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Potomac

Students and Parents Celebrate

Page 3

New Chief of Police

E-Bikes on the C&O?

Friedson Figures

Students dance to music by Deejays Freddy, Chris and Bam Bam of Glide Productions at the Potomac Elementary Back to School Picnic Friday.

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September 25-October 1, 2019



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News

Back to School with Joy

Potomac Elementary families celebrate with annual back to school picnic

By Peggy McEwan

ong after the school day ended Friday, Potomac Elementary School students and their families were still at the school. They were celebrating the beginning of the new school year at a Back to School Picnic.

"It's been a good beginning," principal Catherine Allie said. "We have 50 new families."

Allie said with the unexpected increase in enrollment the school added one and a half teachers and had to work on new class configurations.

"It was a bit of a challenge, but we found really great teachers," she said.

She was also happy to share some new programs at the school, including a pilot program to allow students to have more recess time, part of acounty program, Be Well 365. The students have a break in the morning as well as the usual after lunch recess, she said.

"We are doing a lot of mindfulness and movement," she said.

They are also working to bring therapy dogs to the school through the PAL program. "We will bring in dogs for the kids, to

bring down stress," Allie said. Meanwhile, parents were visiting, kids were playing, and families were having din-

ner on the school blacktop. The music, provided by Dee Jays Freddy, Chis and Bam Bam of Glide Productions, was loud but the dee jays encouraged everyone to participate with games like musical chairs and dance contests.

Bria Woodson, from Mad Science of Washington, DC, demonstrated science projects using dry ice, turning it into vapor and, somehow, making bubbles that seemed endless.

Joshua Jeffries and his family are among newcomers to the school and the community.

"My daughter [a kindergartener] really likes it so far," he said. "We really like the fact that it is here, and they will go to the new school next year."

The home school is undergoing renovation and expansion this year, so classes are being held in the school on Radnor Road in Bethesda. Next year, back to River Road.

Another kindergartner, Violet Merber, had a dolphin painted on her arm at the face painting station.

"[The year] started really well," her mother, Andrea Merber, said. "She loves her teacher and her classes. At first it was a long day, but she has transitioned well."

Students spread out over the playgrounds some playing soccer, others making use of the playground equipment.

Ashley Phillips, a second grader, had her face painted with a very fancy design, then





Playground equipment was popular at the Potomac Elementary School Back to School Picnic Friday.



Bria Woodson from Mad Science lets students feel the vapor of dry ice during a demonstration at Potomac Elementary School Back to School Picnic Friday evening.

walked with her mother up to the playground. "[Potomac Elementary] is good, we have fun, I go to Bar T [an extended care program] and I have friends and good teachers," Ashley said, adding that her favorite subject is math, "because I like numbers." The school's PTA sponsored the picnic. In

Second grader Ashley Phillips shows her fancy face painting done at the Potomac Elementary School Back to School Picnic Friday.



Kindergartener Violet Merber get a dolphin painted on her arm at the Potomac Elementary School Back to School Picnic Friday.

addition to all the activities, there was food to buy: hot dogs, taquitos, pizza, popcorn, chips, drinks and ice cream. Families were invited to bring picnic dinners, if they chose.

"I think the school is amazing," Golru Ghaffari, PTA president, said. "We have 15 graduates, sixth through eighth graders,

who came back to help out. They just like being here."

As the evening ended, building service worker Mario Andalla stood watching all the activity.

"It's a great school to be at", he said. "There are great people here."

Potomac Almanac & September 25 - October 1, 2019 & 3

News

Electric Bicycles in National Parks

NPS says sse of e-bikes will increase access to recreational opportunities in parks; are scooters next?

he National Park Service announced a new electric bicycle (e-bike) policy for national parks, expanding recreational opportunities and accessibility. The policy supports Secretary's Order 3376, signed by U.S. Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt on Aug. 29, that directs Department of the Interior (DOI) bureaus to create a clear and consistent e-bike policy on all federal lands managed by the Department. The policy also supports Secretary's Order 3366 to increase recreational opportunities on public lands.

A majority of states have adopted e-bike policies, most following model legislation that allows for the three classes of e-bikes to have access to bicycle trails. The NPS ebike policy seeks to provide some consistency with the state rules applying where park units are located.

