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HomeLifeStyle

PAGE, 4

Potomac ALMANAC

Tawitha Ramsey, Chad Washington and Laura Miller Brooks of Lime helping locals get comfortable riding e-scooters on Saturday, July 27 at the Montgomery County Democracy Boulevard transit site, right near Montgomery Mall.

What About Those Scooters?

NEWS, PAGE 3

Remembering Jake

PAGE 2

Sold for How Much?

REAL ESTATE, PAGE 8

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NEWS



Photo of Jake Cassell greeted family and friends at the memorial service for the 16 year old at Winston Churchill High School Friday.

Remembering Jake

Standing room only crowd attends memorial service for Churchill student Jake Cassell.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
 POTOMAC ALMANAC

Winston Churchill High School student Jacob (Jake) Cassell was a ray of sunshine to those who knew him.

The memorial service in honor of the rising junior at the school who died from injuries he received in an accident while riding his bike July 30 was as full of Jake's joy and sweet spirit as with sadness at his passing.

"I didn't really personally know him, but I always saw him in the halls and he was always so happy," Malia Bush, a rising junior at Churchill said outside the service Friday. "It's just devastating that this happened. Everybody knew him."

If you saw him, he was your friend, Kofi Asante, Jake's teacher at McLean Bible Church said.

"He was sweetness, caring and compassionate. He was always eager to lend a helping hand," Asante said. "He will surely be missed."

"Most of us came in our jerseys to show love. He always showed love. ... We thought [wearing our jerseys] would be a good way to honor him."

— Josh Pilarski, rising junior, Churchill football player

Jake was very active in his church and recently returned from a mission trip to the Dominican Republic, according to an obituary on Legacy.com. There he helped other members of his church lead a Vacation Bible School for young children.

SEE REMEMBERING, PAGE 5
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Surge in E-scooter Use Prompts Safety Training

As e-scooter become more popular rideshare, increased awareness.

BY ALEX HAMER
POTOMAC ALMANAC

Local residents in Bethesda and Silver Spring were given the opportunity to learn how to ride e-scooters, become aware of the laws and safety concerns surrounding the scooters and even a free helmet in training sessions hosted by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation.

Following the rise in popularity of shared bikes, electric scooters have overtaken docked bikes to become the most popular method of shared transportation.

According to a report by the National Association of City Transportation Officials, 38.5 million trips were taken on shared e-scooters in 2018, while 36.5 rides were taken on docked bikes.

With increased popularity comes increased safety concerns. But training might help, as a report from the CDC stated that approximately one in every three e-scooter accidents involved a first-time rider.

At the training, safety was a central theme that brought e-scooter companies Lime and Lyft to the event as they allowed people to ride their scooters around cones set up a parking lot, with Lime handing out free helmets to participants to emphasize the importance of safety.

"We're really trying to get people comfortable using our scooters," Lime Opera-



Laura Miller Brooks of Lime teaching Christine Thebo how to operate an electric scooter Saturday, July 27 at the Montgomery County Democracy Boulevard transit site, right near Montgomery Mall.

tions Manager John Usry said, "get people familiar with how to use them, where to find them and rules of the road."

The training session was the second the county has hosted, Gary Erenrich of the Department of Transportation said. Erenrich, who is spearheading the county's e-scooter pilot program, noted that even

though Lime and Lyft have only been in the area for the past month, they have already made a big impact.

"During the peak of when Lime has been here we've had 900 rides a day," Erenrich said, "and we know from studies that a lot of rides would've been in a car, so look at all the traffic we're taking off with just a few scooters."

Part of the reason for e-scooter's rapid growth has to do with cost and convenience, Usry said. In crowded downtown areas, e-scooters are often able to travel short distances faster than cars, don't have the same difficulties finding parking as a car and with

Lime's rate of one dollar to unlock the scooter and 24 cents a minute often prove cheaper than an Uber or Lyft ride.

