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Potomac ALMANAC

Managing Glenstone Museum Landscaping

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Young Potomac Songwriter Chosen For Contest

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MARCH 4-10, 2020

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NEWS

Councilmember Evan Glass Accepts Vision Zero Award

Councilmember Evan Glass was honored by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) with the Vision Zero Award for his leadership in advancing pedestrian and bicycle safety in Montgomery County. Councilmember Glass advocated for the hiring of a Vision

Zero Coordinator, held a town hall meeting in December 2019 to hear from concerned County residents about road safety, and continues to meaningfully engage Montgomery County and Maryland transportation agencies to ensure county residents have safer roads.

"This is an award I wish I didn't have to accept. 2019 was a deadly year for cyclists and pedestrians in Montgomery County and already in the first three months of 2020, six people have been killed and 93 people have been injured on our roads. Street safety is a life and death issue and is one of the biggest public health crises in the region," said Glass. "Montgomery County adopted a 41-point road safety plan, and I was adamant that a Vision Zero Coordinator be hired to turn this plan into reality. Whether someone is walking to school, riding a bike to work, or crossing the street in a wheelchair, we must make our roads safer for everyone."

"Leadership is needed to solve the epidemic of traffic injuries and fatalities in Montgomery County. WABA is honored to present Councilmember Evan Glass with the 2019 Vision Zero Award for his leadership to address traffic safety by lifting up community concerns and advocating for life saving improvements," said Washington Area Bicyclist Association Executive Director Greg Billing.

"To achieve zero deaths on our roads, we need political will: advocates who speak out and elected officials who listen. Councilmember Evan Glass is one such official, an example of a leader using his platform to work for progress," said Alison Gillespie, Safe Routes Committee Chair, Montgomery County Council of Parent-Teacher Associations.

Glass serves on the Council's Transportation and Environment Committee and is the Lead for Homelessness and Vulnerable Communities on the Health and Human Services Committee.

WABA is a 501(c)(3) member-supported organization founded in 1972 and serves the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region. WABA educates and advocates in Montgomery County and the Washington metropolitan area. It envisions a region in which biking is joyful, safe, popular, and liberating – supported by the necessary infrastructure, laws, activities and investments – and where bicycle ridership mirrors the incredible diversity of our communities. For more information visit waba.org.

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Potomac Student Is Finalist in Bethesda Songwriting Contest

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
POTOMAC ALMANAC

Remember middle school? A time of angst, feelings of inferiority, changing friendships? Not so for Anya Gupta, 16. When she was in fifth grade, she got an electric guitar and has never looked back on her desire to make music.

Now an eleventh grader at Holton Arms School, Anya is a finalist in the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment's sixth annual Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards competition.

"I heard about the contest from my chorus teacher [Trevor Fanning]," Anya said. "He sent an email to me and two others suggesting we enter."

Anya entered her song "Heart of Gold," which she will perform at the finals March 13 at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club.

"Heart of Gold," Anya said, is a really happy song which is one of the reasons she entered it in the competition.

"It's easier to write sad songs than happy ones," she said.

Since starting with an electric guitar, Anya has switched to an acoustic guitar, began writing her own songs and, eventually, started singing. All in just seven years.

She took guitar lessons when she first started but not for long,



PHOTO BY PEGGY MCEWAN

Anya Gupta, a junior at Holton Arms School, is one of three youth finalists in the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment's sixth annual Bernard/Ebb Awards competition. She will perform her song "Heart of Gold" at the competition Friday, March 13.

she said.

"I decided my teacher gave me everything I needed to know," she said, so she ended her lessons knowing the rest was up to her – think practice.

In ninth grade, she said, she put out her first EP, five original songs that she published on Sound Cloud.

"It was free, and a lot of people use it," she said. "The next step was Spotify [the possibility of a larger audience, and, earning money]."

All of Anya's musical career has

been self-directed and, she said, she learns as she goes.

She said she does not come from a musical family.

"No, nobody is musical," she said.

She has an older sister who played acoustic guitar for about a year, she said, but stopped after that. Her sister is in college now, pursuing a career in science, an area Anju might go into also.

"I tried to convince myself I wanted to go into science," she said. "But I didn't. I'm just as passionate about music as my sister

is about science."

Although Anya is hoping to have a career as a singer songwriter, she is realistic about that fact that there are many talented musicians who never "make it." Her parents are supportive and "letting her take [music] where it goes."

"I think they are happy I found my passion," she said.