"As more Americans are using e-bikes to enjoy the great outdoors, national parks should be responsive to visitors' interest in using this new technology wherever it is safe and appropriate to do so," said National Park Service Deputy Director P. Daniel Smith. "They make bicycle travel easier and more efficient, and they provide an option for people who want to ride a bicycle but might not otherwise do so because of physical fitness, age, disability, or convenience, especially at high altitudes or in hilly or strenuous terrain."

This new policy will enable visitors to use e-bikes, low-speed electric bicycles with power assistance, in the same manner as



Should e-bikes be allowed on the towpath? How about the Mount Vernon **Bike Trail?**

Over the coming month, superintendents will work with their local communities, staff and partners to determine best practices and guidance for e-bike use in their parks.

traditional bicycles, allowing them on park administrative roads where traditional bikes roads, paved or hardened trails, areas designated for off-road motor vehicle use and

are allowed.

The operator of an e-bike may only use

Elrich Nominates Marcus Jones

ontgomery County Executive Marc Elrich announced today that he intends to nominate Acting Police Chief Marcus Jones to serve as the new police chief for Montgomery County. Jones, who has been with the Montgomery County Police Department for 34 years, has served as the acting police chief since June.

"This is a critical nomination that I take very seriously," said County Executive Elrich. "For the last five months, we have conducted the most open and inclusive police chief search in the County's history. I have heard from residents, communitybased organizations, labor leaders, religious leaders and County Council members, who have clearly stated what they want to see in their police chief. They don't want the status quo. They want to see changes that will make a good department even better and rebuild trust that has been shaken by some recent interactions between officers and members of the public. I felt that it was important to look outside

the department for new leadership. However, Marcus and I have discussed my expectations and I am confident that he shares my vision and will carry out the changes I want to see."

Acting Chief Jones said he is ready to take on the challenge. "I am deeply appreciative of County Executive Elrich asking me to serve as the Chief of Police for Montgomery County," Jones said. "It is an honor. Throughout this process, the County Executive has made it very clear that he wants to see a change in the culture of this department. I am committed to fulfilling his vision and will work diligently to strengthen the relationship between the Montgomery County Police Department and all the communities we serve and protect."

County Council President Nancy Navarro welcomed the nomination.

"I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Acting Montgomery County Police Chief Marcus Jones throughout my tenure on the Council, said Navarro. "Jones has held numerous positions in the department

including assistant police chief, captain and acting chief, and he knows Montgomery County inside and out. ,,,

"I believe that Jones will be a transformational leader that the men and women of the police department and all community members can put their trust in to provide outstanding public safety services, while cultivating a better understanding of the needs of our diverse community through community policing practices.

Prior to taking over as acting police chief, Jones served as the assistant chief of the Investigative Services Bureau. He also served as the commander of the 3rd District, Director of Major Crimes, Drug Enforcement Commander and created an award-winning Diversity Training program for the department. He is on the board of the Governor's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, the Montgomery County Domestic Violence Coordinating Council and the Maryland Violence Intervention and

the motor to assist pedal propulsion. The motor may not be used to propel an e-bike without the rider also pedaling, except in locations open to public motor vehicle traffic.

Similar to traditional bicycles, e-bikes are not allowed in designated wilderness areas. Park superintendents will retain the right to limit, restrict, or impose conditions of bicycle use and e-bike use in order to ensure visitor safety and resource protection. Over the coming month, superintendents will work with their local communities, staff and partners to determine best practices and guidance for e-bike use in their parks. Visitors should check the website of the park they plan to visit for details about where ebikes are permitted and any other considerations specific to that park.

E-bikes can make bicycle travel easier and more efficient, because they allow bicyclists to travel farther with less effort. When used as an alternative to gasoline- or diesel-powered modes of transportation, e-bikes can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel consumption, improve air quality, and support active modes of transportation for park staff and visitors. Similar to traditional bicycles, e-bikes can decrease traffic congestion, reduce the demand for vehicle parking spaces, and increase the number and visibility of cyclists on the road.

A copy of the National Park Service's new e-bike policy is available online.

Safety information and Frequently Asked Questions are on the Electric Bicycles (ebikes) in National Parks website.

What do you think? Send letters via web to http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/ contact/letter/ or via email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com



SEE JONES, PAGE 5 Acting Police Chief Marcus Jones www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

PEOPLE

Derek Yan, Net Generation Ace

he USTA launched its inaugural Net Generation Aces Program, which aims to grow youth tennis participation by reaching young athletes through their peers. The program engages athletes between the ages of 13 and 17 who are changing the game both on and off the court.