Many who attended the session had never ridden an e-scooter before, nor were they aware of the local laws surrounding their usage. Those laws include only being allowed to ride on the road, not the sidewalk, a 15 mile-per-hour speed limit and riders are prohibited from riding from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

One new rider was Silver Spring resident Terri Torain, who said had an enjoyable first experience riding an e-scooter. Torain, who frequently uses public transportation, said as a result of the training session is much more likely to use an e-scooter as an alternative to riding the bus now that she feels comfortable riding a scooter. Torain's only complaint about the session was the legal requirement to ride on the street instead of the sidewalk which she felt would be more safe, at least until bike lanes become more consistent throughout the county.

Katherine Nelson said her first experience riding an e-scooter proved to be challenging. Nelson, an avid biker, said it was an adjustment going from balancing on a bike sitting down to balancing standing up on the scooter. She said she "really appreciated" the practice session as it allowed her to get a feel for manually slowing down and speeding up on the scooter in tight areas and she slowly mastered the accelerator and brake equipped on the scooter's handlebars. For Nelson, with the hassle that comes with parking combined with her newfound confidence riding a scooter, she sees herself riding an e-scooter frequently in the future.

"My motto in life is why walk when you can fly," Nelson said, "and I feel like I can fly on one of these."

To find out more go to montgomerycountymd.gov

"During the peak of when Lime has been here we've had 900 rides a day, and we know from studies that a lot of those rides would've been in a car, so look at all the traffic we're taking off with just a few scooters."

— Gary Erenrich,
MCDOT



Gary Erenrich works for MCDOT.



Chad Washington of Lime is instructing Neil Waldman how to operate an electric scooter Saturday, July 27 at the Montgomery County Democracy Boulevard transit site, right near Montgomery Mall.

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Home LifeStyle



PHOTOS BY JOHN COLE

This kitchen and dining area by Anthony Wilder Design/Build includes a workstation concealed behind doors (shown open and closed) to keep the family organized.

Home Organization For a New School Year

Accessories and design elements to create a smooth start.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

As a new school year looms large over the horizon, the hectic reality of packing lunches, buying school supplies and making space for new backpacks comes into focus. Making time for home organization can decrease stress before the school bus arrives.

The kitchen is often the of nucleus or command center of a family's home, especially during the school year. To help quell the chaos, Shannon Kadwell of Anthony Wilder Design/Build suggests centralization. "A snack station and breakfast center can be great for letting the kids get food on their own while you get together meals and lunches," she said. "The snack station [can be] a drawer in the kitchen that kids can go into at anytime to get healthy snacks. Granola bars, nuts, crackers, dried fruit, can be pre-measured for individual servings for easy grab and go."

Getting dressed in the morning can become a source of tension, but Sallie Finney Kjos of Grey Hunt Interiors says that she incorporates an elegant design solution

into the bedrooms of her clients homes that helps ease the day-break anxiety.

"Get a basket for each kid and roll their outfits for the day, tie them together and place them upright in the basket," she said. "Give your kid independence and let them pick out their own clothes. Not only will their outfits match, but you'll know that they didn't create a mess finding the perfect shirt."

In fact, baskets can offer a versatile and chic method of organization throughout one's home says, Courtney Thomas of home accessories store, The Picket

"Baskets are an easy and often inexpensive way to contain clutter."

— Courtney Thomas, The Picket Fence

Fence. "They are available in endless sizes and styles," she said. "Baskets are an easy and often inexpensive way to contain clutter. Larger ones are perfect for blankets and pillows, smaller ones keep toys corralled, and there are even baskets with file hangers to keep ... papers organized. If baskets aren't your style, we also love using vintage boxes and crates to serve the same function."

Getting creative with clear containers can help maintain order without sacrificing a home's aesthetic, says Thomas. "You can find

options that are much more stylish than the traditional plastic tub," she said. "Since they are see-through it's easy to see what's inside and find what you need. Use mason jars for pencils and crayons." A coffee table can serve double duty as both a home accessory and a clandestine storage space, says Kjos. "They can be a catch all for busy families," she said. "Consider topping them with a few decorative boxes to hold needed items." Over the course of a school year, a home's mud room can become a black hole of backpacks, soccer cleats and lacrosse sticks. "Having a locker with a door for each child gives the mudroom a clean, organized feel," said Kadwell. "The kids don't need to be neat and tidy inside their own spaces."