She is looking forward to performing March 13 where she will go up against two other young songwriters: Naomi Farkas of Clarksville, MD, a senior at River Hill High School, and Seger Ott-



Rudolph, of Silver Spring, a seventh grader at A. Mario Loiederman Middle School for the Creative and Performing Arts. The three will compete for \$2,500.

The Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards are named after the late Fred Ebb, an American songwriter known for Broadway hits such as Cabaret and Chicago and for iconic songs, including New York, New York. Mr. Ebb is the uncle of Cathy Bernard, the founder of the competition and a Bethesda resident.

Five adult songwriters will also perform their original songs at the concert competing for a \$10,000 Grand Prize and 25 hours of complimentary recording studio time at Innovation Station Music. They are: DuPont Brass from the D.C. Metro Area with co-writers: Anthony Daniel Jr, Jared Bailey, Isaac Bell IV and Jake Groticelli; Hayley Fahey of Derwood performing select songs co-written with Austin Bello of Bristow, VA; Genna Matthew of Charlottesville, VA; Eric Scott of North Beach, MD and Maimouna Youssef of Baltimore.

The public is invited to the competition at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 13 at Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Tickets begin at \$15 and are available at www.bethesda.org.

To listen to Anya's music visit her YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/bCigmLfvpRI>.

Operating Rules for Low-speed Electric Scooters?

Montgomery County Council President Sidney Katz introduced Bill 8-20, Bicycles and E-Scooters—Operating Requirements and Registration, to establish operating rules for low-speed, electric scooter use in Montgomery County. Councilmember Gabe Alborno is a cosponsor. The goal of the bill is to reduce injuries associated with the usage of electric scooters by establishing age requirements for use, limiting speeds and requiring helmets and reflectors.

"Electric scooters are a growing transportation method; however, there are few laws on the books regarding their operation," said Council President Katz. "The Council wants to encourage all types of transportation options, but we must do so in a way that is safe for everyone including electric scooter riders."

Bill 8-20 requires that individuals operating electric scooters must be at least 14 years of age and must not operate an electric scooter at a speed greater than

15 miles per hour. The bill also requires that an individual using an electric scooter who is younger than 18 must wear a helmet.

The new legislation also prohibits parking an electric scooter in multiple areas including, but not limited to, public streets, alleys, driveways and outdoor dining areas or in a manner that obstructs accessibility or prohibits the free flow of pedestrians.

Forbes reports that a recent study by JAMA Surgery found that from 2014-2018 nearly 3,300 individuals were admitted to U.S. hospitals with scooter-related injuries, and there were 39,000 total scooter related injuries over that same period. The article noted the "high proportion of people with head injuries" from electric scooter crashes and accidents. One of the goals of Bill 8-20 is to help cut down on the number of injuries and create safer streets and sidewalks across the county. The public hearing for the bill is March 24 at 1:30 p.m.

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.

FREE TAX HELP FOR RESIDENTS

County residents earning \$56,000 or less can schedule an appointment for free tax preparation through the Community Action Agency's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Free tax assistance is available now through April 15, 2020 at sites throughout the county: Gaithersburg (Mondays), Silver Spring (Tuesdays), Rockville (Wednesdays), East County and Germantown (Thursdays), and Wheaton (Fridays). To make an appointment, visit montgomerycountymd.gov/cashback, call 240-777-1123 or call 3-1-1. TTY users, please call MD Relay (711). To request special accommodations, call 240-777-1123 at least three business days in advance of appointment.

ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED

Montgomery County's Board of Elections is seeking registered voters to serve as election workers at polling places for the Presidential Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

- ❖ Individuals are needed to serve throughout the county; particularly in the areas of Bethesda, Cabin John, Chevy Chase, Darnestown, Potomac, and Rockville.
- ❖ Due to the diversity within the county, voters who speak multiple languages are needed. Voters who are fluent in both English and Spanish are especially needed in each polling place to meet the requirements of Section 203 of the 1975 Voting Rights Act which stipulates that bilingual Spanish speakers be available at the polling places.

- ❖ Students 16 years old or older are eligible to register to vote and serve as election workers. Each 16 or 17-year-old applicant must submit a signed permission slip from a parent or guardian. Students serving as election workers may choose to earn up to 25 Student Service Learning (SSL) credits or up to a \$210 stipend.

To serve in this paid volunteer position you must be registered to vote in the State of Maryland, able to speak, read, and write the English language, and cannot hold, or be a candidate for, public or party office. In addition, election workers may not serve as a campaign manager for a candidate or as treasurer for any campaign finance entity.