As part of the new Net Generation Aces Program, 15-year-old Derek Yan of Potomac is one of 17 youth tennis players from across the country who went on a VIP trip to attend the US Open, which included a suite experience at Arthur Ashe Kids' Day. He also participated in a working session with USTA senior management and professional players to provide feedback on current USTA initiatives and discuss ideas for future programming.

Derek developed Linx Tennis, a non-profit online platform matching young athletes with training buddies to increase accessibility and lower training and travel costs.

Following the US Open, Net Generation Aces will represent the USTA by showcasing positivity,

sportsmanship, and leadership in their local communities, providing continuing feedback, collaborating with fellow Aces on Net Generation projects, and participating in quarterly video webinars.

Following the US Open, Net Generation Aces will represent the USTA by showcasing positivity,

sportsmanship, and leadership in their local communities, providing continuing feedback, collaborating with fellow Aces on Net Generation projects, and participating in quarterly video webinars.

"We are honored to recognize these young leaders and athletes who are inspiring positive change in their local communities," said Craig Morris, USTA's Chief Executive of Community Tennis. "Some of the noteworthy contributions these outstanding individuals have made include creating community-based programs, bringing awareness to adaptive tennis play, and implementing tennis ball recycling initia-

tives. The USTA plans to work with the Net Generation Aces, to learn more about the impact tennis has on young players' lives. We feel reaching young athletes through their peers is a powerful and effective way

Derek Yan

to continue growing the sport." The new Net Gen-

eration Aces Program marks the twoyear anniversary of Net Generation, the USTA's official youth tennis brand, which empowers and equips kids ages 5-18 to play tennis while providing resources to parents, coaches, and providers to help set new standards

and drive participation across the country. For more information on Net Generation and the Aces Program, visit follow netgeneration.com and #NetGeneration on social media.



Potomac resident Evelyn Gertrude Carlson turned 102 on Aug. 5, 2019.

From Page 4

One Century, And More

Evelyn Gertrude Carlson celebrated her 102nd birthday on Aug. 5, 2019. She was born in Sylvania, Ohio on Aug. 5, 1917.

Carlson is a Potomac resident, living at Manor Care Potomac on Potomac Tennis Lane

She is now the last survivor of her 1934 high school graduating class at Burnham HIgh School in Sylvania, where she was a thespian, according to her daughter Kathy Robens.

Carlson raised her family in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she worked for the United States Air Force in accounting. After retirement, she loved to paint scenery on New Mexico with acrylic and watercolors.

"She's non-judgmental, she loves people," said Robens.



Kathy Robens, of Potomac, with her mother, Everyln Carlson, at a birthday celebration at Manor Care Potomac on Potomac Tennis Lane.



Carlson was born in Sylvania, Ohio and raised her family in Albuquerque, N.M. She moved to Potomac at age 96.

Write The Potomac Almanac welcomes views on any public issue; or share a milestone, accomplishment or other family calebration. Beer in the share is used in the state of the accomplishment or other family celebration. Bears in your backyard or other interesting observation? Send a photo and note. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor, The Almanac, 1606 King St. Alexandria VA 22314 By email: editors@connectionnewspapers.com

National Law Enforcement Memorial

Fund and the Task Force on Mentoring

in Montgomery County. He holds a Bach-

Potomac Almanac & September 25 - October 1, 2019 & 5

elor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Mary-

Prevention Advisory Council. Acting land University College, is a graduate of Chief Jones is an adjunct instructor for the FBI National Academy and is curthe Leadership in Police Organizations three-week training course sponsored by Institute. the International Association Chiefs of Police. He is a former chairman of the National Black Police Association and served on the Board of Directors for the

the position.

Elrich Nominates Marcus Jones

rently enrolled in the National Executive The County Executive will formally submit Acting Chief Jones' name to the County Council as his nominee for Chief of Police. If approved, Jones will become

Montgomery County's 17th police chief

and the third African American to hold



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Senior Living Exploring Art in Retirement

Seniors get a chance to pursue their passion.

By Marilyn Campbell THE CONNECTION

t was in third grade when Barb Cram first discovered her artistic talent. Her teacher asked to use one of her drawings as an example to teach a technique to other students.

Though she was lauded for her artistic talent from elementary school through high school, upon graduation, she says she put that interest on hold and engaged in educational pursuits that she was told were practical.