Back-to-school organization can extend to the laundry rooms, continues Kadwell. "Set up drop stations to have kids drop off clothes that are in need of washing," she said. "Have bins in an easy to get to space for the kids that are labeled whites, darks and towels. Kids can place their clothing in them according to the labels. This helps cut down the laundry time by having them already sorted."

A family calendar to keep track of deadlines, appointments, and events is a must-have, continued Kadwell. "[Place it] at a level kids can see," she said. "This can be a whole wall that you can paint with a magnetic chalk paint and create a paneled wall effect."

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SPECIAL PULLOUT TAB

Newcomers & Community Guide
August 28, 2019

The annual Newcomers and Community Guides for each of our 15 communities with inside facts on what makes each community special, their secret places, the real power players, how to get involved and more.

Including the history, schools, parks, libraries, local people, elected officials, county/city offices, how decisions are made, a calendar of events and other vital community information.

Due to the popularity and long shelf life of this issue, an overrun of the publication is made to meet demand. Extra copies are delivered to select Chambers of Commerce, Realtors, Citizens' Associations and local government.

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Remembering Jake

FROM PAGE 2

Jake was also active in Boy Scout Troop 233 in Bethesda. Members of his troop began the memorial service Friday with the presentation of the colors and Mike Schecter, a troop member was among those sharing memories of Jake at the service.

Jake had completed all the requirements for Eagle Scout except for his Eagle Project. One member of the troop said they were going to complete Jake's project for him.

"Maybe we can get him a badge," he said.

Members of many of Churchill's sports teams attended the service in their jerseys, honoring Jake as he had supported them as the Churchill Bulldog mascot, the embodiment of school spirit.

"Most of us came in our jerseys to show love," said football team member Josh Pilarski, a rising junior. "He always showed love. ... We thought [wearing our jerseys] would be a good way to honor him."

Gladys Moreno said after the service that she knew Jake for years. Her son and Jake started grade school together and were happy to be reunited at Churchill.

She particularly liked the video of Jake dancing that was shown during the service. "He liked to dance a lot," she said. "It was a very nice service."

Churchill Principal Brandice Heckert wrote on the school's website: "Jake, a rising junior, was the spirit in our building and

community." This past year he was at almost every event as our mascot, and he was proud to be a Bulldog. He will be greatly missed. Keep the Cassell family in your thoughts."

A Walk/Ride for Safe Streets, in remembrance of Jake and Jennifer DiMauro will be held Saturday, Aug. 17. DiMauro, 31, of North Bethesda, was a pedestrian who was hit by a car July 20 while crossing the street at the intersection of Tuckerman Lane and King's Riding Way, near the Grosvenor Metro Station. She too died of her injuries See box.

According to police:

"Preliminary investigation has revealed that the bicyclist was traveling south on the southbound sidewalk of Old Georgetown Road (approaching Beech Avenue) when he fell from the sidewalk and into the roadway." The bicyclist was then struck by a 2018 Volkswagen Atlas that was traveling southbound Old Georgetown Road. The driver stopped and remained at the scene.

The bicyclist, identified as Jacob Cassell, age 17, of Wyngate Drive in Bethesda, was transported to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. He succumbed to his injuries early [the next] morning [Aug. 1].

"The driver of the Volkswagen, ... age 39, of Kentstone Drive in Bethesda, was unin-



PHOTO BY PEGGY McEWAN

Members of Winston Churchill High School lacrosse team enter the school for the memorial service for Jake Cassell, a rising junior and the person behind the Churchill Bulldog mascot at the school. Jake died from injuries sustained in a biking accident.

jured.

"The circumstances surrounding this collision remain under investigation. "Investi-

gators are asking anyone who witnessed this fatal collision to contact the Collision Reconstruction Unit at 240-773-6620."

Walk/Bike for Safe Streets

On Saturday, Aug. 17, Walk/Ride for Safe Streets for Montgomery County event in remembrance of Jake Cassell and Jennifer DiMauro.