To apply, text SERVE to 77788 or for more information, visit 777vote.org and select the Election Workers link.

For other election information, call 240-777-VOTE (8683), visit 777vote.org or the Maryland State Board of Elections' website at elections.maryland.gov, or follow the Montgomery County Board of Elections on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @777vote.

DEMENTIA CONSULTATIONS

Caring for a person with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia spans generations. Care consultations with the Alzheimer's Association are a free Chapter service that offers in-depth, personalized care planning, education and support. A consultation is more than just a meeting with a dementia expert. Highly trained staff help to develop a road map to navigate through the thoughts, emotions and questions that family members, care partners and the diagnosed person may have, including:

To schedule a consultation, call the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900.

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The Menace of Climate Change and What You Can Do About It.

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WELLBEING

Inflicting Pain to Gain Relief

Self Injury Awareness Month is a time to learn about the condition and erase the stigma.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

March is self-injury prevention month, a time when mental health professionals work to raise awareness of the condition, recognize the signs and work to remove the stigma. Known by clinicians as non-suicidal self-injury, the behavior is described as intentionally harming oneself without intending to end one's life. The population most likely to engage in self-harm behaviors range from middle school through college, according to the American Psychological Association.

"When teens begin engaging in cutting behavior it is typically because they are feeling overwhelmed by intense feelings or emotions and don't have the coping skills to manage or respond to how they feel, said therapist Carol Barnaby, MSW, LCSW.

"Adolescents might self-injure to distract themselves from intense negative emotions of sadness or anger, or emotional numbness, added Jerome Short, Ph.D., Associate Profes-



Stacie Isenberg



Jerome Short

"Self-injury may be a sign of depression, anxiety, substance use, or post-traumatic stress disorders."

— Jerome Short, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology at George Mason University

sor of Psychology at George Mason University. "They may also want to punish themselves or express a need for help."

Cuts and burns on the wrists or thighs are among the most common signs of self-injury. "Parents may notice their children have unexplained cuts, burns, or bruises," said Short. "Adolescents may wear clothing or bracelets to cover themselves even in very warm settings. Parents may find knives or razors in their children's rooms or notice they are missing from the home."

"Other signs that your child may be cutting include marks on the skin from scratching, using a paper clip or skin picking, advises Barnaby. "Multiple similar marks on the skin in close proximity for which your child has no explanation," said Barnaby.

While cutting and burning oneself causes pain initially, that pain can evolve into relief. "Sometimes cutting can be habit-forming or become compulsive, said Barnaby. "This in simple terms, means that the more the person cuts the more they feel the need to do it and their brain associates cutting with relief."

Teens might turn to self-injury as a way of regulating their emotions. "For teens who are feeling a lot of strong and intense emotions,

self-harming releases the body's natural opiates and endorphins that help them manage their feelings," said Joanne Bagshaw, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology at Montgomery College. "On the flip side, a teen who is shut down or who feels numb might self-harm to feel their feelings. Alternatively, self-harm may be for the teen to communicate that they need help."

Several factors might trigger self-inflicted injuries. "Childhood abuse and conflicted parental relationships may trigger self-injury," said Short. "Self-injury may be a sign of depression, anxiety, substance use, or post-traumatic stress disorders."

Parents who suspect that their child might be engaging in intentional self-injury should avoid criticism and seek mental health treatment. "Parents should not ignore the problem," said Short. "If children engage in life threatening behavior, they should take them to a hospital."

Noticing those marks, however, could require careful attention. "Teens who self-injure often hide the marks that self-injury might cause," said Child Psychologist Stacie Isenberg, Psy. D. "For example, they may wear a long-sleeved shirt in hot weather if there are marks on their arms or multiple bracelets if there are marks on their wrists."

"If parents feel that their teen is engaging in self-harm behaviors they should show compassion for their child and get help, added Barnaby. "Self-harm behavior is very treatable with early intervention."

"Self-harm behavior is very treatable with early intervention."

— Carol Barnaby, LCSW

Organic Landscaping at Glenstone; Poet Phillis Wheatley

Potomac Library hosts two speakers Saturday, March 7.

BY PEGGY McEWAN
POTOMAC ALMANAC

Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter, is sponsoring two speakers Saturday, March 7 at the library. First in the double-header lineup is Growing at Glenstone, presented at 10:30 a.m. Matt Partain, grounds superintendent at Glenstone, will share what it takes to maintain the almost 300 acres “of landscape fully integrated with the architecture and art” at the museum on Glen Road.