"When my generation as growing up it was all about getting skills like typing, bookkeeping and stenography so that you could get a job after you graduate said Cram, now 72.

After a long career, which included a stint in the White House, Cram has reengaged with her creative side. Now as President of Falls Church Arts, she is helping other retirees live out their passion, discover their talent or simply learn to appreciate art.

4 year students

"Art can do so much for seniors. It's like a vacation for the mind," she said. "Whether as an artist, a teacher, a docent or an art student, there's place for evervone."

Retired clinical psychologist, Carolyn Jackson Sahni, spent her career practicing in settings ranging from state universities to non-profit organizations. Retirement has offered her the opportunity to explore her creative interests.

"I have never been employed as an artist or in a specific art related field, [but] art has always been my first love, said Jackson Sahni, who lives in Vienna. "I see art as our ultimate means of personal expression. I have an overwhelming preference for beauty and nature. Art has been my way of indulging this preference."

Sahni says that art has given her the gift of living out her dedication to life-long learning. "I believe in ... growing, expressing and discovering, she said. "While I am not quite ready to accept the definition of senior that I am, I cherish every day of my sev-

enty-one years." Though she spent 32 years as a government employee working in a variety of agencies including the National Institutes of Health and The Department of Homeland Security, Cynthia Miller had always wanted to explore visual arts. A few discouraging childhood experiences left her afraid to try.

"I have been interested in art my whole life, but my hands were frozen until I found my courage" she said. "I decided at age 70 that it was my time to learn and explore my desires as an artist."

Not only is Miller an artist, but she volunteers her time as a docent, sharing her passion with others. "I often speak with others who are seniors with few outside interests," she said. "They think I am brave in approaching my art as another career. I have a love of life, and feel I have a gift yet to develop and offer to others."

McLean resident Sallie Evans once worked as a recreation therapist, in retirement she works as an art instructor at Falls Church Arts teaching. "I love



Sallie Evans of McLean loves teaching art and helping students experience the job of creating art.



Cynthia Miller, who says that she enjoys experimenting with angles and shades, describes her art as abstract explosion.

teaching because it allows me to be an active participant when students experience the joy and absolute empowerment of making art. Teaching not only children, but she leads art projects for Fall Church Art's Memory Café, a social and recreational gathering of individuals with memory loss and their caregivers, friends, and family.

Deborah Conn, 70, retired from a career in marketing and began taking lessons in watercolor at the Art League in Alexandria. These days she's an active and prolific artist. Her medium is watercolor, frequently on textured paper that she makes by crinkling tissue paper and gluing it on the painting surface. Humans are the subjects of most of her work. but as one of the resident artists at Palette2 restaurant in Shirlington, she sketches dogs for patrons while they eat.

"I've been experimenting with making parts of my paintings less defined so viewers can fill in with their own mind," said Conn, who teaches art out of her home studio and works is an art curator. "In the last ten years or so, painting and art have become enmeshed in nearly every area of my life. Many of my closest friends are artists."

Friedson Figures

Helping Aging Adults Live With Dignity, Vitality, and Security

By Andrew Friedson County Council District 1

he coolest part of my job as your Councilmember are the days when everything comes full circle. Sept. 5 was one of those days, when I joined my friend and colleague, Councilmember Sidney Katz, to host a Senior Forum and Resource Fair at the Potomac Community Center, the very place where I grew up playing Little League, attending recreation programs, and meeting lifelong friends.

The event was co-hosted by Potomac Community Village, part of the amazing, volunteer-led neighbors helping neighbors network that has grown locally and nationally to support seniors who are aging in place. Two-hundred people joined us to learn about county and community resources, and to hear terrific speakers discuss physical and mental wellness, preventing falls, and identifying scams.

Montgomery County's senior population is growing more than any other age group, so ensuring that our aging adult population can live active and engaged lives and continue contributing to our community is among the most important and pressing tasks before us. Between 2010 and 2040, our aging adult population is expected to more than double. We must work together with the public, private, and non-private sectors to ensure every Montgomery County resident can age with dignity, vitality, and security.

That's why we discussed falls, the leading cause of fatal injury and trauma-related hospital admissions among older adults, and why staying active helps. Being active is also about mental fitness. Studies indicate that maintaining strong social connections and keeping mentally active as we age may lower the risk of cognitive decline and Alzheimer's. The growing threat of social isolation is also a major challenge with one quarter of our current senior population living alone, and that number is expected to increase.