If you're BIKING: meet at 10 a.m. at Medical Center Metro for group ride to ghost bike site and rally.

If you're WALKING: meet at 10:30 a.m. at Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro for a group walk to the rally at Tuckerman Lane.

10:30 a.m. Ghost bike installation at Beech Avenue and Old Georgetown Road.

11 a.m. Rally for safe streets at the Bethesda Trolley Trail crossing of Tuckerman Lane

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ANIMAL HOUSE

3rd Annual MCPAW Party

SAVE THE DATE! October 5, 2019 | 6:00pm | Bolger Center in Potomac

- Live entertainment by Jr. Cline and the Recliners
- Delish BBQ, raw bar, tons of fresh veggies, sides, and more
- Absolutely fabulous live and silent auctions
- Vintage 60s cars
- Plan to bring your family, your friends, and... your canine party animals!... to Bolger Center in Potomac the evening of October 5th. All are welcome!

It's a rockin', upscale, 60s frat-style party benefiting lost, homeless, and abused animals in Montgomery County!

Don't miss the fun! For advance tickets and more info, visit:
<https://3rdannualmcpawparty.eventbrite.com>

MCPAW (Montgomery County Partners for Animal Welfare) is the dedicated nonprofit partner of the Montgomery County Animal Services and Adoption Center (MSAC). Proceeds benefit the homeless animals at MSAC.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Montgomery Agricultural County Fair. Through Saturday, Aug. 17, 10 a.m.-midnight at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg. Fair fun includes rides, food, competitive exhibitions, agricultural education and more. Visit baby animals at the moo-ternity ward. Tickets \$12 online, \$15 at the gate; 11 and under free. \$10 onsite parking; free parking and shuttle from Lakeforest Mall. Visit mcagfair.com for more.

Summer Read and Learn. This year's theme for The Montgomery County Public Libraries' (MCPL) 2019 Summer Read and Learn Program is "A Universe of Stories," encouraging children of all ages to dream big, believe in themselves, and create their own stories. Space is featured in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. Children from newborn to 12 years old and teens, 13-17 years of age, are invited to sign up online or at any branch through Aug. 31. Participants who read and/or take part in fun learning activities can earn prizes (while supplies last); vouchers to a Friends of the Library, Montgomery County (FOLMC) bookstore; or raffle entries. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library.

Wings of Fancy. Exhibit hours through Aug. 31 are 10 a.m.-1 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekends. Hours will be 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily Sept. 1-22 at Brookside Gardens South Conservatory, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton. A live butterfly and caterpillar exhibit. Visitors will be surrounded by hundreds of live butterflies from North America, Costa Rica, Africa and Asia. Learn about their metamorphosis, the role butterflies play in healthy ecosystems, and how to ensure these insects thrive. Call 301-962-1400 or visit www.montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/brookside-gardens.

THURSDAY/AUG. 15

Baby and Toddler Storytime. 10:30 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. A storytime experience for the youngest library users and their caregivers. These 20-30 minute storytimes introduce a diverse collection of books, songs, rhymes and bounces developmentally appropriate. Call 240-777-0694.

Stay and Play. 11 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Open play program at the Potomac Library. Library provides the toys and music, participants bring the smiles. This program is for children aged 0-6 years old along with their families. Call 240-777-0694.

Appetizers and Art. 5:30-8 p.m. Meet at Astro Brewing, 8216 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Learn about Silver Spring's public art with free artwork tours. Montgomery Planning will provide appetizers for attendees. Drinks and main entrees are available for individual purchase. The art walk is free; however, registration is limited. Visit www.silverspringdowntown.com/art-walk-tour to sign up.