“The landscape includes paths, trails, streams, meadows, forests and outdoor sculptures throughout the grounds,” according to the museum’s website. “We have followed an organic approach to landscaping since 2010, working hard to identify gentle alternatives to harsh chemicals in order to maintain a healthy environment for our visitors and native wildlife. We maintain our own composting station and produce compost tea, which we use as a fertilizer and soil amendment throughout the grounds.”

Partain will share specifics about the grounds and answer questions as time permits.

The afternoon program, starting at 1 p.m., features Janice Curtis Greene, a master storyteller who will visit as Phillis Wheatley. Greene presented the story of Harriet Tubman last year and was asked to return “by popular demand,” according to Edie Wingate, president of Potomac Friends of the Library.

Wheatley was enslaved as a young girl and bought by the Wheatley family, who lived in Boston. The family taught Phillis to read and write and encouraged her when they saw her talent for writing poetry. She became the first African American woman to publish her poetry.

Library visitors are encouraged to spend the day at the library and attend both talks.

“Consider spending the day at the library—bring your own lunch—we’ll have coffee, donated by Starbucks, available between the two programs,” Wingate said.

Friends of the library sponsors many of the programs offered at the library and hosts several. Besides membership fees and donations for special



Storyteller Janice Curtis Greene is speaking as poet Phillis Wheatley Saturday at the Potomac Library at 1 p.m.

Matt Partain, Grounds Superintendent, will speak about landscaping at Glenstone Museum at Potomac Library Saturday.



events – Greene’s presentation this year and last are made possible by a generous donation from a longtime Friends’ member to honor her mother who instilled a love of reading in her children and grandchildren, according to Wingate – proceeds from the Friends of the Library monthly book sale also funds the programming.

Potomac Library is located at 10101 Glenolden Drive. For information on programs visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/potomac.html.

Councilmembers Friedson and Riemer introduce green building tax credit legislation to meet climate targets

Councilmembers Friedson and Riemer will introduce legislation Tuesday to accelerate the construction of new energy efficient buildings and to promote the green retrofitting of existing buildings. Bill 10-20 dramatically improves an existing County green building property tax credit by prioritizing energy reduction in new and existing commercial buildings and ensuring incentives are given only for buildings that surpass require-

ments of the County’s building code.

“Combating the climate crisis requires the public and private sectors working together to achieve our ambitious emissions targets,” Councilmember Andrew Friedson said. “We have stakeholder consensus from environmental advocates and businesses, subject matter experts, and policymakers. We need to turn climate rhetoric into real results.”

Responding to the unfolding cli-

mate crisis, the County has committed to reducing emissions by 80 percent by 2027 and 100 percent by 2035. Energy consumption in commercial buildings accounts for 26 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in our County, according to the most recent greenhouse gas inventory. Significantly reducing energy usage and emissions requires retrofitting existing buildings and incentivizing new construction to achieve greater effi-

SEE GREEN BUILDING, PAGE 7

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POTOMAC ALMANAC ♦ MARCH 4-10, 2020 ♦ 5

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Kindergarten Orientation.

Wednesday/April 29. Potomac Elementary School is holding Kindergarten Orientation on Wednesday, April 29, 2020. Children who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2020 are eligible for enrollment for the upcoming school year. Parents/guardians should notify the school at 240-740-4360 to receive enrollment information and to set up an appointment to participate in the Orientation Program.

TUESDAY/MARCH 3

Read to a Dog. 4:30-5:30 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Looking for a great opportunity to improve your little reader's language skills and interact with cool furry friends in the process? Then "Read to a Dog" is for you.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 4

Rapper Big Havi. 8 p.m. At The Fillmore, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Rising ATL rapper Big Havi, co-signed by Lil Baby, will be in Silver Spring on March 4 at The Fillmore opening up for Lil Tjay on the "True To Myself Tour."

THURSDAY/MARCH 5

Family Storytime. 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Filled with diverse stories and activities that promote and develop language skills and imagination. These programs encourage children to develop a lifelong love of reading and learning.

Play Date at the Library. 11-11:30 a.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. This is a drop-in social playtime for toddlers/preschoolers/Kindergarten and their caregivers.

THURSDAY/MARCH 6

Great Decisions. 12:30-2 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Climate change has become one of the defining issues of our time. As much of the world bands together to come up with a plan, the U.S. remains the notable holdout. What is the rest of the world doing to



The Baltimore Consort will appear at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center on Friday, March 6.