For a list of upcoming activities and programs, visit: https:// www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ rec/activitiesandprograms/seniors/

We also live in a world where scams are on the rise, targeting www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Friedson

seniors in particular. These crimes have gotten very sophisticated, and with the increased availability of our personal information on social media, the internet, and from data breaches, we can all be targets.

Imposters posing as officials from government agencies such as the IRS, Social Security Administration, or Medicare are a common and effective scam. According to the Federal Trade Commission, this year's median losses to law enforcement imposters are the highest of all imposter scams and 20 percent of people who reported those scams said they lost money. Government agencies do not call and ask for personal information by phone as a first point of contact. We can protect ourselves by resisting the urge to act immediately, or by simply hanging up if a call does not feel right. A scam artist's best weapon is isolation and secrecy. They want us to keep their tactics secret, but the best tool we have against these criminals is our community. For more information on identifying scams and reporting financial crimes, you can visit the County's Office of Consumer Protection website or call them at 240-777-3636

Because this is such a critical issue for our community, we will be having additional senior forums in the near future to share information and resources. Join our newsletter or contact our office to ask about our next event at 240-777-7828 or montgomerycountymd.gov/ Friedson

We look forward to seeing you there, and are available in the meantime if we can ever be helpful.





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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

- Art Exhibit: Line of Sight. Through Oct. 5, Wednesday-Sunday, noon-6 p.m. at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East West Highway, Bethesda. Ceramics and watercolors explore the interplay between nearness and distance, drawing out the impact of direction, and perspective on perception. Jennifer Coffin's ceramic pieces present the detail, texture, and immediacy of form experienced in entering a landscape. Rebecca Anderson's watercolors layer the effects of distance and proximity with the sense of atmosphere and space. Meet the artists Saturdays, 3 p.m. Visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com or call 301-951-9441.
- **Double Vision.** Through Oct. 6, gallery hours at Photoworks at Glen Echo Park. Photoworks presents "Double Vision" a faculty/student exhibit showcasing the excellence of the classes at Photoworks. For this exhibit, each faculty member chose student work that best represented their class. There are 38 photographers represented. Visit
- glenechophotoworks.org/ for more. Visual Poetry. Through Oct. 6, at the Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo Park. Photoworks Gallery announces a new collaborative exhibit in the Popcorn Gallery that will feature work that challenged the photographers to ponder the poetry in their images and to assign words to the photos in the exhibit. Visit
- glenechophotoworks.org/ for more. 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 Sept. 14-Oct. 20, \$12-\$27. Group and multi-day discounts available. Children under 7, free www.marylandrenaissancefestival.com

THURSDAY/SEPT. 26

Potomac Community Village Monthly Meeting. 7-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Center. Featuring "Downsizing: what to do, how to do it," Donna Eichelberger will speak on downsizing, organizing and reducing clutter, particularly for seniors. Free and open to all. Call 240-221-1370 for more.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 27

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

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

- 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
- Family Movie Event. 2-4:30 p.m. in the Potomac Library - Meeting Room, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Amy Tan is the 2019 recipient of
- 10 * Potomac Almanac * September 25 October 1, 2019



Kadhai Boutique Indian Cuisine at Taste of Bethesda.

Participants pay for their own meals.

RSVPs preferred by Wednesday, Oct.

2 but not required. Call 240-221-

Halloween Eye Spy Trains. Friday,

4-6 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6

p.m. Bring the kids to ride Halloween

Eye Spy Trains and search for all the

through "Trainslyvania." Visit ow.ly/

characters hidden along the tracks.

Great for families of all ages,

Ktjy50vSaTz for tickets.

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

questions.

Montgomery Parks' Cabin John

Miniature Train will take a ride

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

communities. All ages and abilities

welcome. Register before first time.

Visit parkrun.us/kensington or email

kensingtonoffice@parkrun.com with

entertainment, downtown Bethesda's

Taste of Bethesda. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at

Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle.

Numerous downtown Bethesda

famous food and music festival

delectable cuisine offered by

Bethesda's local restaurant

taste-bethesda for more

celebrates 30 years of diverse and

community. Admission to Taste of

on-site to "taste" different foods;

Bands on the Boardwalk. 6-9 p.m.

on the Rio Lakefront at 209

through September, Visit

Bethesda is free. Tickets will be sold

tickets are \$5 for four tickets and a

serving costs one to four tickets. Visit

https://www.bethesda.org/bethesda/

Boardwalk Place, Gaithersburg. See

concerts-on-the-boardwalk/ for more.