FRIDAY/AUG. 16

Nando's Fiery Friday Night Concerts. 6:30-8:30 on the Rio Lakefront at 209 Boardwalk Place, Gaithersburg. Dine al fresco and see i81 live on the Boardwalk Stage (near Union Jack's). Visit www.riolakefront.com/events/nandos-fiery-friday-night-concerts/



Flowers (and a skipper) from Plant Masters at the Potomac Village Farmers Market. The bounty of summer produce including peaches, corn, tomatoes, melons and more, comes to the market in the parking lot of Potomac United Methodist Church on the corner of Falls and S. Glen roads every Thursday, 2-6:30 p.m. 9908 S. Glen Rd., Potomac. Also Pizza Brama, seafood, baked goods, art and more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 17

Kensington Parkrun. 9-10:15 a.m. at Rock Creek Trail at Beach Drive and Cedar Lane. Kensington parkrun is a free, weekly, timed 5K run/walk on Rock Creek Trail and is part of the larger parkrun global community of more than 1300 events intended to build healthy and well-connected communities. All ages and abilities welcome. Register before first time. Visit parkrun.us/kensington or email kensingtonoffice@parkrun.com

31st Annual Great Falls Race. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center, 11710 MacArthur Blvd, Potomac. The Great Falls Race was one of the original extreme whitewater competitions, and more than 30 years later it will still be one of the most challenging. The premiere event of the Potomac Festival is a sub-60 second sprint down through the powerful cataracts dropping nearly 60 vertical feet. Only experts may compete, but the entire paddling community is welcome to watch and volunteer. Racers must register online prior to noon on Friday, Aug. 16. \$25 early registration; \$35 starting Aug. 12. Visit potomacfestival.org/race.html

Meet a Kangaroo and Wallaby. 11 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Meet a live kangaroo and wallaby. Learn all about what they eat and where and how they live with Roos2U. Tickets will be handed out half an hour before the program; starting at 10:30 a.m., first come, first served. Call 240-777-0694.

Bands on the Boardwalk. 6-9 p.m. on the Rio Lakefront at 209 Boardwalk Place, Gaithersburg. See Guys in Thin Ties live on the Boardwalk Stage. Live music every Saturday through September. Visit www.riolakefront.com/events/concerts-on-the-boardwalk/

SUNDAY/AUG. 18

Waltz Dance. 3:30-6 p.m. at the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park,

7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Introductory Waltz Workshop from 2:45-3:30 p.m. Featuring the ensemble Waltz Sisters. This versatile band will provide a mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Admission is \$13, \$5 for full-time students with student ID. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or visit www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 21

Book Discussion Group. 1 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Book discussion for adults – Songs of Willow Frost by Jamie Ford. Ask for the book at the Circulation Desk. No registration needed. New members welcome. Call 240-777-0694.

Anti-gravity Galaxy Bottles. 3 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Come to the Potomac Library and create a mini galaxy in a bottle. Watch the gravity-defying glitter float UP as it settles. First-come, first-served due to limited supplies. Call 240-777-0694.

FRIDAY/AUG. 23

Nando's Fiery Friday Night Concerts. 6:30-8:30 on the Rio Lakefront at 209 Boardwalk Place, Gaithersburg. Dine al fresco and see The J.J. Billings Band live on the Boardwalk Stage (near Union Jack's). Visit www.riolakefront.com/events/nandos-fiery-friday-night-concerts/

SATURDAY/AUG. 24

Kensington Parkrun. 9-10:15 a.m. at Rock Creek Trail at Beach Drive and Cedar Lane. Kensington parkrun is a free, weekly, timed 5K run/walk on Rock Creek Trail and is part of the larger parkrun global community of more than 1300 events intended to build healthy and well-connected communities. All ages and abilities welcome. Register before first time. Visit parkrun.us/kensington or email

kensingtonoffice@parkrun.com
Ice Cream Social for Charity and Exotic & Classic Car Show. 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on the plaza at Park Potomac Place condos, 12500 Park Potomac Ave. Fun for the whole family. Join neighbors and friends in helping underprivileged children go back to school feeling confident, proud and ready to learn. Bring backpacks to win prizes. Ice cream tickets are \$5 in advance (front desk at Park Potomac Place condos), \$10 at the event. Visit www.facebook.com/events/2312574535464684/

Bands on the Boardwalk. 6-9 p.m. on the Rio Lakefront at 209 Boardwalk Place, Gaithersburg. See Janglebachs live on the Boardwalk Stage. Live music every Saturday through September. Visit www.riolakefront.com/events/concerts-on-the-boardwalk/ for more.