Baltimore Consort

Friday/March 6, 8 p.m. At Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville. Featuring the Food of Love Songs, Dances, and Fancies for Shakespeare. The Baltimore Consort, the "rambunctious sextet," known for their lively renditions of Renaissance tunes, presents a brand new program featuring their core repertory—music of the Elizabethan era—with songs and consort music from the Shakespeare plays. Tickets are \$30 Regular, \$25 Faculty/Staff, and \$20 Students. Box Office: 240-567-5301 or visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/pac.

combat climate change? What impact will the effects of climate change have on global geopolitics?

Open Rehearsal. 1-2:30 p.m. At Westmoreland Church, 1 Westmoreland Circle Northwest, Bethesda. Go "behind-the-scenes" as you listen in to a professional working rehearsal of Pressenda Chamber Players as they prepare Beethoven's String Quartet No. 12 in E&m major, Op. 127 and Schumann's String Quartet Op. 41 No. 1 in a minor. Attend the concert on Saturday, March 7, 2020, at 8 pm, to hear the works played in their entirety. Free. Visit the website: washingtonconservatory.org

Baltimore Consort. 8 p.m. At Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville. Featuring the Food of Love Songs, Dances, and Fancies for Shakespeare. The Baltimore Consort presents a brand new program featuring their core repertory — music of the Elizabethan era — with songs and consort music from the Shakespeare plays. Tickets are \$30 Regular, \$25 Faculty/Staff, and \$20 Students. Box Office: 240-567-5301 or visit



Behind the scenes of the Pressenda Chamber Players on March 6.

Open Rehearsal

Friday/March 6, 1-2:30 p.m. At Westmoreland Church, 1 Westmoreland Circle Northwest, Bethesda. Go "behind-the-scenes" as you listen in to a professional working rehearsal of Pressenda Chamber Players as they prepare Beethoven's String Quartet No. 12 in E&m major, Op. 127 and Schumann's String Quartet Op. 41 No. 1 in a minor. Attend the concert on Saturday, March 7, 2020, at 8 p.m., to hear the works played in their entirety. Free. Visit the website: washingtonconservatory.org

www.montgomerycollege.edu/pac.

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Growing at Glenstone. 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Glenstone is a museum dedicated to art, architecture, and landscape in Potomac. Join us for a behind-the-scenes look at this acclaimed design.

Phillis Wheatley: The Sable Muse Speaks.

1-2:30 p.m. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Through the Historical Interpretation of Master Storyteller Janice Curtis Greene you will gain insights to the conditions of enslavement in the North and how Phillis Wheatley rose above it.

Pressenda Chamber Players. 8-9:30

p.m. At Westmoreland Church, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Pressenda Chamber Players will perform Beethoven's String Quartet, Op. 127 and Schumann's String Quartet in a minor during a Conservatory Concert at Westmoreland Circle. Concert performers include Aaron Berofsky, violin; Kathryn Votapek, violin; Gregory Luce, viola; and Tobias Werner, cello. Admission is free with a \$20 suggested.

MARCH 7-8

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m. Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8. At Bethesda Chevy Chase High School, 4301 East West Highway, Bethesda. More information is here: <https://>

www.bccptsa.net/used-book-sale

SUNDAY/MARCH 8

Chamber Music Play-In. 4-7 p.m. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. All avid chamber musicians are welcome. Three grand pianos are available for piano repertoire. Drop-ins will be accommodated if possible. Participants are welcome to bring food and drink to share. RSVP Required at

www.washingtonconservatory.org

"Mystic" Concert. 5 p.m. At Bradley Hills Church, 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. The Thirteen, under the direction of Artistic Director Matthew Robertson, explores humanity's search for the divine across time and space in their upcoming concert Mystic. Tickets may be purchased online, in advance, for a discounted rate through The Thirteen's website: www.TheThirteenChoir.org. Tickets will be available at the door of the concert, if the concert is not sold out. Tickets are \$35, \$30 if purchased in advance. Discounts are available at www.TheThirteenChoir.org.

MONDAYS/MARCH 9 TO APRIL 27

Sentimental Journey Singers.