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restaurants and five stages of

build healthy and well-connected

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 4-6

1370 to RSVP.

Fitzgerald Award, and will be honored on Oct.12 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival in Rockville. In honor of her award, the library will be showing The Joy Luck Club. Popcorn will be served. Free. Call 240-777-0690 or visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ library.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 29

Jazz and Jam. 2:30-5:30 p.m. at Normandie Farms Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road, Potomac. The Conservatory Classic Jazz Band plays New Orleans style, Chicago Style, small group swing and main-stream. Jammers join them and everyone has a good time. Dave Robinson (cornet/ trumpet) leads with Brian Priebe on trombone, Gary Gregg on clarinet/ sax, Dan Hall on bass, Jeff Reynolds on guitar/banjo and Brian Alpert on drums. \$10; students and jammers free. Email labeaver1@verizon.net or call 240-447-2054.

TUESDAY/OCT. 1 50+: Vital Living Through

Volunteering, 2-3 p.m. at Twinbrook Library, 202 Meadow Hall Drive, Rockville. The Montgomery County Volunteer Center and its 50+ Volunteer Network, in conjunction with the Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL), Montgomery County Vital Living Network, and Senior Corps Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), will help attendees find their best volunteer fit. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ volunteercenter/volunteers/ 50Plus.html.

THURSDAY/OCT. 3

Bring a Friend Social Lunch. Noon-1:30 at Tally Ho Restaurant, 9923 Falls Road, Potomac. Join Potomac Community Village for social lunch. Bring a friend or come on your own.

2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's

Reston Town Center, 11900 Market Street, Reston. Registration at 1:30pm; Ceremony at 2:30pm; Walk at 3:00pm. All funds raised through Walk to End Alzheimer's further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. The Alzheimer's Association is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. Each registered walker with a wristband will receive a Promise Garden flower. Blue represents someone with Alzheimer's or dementia. Purple is for someone who has lost a loved one to the disease. Yellow represents someone who is currently supporting or caring for someone with Alzheimer's. Orange is for everyone who supports the cause and vision of a world without Alzheimer's. Coordinator: Sonya Amartey, samartey@alz.org, https://act.alz.org

3rd Annual MCPAW Party. 6 p.m. at

the William F. Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, Potomac. A rockin', upscale, 60s frat-style party benefiting lost, homeless, and abused animals in Montgomery County. Live entertainment by Jr. Cline and the Recliners; BBQ, raw bar, tons of fresh veggies, sides, and more; live and silent auctions; vintage 60s cars. Dress is casual or with the Animal House theme, four-legged friends are welcome. All are welcome. \$132.50-\$185. Visit 3rdannualmcpawparty.eventbrite.com

for tickets.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 5-6

2nd Annual Heritage Harvest. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at locations throughout the Montgomery County Heritage Area. Celebrate autumn and the harvest. Explore farms and farm markets, wineries and vineyards, a living history farm, lavender farm, artisan brewery, artists' studios, historic farm buildings, and more. Family activities including farm tours, markets, live music, crafts, adorable farm animals, wine tastings, and food for sale. Admission is free. Visit www.HeritageMontgomery.org/ heritage-harvest/ or call 301-515-0753.

SUNDAY/OCT. 6

Potomac Community Center 30th Anniversary Celebration 2-6 p.m. Live bands, dancing, Touch a Truck, petting zoo, carnival games arts and crafts, snack bar, group mural, inflatables, and much more! Volunteers needed too. 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. 240-777-6960

Tex Wyndham's Jazz Band. 2-5 p.m. at Rosensteel Knights of Columbus of Silver Spring, 9707 Rosensteel Ave., Silver Spring. Tex Wyndam's Red Lion Jazz Band is Delaware Valley's revivalist Dixieland band. Some food and beverages are available for lunch at comfortable tables. The room has plenty of space for dancing. \$25; \$20 PRJC; free for students. Email labeaver1@verizon.net or call 240-447-2054.

THURSDAY/OCT. 10

Conservation Landscapes and Rain Gardens Workshop. 4-7 p.m. at Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton.. The Montgomery County RainScapes team will offer this popular workshop on on how to have a landscape that not only absorbs stormwater but also uses native plants and is beautiful. Register at apm.activecommunities.com/

montgomerycounty/Activity_Search/ conservation-landscapes-and-raingardens/66594

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 11-13

Halloween Eye Spy Trains. Friday, 4-6 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Bring the kids to ride Halloween Eye Spy Trains and search for all the characters hidden along the tracks. Great for families of all ages, Montgomery Parks' Cabin John Miniature Train will take a ride through "Trainslyvania." Visit ow.ly/ Ktjy50vSaTz for tickets.

