

# Potomac ALMANAC

## Snowy Landscape

MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 3

Two snow storms last week each gifted Montgomery County with about 4 inches of snow, and closed school for three days. But it was beautiful in Potomac.

## Children's & Teens Almanac

PAGE 4

REAL ESTATE, PAGE 2 AND 6 ♦ KENNY LOURIE, PAGE 7

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

JANUARY 24-30, 2024

ONLINE AT [POTOMACALMANAC.COM](http://POTOMACALMANAC.COM)

PHOTOS FROM BRIGHT MLS



# Potomac REAL ESTATE

## September, 2023 Top Sales

IN SEPTEMBER, 2023, 24 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD  
BETWEEN \$2,949,000-\$750,000.

**3** 11501 Dalyn Terrace  
— \$2,350,000



**5** 9427 Fox Hollow Drive — \$1,700,000



**2** 2 Purcell Court — \$1,350,000

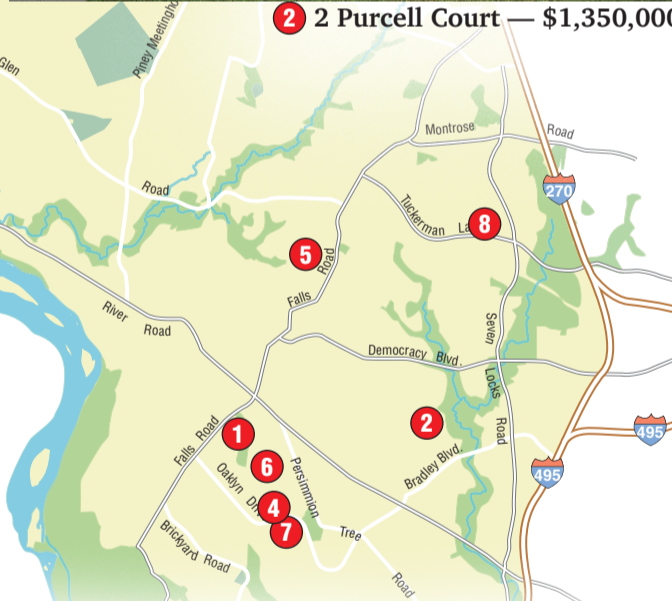
**1** 10406 Holbrook Drive  
— \$2,949,000



**6** 10109 Logan Drive  
— \$1,675,000



**4** 9906 Avenel Farm Drive — \$1,850,000



Address.....	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	.....	Sold Price ...	Type....	Lot AC.	Postal Code .....	Subdivision.....	Date Sold
<b>1</b> 10406 HOLBROOK DR.....	6	7	1	...	POTOMAC	..	\$2,949,000	.. Detached...	0.47.....	20854.....	POTOMAC VILLAGE.....	09/06/23
<b>2</b> 2 PURCELL CT.....	6	7	1	...	POTOMAC	..	\$2,350,000	.. Detached...	0.49.....	20854.....	MCAULEY PARK.....	09/29/23
<b>3</b> 11501 DALYN TER.....	5	5	2	...	POTOMAC	..	\$2,350,000	.. Detached...	0.73.....	20854.....	MERRY GO ROUND FARM ..	09/12/23
<b>4</b> 9906 AVENEL FARM DR.....	5	5	3	...	POTOMAC	..	\$1,850,000	.. Detached...	0.62.....	20854.....	AVENEL.....	09/29/23
<b>5</b> 9427 FOX HOLLOW DR.....	5	4	1	...	POTOMAC	..	\$1,700,000	.. Detached...	0.24.....	20854.....	BEDFORDSHIRE.....	09/28/23
<b>6</b> 10109 LOGAN DR.....	6	5	1	...	POTOMAC	..	\$1,675,000	.. Detached...	0.35.....	20854.....	HERITAGE FARM.....	09/29/23
<b>7</b> 10012 CHARTWELL MANOR CT.....	5	4	2	...	POTOMAC	..	\$1,580,000	.. Detached...	0.24.....	20854.....	AVENEL.....	09/26/23
<b>8</b> 11508 DEBORAH DR.....	7	6	1	...	POTOMAC	..	\$1,395,000	.. Detached...	0.41.....	20854.....	REGENCY ESTATES.....	09/05/23