Mondays, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. At Bender Jewish Community Center, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. Encore Creativity for Older Adults, the nation's largest choral organization for adults over 55, will start its second choir for adults diagnosed with early to moderate Alzheimer's disease and other memory struggles. Participants will learn vocal techniques and three-part harmony while singing familiar songs and new pieces in a social group setting under the leadership of conductor Dr. Mary Ann East, also a performer and teacher and founder of Capital Harmonia, and pianist Rachel Thompson, a board-certified music therapist who works with adults with cognitive impairments and dementia. The program will culminate in a performance, Saturday, May 2 at 1 p.m., at the JCC Social Hall. Tuition is \$104 and \$25 for care partners. Registration is open now at www.encorecreativity.org

FRIDAY/MARCH 13

Live Concert. 7:30 p.m. At Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. The sixth annual Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards, produced by the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District, will once again feature a live concert performed by the competition finalists.

The following five songwriters will perform their original songs at the concert. One will win the \$10,000 Grand Prize and 25 hours of complimentary recording studio time at Innovation Station Music. * DuPont Brass, D.C. Metro Area; * Co-writers: Anthony Daniel Jr, Jared Bailey, Isaac Bell IV, Jake Grotticelli; * Hayley Fahey, Derwood, MD; * Select songs co-written with Austin Bello of Bristow, VA; * Genna Matthew, Charlottesville, VA; Eric Scott, North Beach, MD; and Maimouna Youssef, Baltimore, MD. Tickets begin at \$15 and are available at www.bethesda.org or call 301-215-6660.

Orchestra Prazevica and the Yehla Collective.

7:30 p.m. At Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Rd., Rockville. A night of Eastern European protests songs incorporating gypsy jazz, western swing and an eclectic group of Czech, Slovak, Armenian, Moravian and American musicians. Cost is \$25 door/\$20 adv | Students with ID / Children \$20 door/\$15 adv. Info: Rob Hinkal at publicity@imtfolk.org or www.imtfolk.org



The Chamber Music Play-In will take place Sunday, March 8 at Glen Echo Park.

Chamber Music Play-In

Sunday/March 8, 4-7 p.m. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. All avid chamber musicians are welcome. Three grand pianos are available for piano repertoire. Drop-ins will be accommodated if possible. Participants are welcome to bring food and drink to share. RSVP Required at www.washingtonconservatory.org

Green Building Tax Credit

FROM PAGE 5

ciency standards.

“We need to reduce the energy consumption of our buildings if we are to ever have a chance of meeting our climate goals,” said Councilmember Hans Riemer. “The changes to the green building tax credit proposed in this legislation, however, will incentivize our private-sector partners to go further than ever before in designing energy-efficient buildings.”

Councilmembers Friedson and Riemer based the legislation on the recommendations of a work group made up of key stakeholders from the County government, climate groups, and the local commercial real estate sector. Over the course of a year, the work group carefully scrutinized the current green building tax credit, identifying its limitations and proposing significant improvements.

Under current law, the tax credit is tied to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building rating system or its equivalent. The County caps the overall tax expenditure for this credit at \$5 million annually. Since its inception, the County has awarded \$33.4 million in credits, across 62 buildings.

However, the credit has been regularly oversubscribed in the past few years. The County also adopted a version of the International Green Building Code (IgCC) in 2017, which makes many of the elements of LEED certification compulsory. To make the credit more effective and better align with the County’s greenhouse gas reduction effort, Bill 10-20 follows the work group recommendations by making the following changes to the green building tax credit:

- ❖ Creates a new two-tier structure to the credit.
- ❖ The first tier ties the amount of the credit to the energy reduction level, relative to the existing building code.
- ❖ The second tier assigns a bonus credit if the buildings also meet the highest levels of LEED certification.
- ❖ Removes the annual cap on the credit for new buildings, and maintains a \$5 million cap/annually for existing buildings.
- ❖ Sets a four-year limit on the credit for new buildings and a two-year limit for existing buildings.

The public hearing on Bill 10-20 will be on March 31.

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Money For What, Exactly?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Kenny is currently out of the office. Please enjoy this previously written article from July 2019:

Presumably, most of you readers are aware that many supermarkets have a rack located somewhere near the rear of the store that is stocked with off-price merchandise: discontinued items, items with damaged packaging, out of season products, etc. Over the years, I have been a regular checker of this rack looking for such bargains. I have purchased breakfast cereal, soup, cookies, candy, and miscellaneous other non-perishables. I've even purchased two bags of Kingsford charcoal. In addition, I've seen household products, health and beauty, school supplies; and everything else you can imagine, running the gamut from "A" to "Z" for sale. Recently however, in this rack I saw a product I'm not sure I even thought was available to the general public, and if it was, would not have thought buying it from the discontinued merchandise rack at the supermarket would not have been the way to go. But what do I know? As has been proven many times: not much.