Live Comedy. 8 and 10 p.m. at Cissel-Saxon American Legion Post 41, 8110 Fenton St., Silver Spring. Comic Sara Armour (Last Comic Standing) headlines Stand-Up Silver Spring, with Loy Lee, D Lo, and Maddox Pennington in the line-up. \$16-\$25, at improbablecomedy.com.

AUG. 24-OCT. 20

Maryland Renaissance Festival. Crownsville, Md. The Maryland Renaissance Festival celebrates its 43rd season with nine weekends of thrills, feasting, handmade crafts, entertainment and merriment. The 27-acre Village of Revel Grove comes to life each autumn with more than 200 professional performers on 10 stages in the forests and glades with over 140 artisans exhibiting crafts in their own renaissance shops, five taverns featuring cool libations, and 42 food and beverage emporiums. Tickets Aug. 24-Sept. 8, \$9-\$20; tickets Sept. 14-Oct. 20, \$12-\$27. Group and multi-day discounts available. Children under 7, free. www.marylandrenaissancefestival.com

MONDAY/AUG. 26

Learn Basic Knitting. 4:30 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Knitting is a great way to relax and spend time. Bring a needle craft project in progress or use the library's limited supplies. For ages 8 and up. All skill levels welcome. Meets once a month (except December). Call 240-777-0694.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 28

Turning Point: The Quest for a Cure. 6-8:30 p.m. at Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center, 7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Leadership Montgomery, in partnership with the BrightFocus Foundation, presents a special screening event of the captivating new documentary Turning Point from filmmaker James Keach (Academy Award-nominated Glen Campbell ... I'll Be Me). Following the film screening, there will be a panel discussion with local experts to talk about the film, the latest research and available local resources. A 30-minute reception will be offered before the film begins, light refreshments will be provided. Admission is free but registration is required at www.eventbrite.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 31

Open House for Classes. Noon-4 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Join the free Open House for Classes and explore the many classes and workshops offered at Glen Echo Park. Participate in a free workshop, meet instructors, tour the Park, and try something new. Visit Resident Artists' studios, view demonstrations, and enjoy theater performances and family programs. Visit www.glenechopark.org or call 301-320-1400.

Bands on the Boardwalk. 6-9 p.m. on the Rio Lakefront at 209 Boardwalk Place, Gaithersburg. See Among the Stars live on the Boardwalk Stage. Live music every Saturday through September. Visit www.riolakefront.com/events/concerts-on-the-boardwalk/ for more.

SATURDAY/AUG. 31-MONDAY/SEPT 2

49th Annual Labor Day Art Show. Noon-6 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The Labor Day Art Show is an annual tradition that brings the community together to appreciate local artists and their work. Original artwork from over 200 artists is on display and for sale, in media including painting, drawing, photography, jewelry, ceramics, glass, fiber arts, sculpture, furniture, and works on paper.

A member and donor preview will take place in the Ballroom Back Room, Friday, Aug. 30, 6-7:30 p.m. It will be followed by a public reception, 7:30-9 p.m.; light refreshments will be served. Visit www.glenechopark.org or call 301-320-1400.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 1

Waltz Dance. 3:30-6 p.m. at the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Introductory Waltz Workshop from 2:45-3:30 p.m. Featuring the ensemble Latter Day Lizards playing a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Admission is \$13, \$5 for full-time students with student ID. No partner required. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or visit www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

Overdose and Prevention Vigil to Commemorate International Overdose Awareness Day Aug. 29

The public is invited to attend the fourth annual Overdose and Prevention Vigil on Thursday, Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. The vigil commemorates International Overdose Awareness Day, a global event, aimed at raising awareness of overdose and reducing the stigma of drug related deaths. The event will be held in the Executive Office Building cafeteria, located at 101 Monroe Street in Rockville. A resource fair featuring substance abuse prevention and treatment information will be held at 5:30 p.m.

