, let me assure you that the statements that we have issued on our website and in previous responses to elected officials are completely accurate.

“Consistent with the clear policy direction of the Board of Education and consistent with the MCPS value of environmental stewardship, our contract for replacement of the RMHS field included a requirement that the existing field be recycled to the maximum extent possible. In this case, the

entire field system, which includes the carpet and infill material, is being reused by a recreational facility in the White Marsh area and others outside of Maryland. Reuse is a core element of the “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” approach to waste management. Product reuse is permissible under state and local regulations; prevents materials from being disposed of in the waste stream; and precludes the need for additional new materials to be generated.

“In the RMHS field replacement project, as in any major construction project, debris was generated by the demolition. This debris represents a very small fraction of the full stadium field. As I stated on our website, ‘remaining debris left over from the removal of the turf field’ was cleared. Management of construction debris is a specialized industry, and these materials are routinely transported to transfer stations, often in other areas of the country, for safe sorting and handling. Transfer stations identify materials that can be recycled and appropriately process remaining materials; they do not accept materials which they are not licensed to process. We will continue to hold our contractors to high standards and work to ensure compliance with all environmen-

tal and safety regulations. We will provide a full written explanation of this process as requested in a memorandum to Dr. Smith by Ms. Ortman-Fouse, who asked a series of important questions about the turf removal process that will help illuminate this issue.

“The Board of Education is an excellent steward of both taxpayer resources and of the environment in the service of educating the children and youth of Montgomery County. The superintendent and those of us in his administration are committed to implementing the board’s vision. It is unfortunate that there is a small group of individuals attempting to mislead and misinform our community about this issue. This behavior distracts from our core mission of teaching and learning. I am particularly troubled by the fact that in this case we are fielding questions about a paintball facility’s reuse of artificial turf in White Marsh, Maryland when here in Montgomery County locally we are focused on creating opportunities for all students to learn and achieve at high levels. We welcome serious debate on instructional and operational issues; at the same time, we know that accountability only truly results when all stakeholders

hold to high standards of accuracy, reliability, and constructive communication.”

Zuckerman also made public a “chain of custody” letter from Rich Charland at Turf Cycle USA. Dated July 18, 2018, the letter states that Turf Cycle has taken full possession of the artificial turf and infill components from [Richard] Montgomery High School. The field was shipped to an address in White Marsh, Maryland and is “awaiting further re-purposing.”

“Repurposing/reusing’ is purely a euphemism for dumping ... a mess of worn-out plastic carpet with literally tons of pulverized tire waste and sand spilling everywhere,” Michels wrote.

“There really aren’t two sides to this story,” Michels said. “Do you really want to do this, take 40,000 pounds of plastic and [the rubber crumbs] and put them in a landfill? At this step, MCPS should say we made a mistake, this is the first one [of the fields to be recycled], Walter Johnson’s next up. This is a harbinger of things to come.”

Montgomery County Public Schools did not respond to specific questions regarding this story. Derek Turner of MCPS Office of Communications responded by sending links to the statements by Zuckerman.

Maryland Tax-Free Week Begins This Sunday

Scholarship contest offered.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Get those shopping lists ready, the State of Maryland is offering its annual Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week Aug. 12-18 and, this year, is also conducting a contest to publicize Maryland shopping.

Two winners will receive \$2,500 and \$1,000 scholarships, respectively, to any Maryland university, college or trade school.

And it is the one week each year that consumers can purchase clothing and foot wear priced at \$100 or less without having the 6 percent tax added.

Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot and

the Maryland Retailers Association (MRA) July 30 announced the social media contest coinciding with Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week.

To enter the contest, shoppers should like or follow the official social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, then snap a picture or take a video that incorporates the theme of “Maryland” (the state colors, school apparel, sports team, a crab, etc.), write a creative caption and use #shopmdtaxfree during Tax-Free Week to submit an entry on any or all of the social media platforms, according to a press release from the Maryland Office of Comptroller.

MRA, which is providing the scholarships, will select the two entries at the week’s conclusion that best reflect the spirit of Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week.

“The State of Maryland loses money dur-

ing Tax-Free Week, but it’s a big win for locally-owned businesses and for shoppers,” said Franchot in the release. “This will be the easiest scholarship Maryland college students will ever have the chance to win. There’s no application, no essay and no interview — just shop tax-free.”

“Tax-Free Week provides a much-needed boost to brick-and-mortar retailers in our state, and we encourage all consumers to support their local businesses,” said Cailey Locklair Tolle, MRA president. “This year we are again thrilled to help promote shopping local and Tax-Free Week by offering scholarships to our contest winners.”