The item? A DNA Paternity Test Kit. I guess I thought, if this test was necessary, it would involve a physician or at least be administered by a health care professional and/or involve witnesses/legal representation (at least a notary). Going to the supermarket or even the drug store? And then testing yourself without necessarily knowing the precautions and proper procedures appropriate for the task at hand? There seems as if there's a bit more at stake here than an at-home pregnancy test, a test with which many of us are familiar. But DNA testing at home? What is this, the Maury Povich Show?

Having not traveled down this particular road myself, perhaps I'm unaware of the realities. All I know is what I've seen on television or read about in the papers. I guess I just assumed (generally a bad thing), that the steps one takes to verify/confirm/resolve paternity-type issues were a bit more involved than a visit to the supermarket. Apparently, this subject is just another where I know very little about, like tools and how to use them, automobile repair, home maintenance, lawn and garden, cooking, and on and on and on. But enough about me.

What about those wanting answers to extraordinarily important questions: Who's the father? And is that my child? Looks can be deceiving so a professional, or so I thought, incorrectly, is brought in to oversee the process. Nope. No professional need apply. Just go to your local "chemist," as they say in England. No need to visit "the surgery," as they also say over there. Just find a box with the right letters on it and go back to your home/work and swab, stick, pin-prick or whatever and the results will be known soon enough if you or someone else is whomever they claim to be or not to be. That is the question which begs an answer. Shakespeare notwithstanding

It seems only fair that one's birthright should be gotten wrong. And not that home-testing can't be trusted. Just the opposite. Nevertheless, some things, like circumcisions, though they can be performed at home (see "Shaky the mohel" from a long ago Seinfeld episode), I would have thought, a DNA Paternity test, given the need/want of a resolution/clarification which could possibly impact multiple individuals/families over generations, be similarly performed in the most careful of conditions. This kind of test has no margin for error - or humor. "Bought the kit in the discount rack at my local supermarket." Is that the answer you want to give when all eyes are on you? And saying how much you saved over regular price is unlikely to endear you to any and all of the interested parties on hand. After all, money really isn't the issue.