The theme for this year's program — We're All in This Together — will be a gathering for education, remembrance and hope. Fatal overdoses have risen sharply and many community residents have been personally touched by addiction. One in five adults experience a mental health issue each year and yet there remains stigma attached to the issues of mental illness and addiction which often causes people to suffer silently. Organizers hope by rallying together as a community, Montgomery County can combat the isolation and shame that can stand in the way of prevention, treatment, support and recovery.

Those wishing to have a loved one memorialized in a video can send up to eight photos, with name, date of birth and date of death to mcrememberingourlovedones@gmail.com. Submissions are needed by Thursday, Aug. 22.

The event is hosted by S.O.U.L. (Surviving Our Ultimate Loss), a support group for

families who have lost a child to a fatal overdose, in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Circuit Court's Adult Drug Court and the City of Rockville. Free parking is available in the jury parking lot located at the corner of East Jefferson (Rt. 28) and Monroe Streets.

For more information, call 240-777-1400.

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.

THURSDAY/AUG. 15

Republican Talk. 6 p.m. at Barking Dog, 4732 Elm St., Bethesda in their upstairs private room. Maryland State Sen. Bob Cassilly of Harford County will be the special guest. Hear the Republican perspective on the issues in Annapolis. Free admission; each person may order and pay for their own beverage and food via separate check. Close to the Bethesda Metro with public parking garages close by. Visit www.mcgon.com/special_mcgon_august_speaker_event to RSVP.

FRIDAY/AUG. 16

Application Deadline. Montgomery County's Community Action Board is now accepting applications for its Community Advocacy Institute. The Community Advocacy Institute is a free program that will teach residents basic advocacy skills and provides hands-on opportunities to advocate for important issues in the community. To qualify for the program, participants must be Montgomery County residents with household incomes of \$55,000 or less. Visit montgomerycountymd.gov/communityaction.

TUESDAY/AUG. 20

School Supply Donation Deadline. Helps Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless host a Back to School Fair for nearly 300 children they serve who are no longer homeless, thanks to MCCH permanent housing programs. MCCH is still in need of school supplies and refreshments for the event. Sign up to donate or volunteer at www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c48a4a922a6ff2-school3.

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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known



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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

Don't Monkee Around With Me



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I mean, he didn't even examine me, which he rarely does. (The CT scan pretty much tells him what he needs to know, so he says.)

In addition (or is that subtraction), he didn't even ask me the standard questions he typically does about my quality of life, activities of daily living and general health and welfare. In fact, near the presumptive end of our appointment, as peculiar and uncharacteristic of an appointment as it was, I felt compelled to blurt out the answers to all the questions that he didn't bother to ask that for years he's always asked: any pain, shortness of breath, coughing, headaches, neuropathy, muscle weakness or any new or persistent symptoms? All he could muster was a perfunctory "Do you need any prescriptions filled?"

And then the semi-out-of-the-blue-bombshell: "Are you familiar with Palliative Care?"

Followed by the offer to refer us to a book that he thought we might find helpful/useful.

Helpful? Useful?

I didn't say it at the time because the entire appointment was so odd and impersonal almost. But WHAT?! Palliative Care? What are you talking about? He has never brought up palliative care before. (Although way back when, he had given us a brochure titled "Final Wishes.")

You see, we know about palliative care. We've attended multiple conferences organized by LUNGEvity, "the largest national lung cancer-focused non-profit in the country" where palliative care doctors often have spoken. Palliative Care is not hospice care but it's a transitional level of care to be sure.

If I'm transitioning, I wish somebody would have told me, and not by asking about my familiarity with this type of care.

In a word, palliative care is a type of down-sizing, as best as I can describe its subtleties; separate and apart from hospice care which is, if you don't know it, "the last train to Clarksville," if you get my euphemism (and hopefully someone is meeting you at the station)? But so far as I've been told, I'm not on the last train to Clarksville or any other final destination.

In fact, I rarely take the train. Not that being on or off the train matters when one comes to the end of the line.