SATURDAY/OCT. 12

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 with questions.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 18-20

Halloween Eye Spy Trains. Friday, 4-6 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Bring the kids to ride Halloween Eye Spy Trains and search for all the characters hidden along the tracks. Great for families of all ages, Montgomery Parks' Cabin John Miniature Train will take a ride through "Trainslyvania." Visit ow.ly/ Ktjy50vSaTz for tickets.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 25-27

Halloween Eye Spy Trains. Friday, 4-6 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Bring the kids to ride Halloween Eye Spy Trains and search for all the characters hidden along the tracks. Great for families of all ages, Montgomery Parks' Cabin John Miniature Train will take a ride through "Trainslyvania." Visit ow.ly/ Ktjy50vSaTz for tickets.

SUNDAY/OCT. 27

Normandie Jazz Jam. 2:30-5:30 p.m. at Normandie Farms Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road, Potomac. The sevenpiece Conservatory Classic Jazz Band opens with various music styles, New Orleans, Chicago, New York and more. Surprises occur when jammers join in to share their musical talents. Food and drinks enhance the experience. Free for youth and jammers; \$10 for others. Email labeaver1@verizon.net or call 240-447-2054.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

- Art Explorers Open Studio. Every Saturday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at The Candy Corner Studio, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Art activities for parents and children. Activities change weekly and there is no pre-registration; \$10 per child. Visit www.glenechopark.org/ saturday-art-explorers for more.
- **Ceramic Classes.** Various dates and times. VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. An opportunity to try the new ceramic workshops. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/ceramics for a list of class dates, times.

DANCING

Weekly International Folkdancing. Thursdays, 7:30-11 p.m. at Church of the Redeemer, 6201 Dunrobbin Drive, Bethesda. Circle and line dances from Eastern Europe. Lesson at 7:30, followed by requests. Glen Echo Folkdancers welcome beginners

- of all ages; no partner needed. Wear comfortable shoes. \$7. Call 301-466-3018 or visit www.dancingplanetproductions.com. **Thang Ta.** Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. at Sutradhar Institute of Dance and Related Arts, 1525 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, Learn the ancient art of
- Related Arts, 1525 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring. Learn the ancient art of the sword and spear. \$25. Visit www.dancesidra.org. **Weekly Blues Dance.** Thursdays 8:15-11:30 p.m. in the Back Room
- 8:15-11:30 p.m. in the Back Room Annex at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. No partner necessary. \$8 for all. capitalblues.org www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

BULLETIN

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

SEPTEMBER

- National Suicide Prevention Month. Since 2008, people around the country have observed September as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, raising awareness about suicide and to provide education, support, advocacy, and resources to those in need. Below are a few ideas about how one can observe National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month:
 Share your story on social media, at an event, or
- with your community.
- Share information about suicide warning signs, resources, and facts with others.
- Honor a loved one lost to suicide by adding a square to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's digital memory quilt. Learn more at health.maryland.gov/
- suicideprevention/
- You don't have to go through a crisis alone. If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts, contact Maryland's helpline by calling 211 and press 1 or text 898-211.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Work with Victims of Sexual Assault. Volunteers are needed to assist sexual assault victims and their families through the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP) of the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Volunteers provide 24-hour crisis counseling and companion services at Montgomery County hospitals and police stations for victims of rape, sexual assault, and domestic violence. Bi-lingual volunteers are encouraged to apply. Call the 240-777-1355 or go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov/vasap.

MONDAY/SEPT. 30-TUESDAY/OCT. 1

Rosh Hashanah Children' Programming. 9:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at Congregation B'nai Tzedek, 10621 South Glen Road, Potomac. B'nai Tzedek is known for age-appropriate interactive programming and babysitting services for both days of Rosh Hashanah. \$0-\$36. Contact Heather Glick at hglick@bnaitzedek.org or 301-299-0225. Visit www.bnaitzedek.org/eventshigh-holiday-rsvps/2019-2020-high-holidayform. Those who do not have a place to celebrate the High Holidays are welcome.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 2

Potomac Rotary Gatherings. 7:15-8:30 a.m. at Founding Farmers MoCo, 12505 Park Potomac Ave., Potomac. Rotary Club of Potomac meets for breakfast first and third Wednesday of each month and a Happy Hour at Sugo Pizzeria, 5-7 p.m., on the last Wednesday. Learn how to serve humanity globally. Individuals pay for their own breakfast. No admission fee. Visit www.PotomacRotary.org for more.