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

Potomac REAL ESTATE

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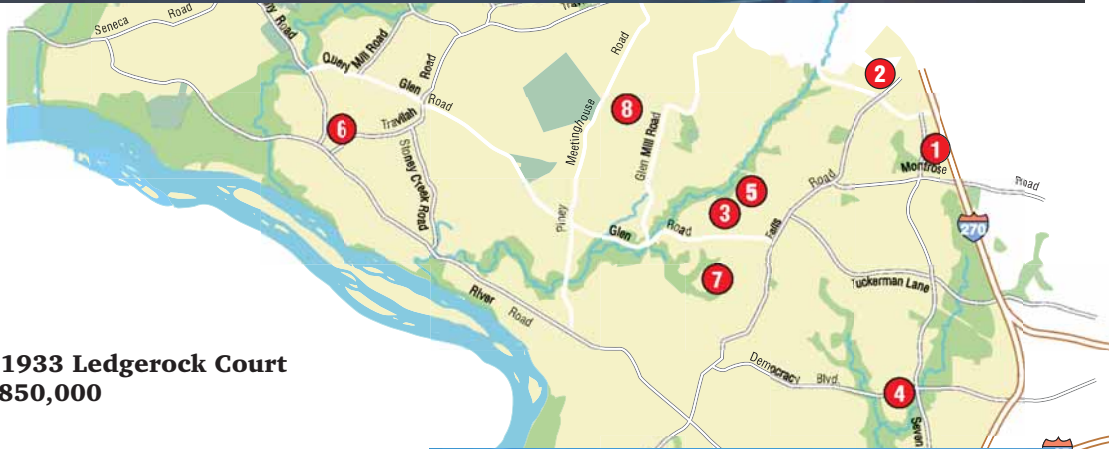
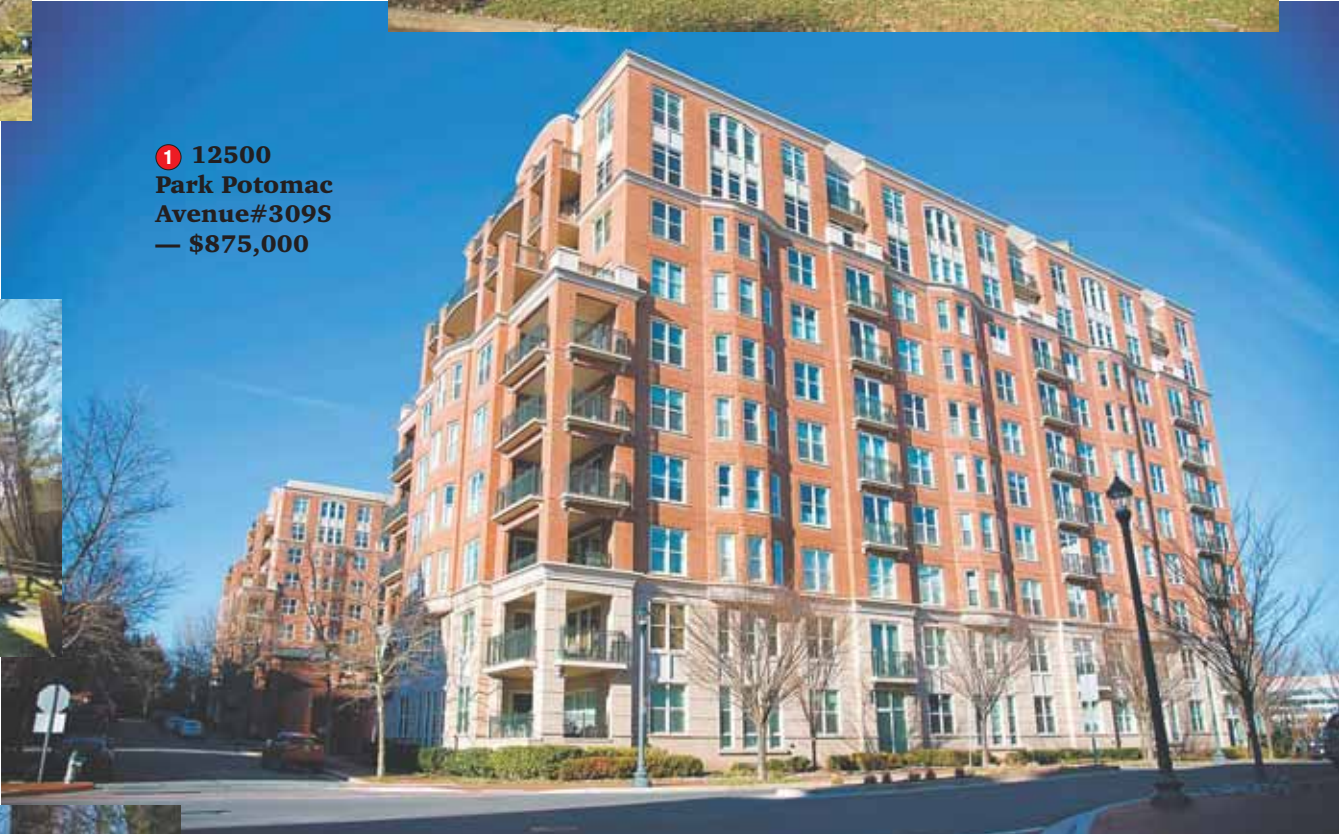
5 9512 Reach Road
— \$845,000



2 1107 Bettstrail Way
— \$850,000



1 12500 Park Potomac Avenue#309S
— \$875,000



3 11933 Ledgerock Court
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4 22 Buckspark Court — \$848,000

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2 1107 BETTSTRAIL WAY	5	.. 3 ..	1 ..	ROCKVILLE	\$850,000	Detached	0.32	20854	FALLS BEND	12/23/19
3 11933 LEDGEROCK CT	6	.. 3 ..	1	POTOMAC	\$850,000	Detached	0.49	20854	COUNTRY PLACE	12/27/19
4 22 BUCKSPARK CT	5	.. 3 ..	1	POTOMAC	\$848,000	Detached	0.26	20854	RIDGELEIGH	12/16/19
5 9512 REACH RD	4	.. 3 ..	1	POTOMAC	\$845,000	Detached	0.27	20854	FALLSREACH	12/10/19
6 12704 WATERTOWN CT	4	.. 2 ..	1	POTOMAC	\$835,000	Detached	2.16	20854	NONE AVAILABLE	12/16/19
7 11304 BEDFORDSHIRE	3	.. 2 ..	1	POTOMAC	\$832,500	Detached	0.24	20854	BEDFORDSHIRE	12/11/19
8 10612 TANAGER LN	5	.. 3 ..	1	POTOMAC	\$825,000	Detached	2.00	20854	GLEN MILL KNOLLS	12/12/19

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