Nevertheless, as I review in my mind what my oncologist said this past Monday, I have to wonder if he was feeding me a line, throwing me a line or just reciting a line that is required of oncologists in their regular communications with their cancer patients — a sort of caveat emptor for long-time cancer survivors who are inexplicably still alive (as evidence of such sentiment, my oncologist refers to me as his "third miracle").

But I didn't feel much like a miracle on Monday. I felt more like a dope. Like I was being told something I didn't realize, sort of an emperor has no clothes "something." It was a feeling I had never experienced before; during or after any of our appointments.

Previously, even at the initial Team Lourie meeting in late February 2009 when the hammer came down, I had — though having it in utter disbelief — a grasp of the obvious: "terminal cancer," with a "13-month-to-two-year" prognosis to boot. The particulars of which would be sorted out over the following weeks and months beginning with my first chemotherapy six days later.

And boy were they ever sorted. Ten years and almost six months later, I'm still sorting.

Was I just given an updated "terminal" diagnosis/prognosis or was my oncologist merely having an off day?

Obviously he knows that his words carry enormous weight and significance and create terrible burdens for his patients and their families. But he can't simply toss out the phrase palliative care like it has no impact. Its impact is huge.

It's akin to being hit by a speeding train, the likes of which would prevent one from getting anywhere near Clarksville, let alone being on the last train.

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

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BETWEEN \$2,780,000-\$345,000.



8 10709 Stapleford Hall Drive — \$1,750,000



7 10623 Willowbrook Drive — \$1,785,000



3 9905 River View Court — \$1,850,000



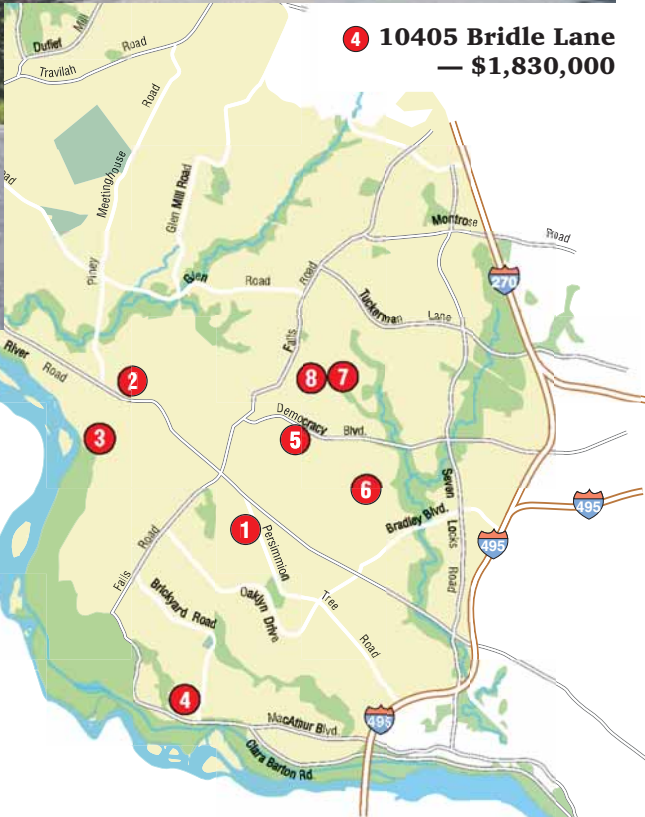
6 9838 Kentsdale Drive — \$1,785,000



1 9809 Newhall Road — \$2,780,000



4 10405 Bridle Lane — \$1,830,000



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1 9809 NEWHALL RD	7	..	8	..	1	POTOMAC ...	\$2,780,000	Detached	1.08	20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE	06/03/19
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3 9905 RIVER VIEW CT	6	..	5	..	2	POTOMAC ...	\$1,850,000	Detached	1.04	20854	MARWOOD	06/12/19
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6 9838 KENTSDALE DR	7	..	6	..	3	POTOMAC ...	\$1,785,000	Detached	2.00	20854	FALCONHURST	06/18/19
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8 10709 STAPLEFORD HALL DR	6	..	7	..	1	POTOMAC ...	\$1,750,000	Detached	0.96	20854	BELL GLEN	06/17/19

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