During Tax-Free Week, any single qualifying article of clothing or footwear priced \$100 or less – regardless of how many items are purchased at the same time – will be exempt from the state’s six percent sales tax. The first \$40 of any backpack or bookbag

purchase is also tax-free.

To get the latest details about Tax-Free Week and to enter the contest, like or follow the social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Resulting from legislation passed by the Maryland General Assembly in 2007, the tax-free week is held annually during the second week in August. Businesses selling items that are not eligible for inclusion in the tax-free week can still participate in Shop Maryland.

Under “Sellers Privilege,” other unqualified merchandise can be sold tax-free, but the retailer is responsible for paying the sales tax owed to the state.

For more information on qualifying items, visit marylandtaxes.gov, email taxhelp@comp.state.md.us or call 410-260-7980 (Central Maryland) or toll-free at 1-800-MD-TAXES.

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or call 703.778.9431

ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/.

FRIDAY/AUG. 10

Tie Dye Party. 4-5:30 p.m. at My Gym Potomac, 11325 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. 1.5 hours of fun games, tie dye, and pizza for the family. Cost is \$20/members; \$25/non-members. Bring something white to tie dye and they provide the rest. Contact Ronni Oppenheim at potomac@mygym.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 11

Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Monthly Potomac Friends of the Library Book Sale includes books, DVDs, and more for children, teens, and adults. All are welcome. Call 240-777-0690 or visit www.folmc.org/potomac-chapter/ for more.

Black Card Declined. 8 p.m. at Cissel-Saxon American Legion Post 41, 905 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring. The show that combines stand-up comedy and a hilarious game show about Black culture. Hosts Michele Sometimes and Charity Sade will let four comedians vie for stage time by answering questions about African American history and culture. For every question the comics get wrong, they lose a minute of their stage time and the audience gets a chance to answer. Audience members also participate and can win prizes. Cost is \$20/\$25/door. Tickets at www.eventbrite.com/e/black-card-declined-a-comedy-game-show-about-black-culture-history-tickets-47147049093.

AUG. 11-12

“The Melting Pot.” At Temple Beth Ami, 14330 Travilah Road, Rockville. The premiere production of the new Jewish Community Theater of Montgomery County. This is the play that popularized the phrase “melting pot” as a nickname for America. Written in 1908 by Israel Zangwill, it takes a hard look at anti-Semitism and anti-immigrant hatred, while still finding room for humor, romance, and hope. Visit facebook.com/JCTMCtheater

TUESDAY/AUG. 14

PCV Social Lunch. Noon-1:30 p.m. at Tally Ho Restaurant, 9923 Falls Road, Potomac. An opportunity for Potomac Community Village members and non-members to chat over lunch. Participants pay for their own meal. Visit www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org or call 240-221-1370 for more.

AUG. 16-SEPT. 2

6th Annual Juried Show for Young Photographers. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m.; Sunday-Monday, 1-8 p.m. at Photoworks in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Photoworks presents the annual juried Youth Photography Competition, “Listen Up!” A selection of work has been collected from budding youth photographers for this year’s exhibit. First place, second place and third place winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony and Reception on Monday, Sept. 3, 4-6 p.m. Visit glenechophotoworks.org/ for more.

SUNDAY/AUG. 19

Waltz Dance. 2:45-3:30 waltz workshop; 3:30-6 p.m. dance at the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Featuring the ensemble Waverly Station Trio with a mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Admission is \$13. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.org.

SATURDAY/AUG. 25

Protecting the Canal: 1861-1865. 2-3 p.m. at Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center, 11710 MacArthur Boulevard, Potomac. Explore Civil War efforts to protect the C&O Canal and the effect of war on families living along it. Space limited to 25 people; make reservations at chohvip@gmail.com. Park entrance fees may be charged at Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center but park ranger programs are free. Call 301-767-3714.

At the Fair

The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair opens Friday, Aug. 10 at 3 p.m.

The fair runs from 10 a.m. to midnight through Saturday, Aug. 18 at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fairgrounds, 501 Perry Parkway, Gaithersburg. Carnival hours are from noon to midnight each day.

General admission is \$12, children 11 and under are free. Parking at the fairgrounds is \$10 cash per car.

Free parking and shuttle bus service runs from Lakeforest Mall, Lost Knife Road and Odendhal Avenue.

Visit mcagfair.com for a complete schedule plus hints on visiting the fair on a budget.