SUNDAY/OCT. 6

50+Expo. Noon-4 p.m. at the Silver Spring Civic Center in downtown Silver Spring. This annual event feature speakers and exercise demonstrations, health screenings, flu shots, informative resources and entertainment for older adults and their families. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Matthew Mintz, a boardcertified internist and Washingtonian Top Doctor, who will address the issue that has everyone abuzz: "Medical cannabis and CBD oil: What you need to know." Free. Visit www.theBeaconNewspapers.com/50-expos or call 301-949-9766.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 16

Potomac Rotary Gatherings. 7:15-8:30 a.m. at Founding Farmers MoCo, 12505 Park Potomac Ave., Potomac. Rotary Club of Potomac meets for breakfast first and third Wednesday of each month and a Happy Hour at Sugo Pizzeria, 5-7 p.m., on the last Wednesday. Learn how to serve humanity globally. Individuals pay for their own breakfast. No admission fee. Visit www.PotomacRotary.org for more. POTOMAC ALMANAC www.PotomacAlmanac.com

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Employment

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Employment

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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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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Though not exactly "The Continuing Story of Bungalow Bill," ("The Beatles," 1968) but for those of you regular readers still interested in the presumptive outcome - in my lifetime, of my 250 year-old home's "structural integrity" - as it relates to my pending refinance application, we may now have lift off, so to speak. (Hopefully Houston, we don't have a problem.) A structural engineer came by the house yesterday at my request and examined and measured the cracks in the concrete slab which "porches" the front of my house. After which he offered his professional opinion, a more detailed version of which will be emailed to me in a few days (copies of which I will forward to all the interested parties). According to this engineer, there is a concrete solution which, cost notwithstanding (or even known vet) will secure my home's structural foundation and assuage the appraiser.

The problem, as I understand it, concerns the possibility of my house falling down, from back to front. On my porch there are five wood pillars which stand floor to ceiling equidistant across the porch. They are not embedded in the concrete (nor are they cracked or rotting). They are supporting the weight of the house, but apparently are on shaky ground. What has happened is, due to the improper preparation of the soil onto which this concrete slab was originally poured (100 years ago - or whenever), the concrete has buckled under the pressure, and the house is tilting, sort of (and/or has the potential to slip further and fall). And if this happens, neither my wife nor I will be able to get up, whether we're owners of Life Alert medallions or not.

There is a solution however, which doesn't require "a pick and shovel and 20 men" (to invoke a Three Stooges reference). Nor will it require any heavy equipment and/or cabling of my house in some way to lift it off the ground in order to break up all the length, width and depth of approximately 150 square feet of concrete (I don't know about the cubic exactly). The plan seems to be for the house to be temporarily supported by wood beams as it is raised up a bit and then one foot square sections of the concrete surrounding each of the pillars will be broken up. According to the engineer, not a major undertaking. Then piers, which are structural engineering jargon for whatever I need to have supporting the pillars, will be placed on the ground/ foundation beneath each pillar and then back-filled with concrete and Bob's your uncle: structural integrity. At least that's as much as I can understand/explain, anyway. Orthotics for the house you might say.

Now whether my description of the repair is at all accurate, the engineer was clear. Though the repair is delicate, he agreed, nobody is reinventing the wheel here, and the solution as proposed is not that complicated. (As for the "structural integrity" of our 100 year-old stable, another concern of the appraiser, the engineer said "We don't certify the structural integrity of 100 year-old buildings." Now whether this out-building situation becomes a deal-breaker, I can only hope that reasonable minds prevail. Check back to this space for future updates.)

At present, I fear there will be fits (by me) and starts (by the various external parties lining up to solve my homes structural problems) to get me to the refinance finish line with some financial integrity still intact. I won't lie, there's a bit at stake here, and I can't afford (literally and figuratively) any slip ups. As I approach my 65th birthday, my goal is to simplify my life and secure my future, not complicate my life and "insecure" my future. I had hoped this refinance would accomplish the former. I had no idea that it would lead to the latter.

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



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

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