Are you entering an exhibit or just visiting? Either way, send photos to the Potomac Almanac in care of peggymcewan@aol.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 30

Ice Cream Social. 2:30-4 p.m. Call for location. Enjoy ice cream with fellow members. Non-dairy treats will be available for those who don’t or can’t eat ice cream. For Potomac Community Village members only. Call 240-221-1370, email info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org or visit www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 1

Paint the Town. At Norfolk Avenue facade of the Triangle Towers Apartments, 4853 Cordell Ave., Bethesda. Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District is seeking proposals for mural artists who are 18 years of age or older and residents of Washington, D.C., Maryland or Virginia. Artists must have prior experience with the design and installation of large scale murals and are asked to submit a detailed, site-specific proposal for the Triangle Towers Mural. A \$50,000 stipend will be provided to the selected artist to pay for supplies and the artist’s time. The deadline to apply is Sept. 1, 2018. The entire project must be completed by Nov. 1, 2018. Visit www.bethesda.org.

MONDAY/SEPT. 3

Awards Ceremony and Reception. 4-6 p.m. at Photoworks in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Photoworks presents the annual juried Youth Photography Competition, “Listen Up!” A selection of work has been collected from budding youth photographers for this year’s exhibit. The exhibit runs Aug. 16-Sept. 2, Saturdays, 1-4 p.m.; Sunday-Monday, 1-8 p.m. Visit glenechophotoworks.org/ for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 8

Library Book Sale. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Monthly Potomac Friends of the Library Book Sale includes books, DVDs, and more for children, teens, and adults. All are welcome. Call 240-777-0690 or visit www.folmc.org/potomac-chapter/ for more.

SEPT. 14-16

“The Last Five Years.” At Randolph Road Theatre, 4010 Randolph Road, Silver Spring. Produced by The Montgomery Playhouse and Theatre@CBT, this musical by Jason Robert Brown follows an interfaith couple through their five-year relationship, with them falling both in and out of love. Jamie Wellerstein, a rising novelist with strong Jewish roots, works to balance his suddenly successful career while embarking on a relationship with Cathy Hiatt, a struggling non-Jewish actress, who is left to deal with her stalled career while watching her husband from the sidelines. Visit facebook.com/Theatre@CBT and montgomeryplayhouse.org.

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“Slow Progression”



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

OKAY. It’s not exactly what I wanted to read in the email from my oncologist interpreting the results of my July 25 CT Scan.

Since August 2013 when I was hospitalized for a week with fluid in my lungs, “CT stable” has been the recurring message. Now the message is different.

My question, which will be addressed Monday afternoon: can I live with ‘slow progression?’ I would imagine that there are more aggressive characterizations of ‘progression.’ Nevertheless, I have to wait three more days to find out.

What has been suggested so far by my oncologist is simple enough: reduce the interval of my infusions or change medications. Sounds reasonable and not particularly drastic. What’s distressing (but not at all drastic) however, is the fear of the unknown.

Not having had a reason to change in five years, I’ve grown awfully comfortable and confident in the ebb and flow of my life vis-à-vis my cancer treatment/side effects. I’ve known what to expect and when to expect it.

For a terminal cancer patient still undergoing treatment, this kind of regularity/normalcy is as good as it gets. Accordingly, I’ve been able to live a relatively manageable life.

And by ‘manageable’ I mean a life worth living and one not consumed by, if I may retrieve a phrase from last week’s column: “cancer centrality.” Not that I don’t have deficits or spiritual, emotional or psychological problems/complications, I do, but I have so much more than that. I not only have a present, I have a future too.

No small caveat when one considers I was given a “13 month to two year” prognosis on Feb. 27, 2009. Over nine years ago – and counting. As Maurice Chevalier sang to Hermione Gingold in “Gigi” (1958): “I remember it well.”

So life has indeed gone on and I’d like to think that despite this most recent email from my oncologist, life will continue to go on. I have to think positive; I’m my father’s son, and deceased though he may be, he wouldn’t have it any other way.

Besides, as Dr. Mobley said to Augustus McCray in the epic mini series, “Lonesome Dove,” (1989) when Gus refused to let him amputate his remaining leg: “I assure the alternative is gloomy.”

Well, Gus was rarely gloomy and considering my circumstances, neither have I been gloomy. There’s just no future in it.

Right now, it’s the present I’m concerned about. Specifically, Monday afternoon when my oncologist and I (we, actually; my wife, Dina will be on the phone as well) will talk.

Having a three participant phone conversation is a little awkward. The questions and answers might not flow as easily as if the three of us were sitting together in an examining room. But since that’s what’s happening/been scheduled, we’ll endeavor to make the best of it.

What probably will help, oddly enough, is the three days Dina and I will have to think about what concerns we have, what questions we’ll ask and what answers from the oncologist we anticipate hearing.

Then, with the doctor’s encouragement, together we’ll be able to make an intelligent decision concerning a prudent course of action/treatment going forward. A discussion we’ve had many times before.

And given our respective history over the last nine-plus years, there’s no reason to think we can’t achieve similar success living forward.

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



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