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[HTTP://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/NEWS/2023/OCT/18/POTOMAC-HOME-SALES-SEPTEMBER-2023/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2023/oct/18/potomac-home-sales-september-2023/)

# NEWS

## Snow Days!



How many deer do you see? Three young bucks are camouflaged by the the beech tree which will hold onto its leaves until spring.



Two snow storms last week each gifted Montgomery County with about 4 inches of snow, and closed school for three days, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. It's been so long since there has been significant snow here that some people had started to believe it might never snow again.



The stream meanders through the snowy woods.



A white throated sparrow and a dark eyed junco. Both are birds that winter here and will migrate up north to breeding grounds in the spring.



A bluebird pair will raise multiple broods in this bluebird house in the spring and summer. In winter, many bluebirds will pile into a box to keep warm.



It's a rare opportunity, but what goes down must be pulled up before it can go down again.



Male cardinal are a favorite in the snow.



Eastern bluebird and a dark eyed junco.



Tiny downy woodpecker at the suet.



A female cardinal and a dark eyed junco wait for their turns at a feeder.

# CHILDREN'S ALMANAC

STUDENTS IN MRS. BRYANT'S GRADE 6 ENGLISH CLASS, HOOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Emotions

NAME: IMIR RUKA  
AGE: 12

The good news reaches your ears.  
Happiness  
Rejoicing  
And yet,  
Crying  
Weeping  
Sobbing.

Anger fills the heart.  
They ask, "To whom thy anger?"  
To which you respond, "To life, to life I anger."

Happiness,  
Fun,  
Yet distraught.  
Torn  
Scarred.

Emotions

Thou shall feel, yet not.  
Numbness, coldness,  
And yet,  
Warmness, peacefulness  
Comforting yet uncomfortable.

And then, life wins the battle.  
And thou cry  
But thou art relieved,  
You do not have to fight in thine battle

Anger  
And sadness  
And dread  
And yet not all shall be sad  
And disgraced  
But thou shalt be  
Happy  
Beautiful  
Congratulated  
Not alone

Life usually wins  
But that doesn't mean you can't be happy.

## "A Relationship Between Two"

NAME: LAYLA GREENE  
AGE: 11

A good friend you say,  
Well each person has another way  
To describe the person fit for them  
But there are qualities you need to not condemn.

Looks might matter to some, but it's from within

What really matters is under the skin.  
Your heart, your brain, should have more to give

When mistakes are made they can forgive.  
When you are down, not feeling ok,  
They help you find the right roadway  
To keep you on the path, not holding back  
On your full potential making sure you don't lack

What you need to do to keep them too  
This relationship between you two.

## Devices

NAME: REHAN VAN DAM  
AGE: 12

Devices control humanity  
Work, school, and video games  
Going outside  
Devices waste time  
Time lost, forever  
Hours pass fast  
Years pass faster  
Devices

Endless scrolling  
It never ends  
Devices  
Working all day on a screen  
Stress

Eye strain and back pain  
Devices  
Video games  
Addiction  
Devices

At home  
At school  
By day; by night  
Devices  
Social media  
Likes and follows  
Approval seeking  
Devices  
Mental health crashing,  
Missing out  
Addiction  
Anxiety  
Depression  
Devices

## Lad: A Dog

NAME: JOANNA WANG  
AGE: 11

That stubbornly sweet Lad,  
So brave and enduring.  
He rescued many, making them glad,  
Willing to get hurt, even die securing.

So brave and enduring;  
He's sincere and wants sincerity.  
Willing to hurt, even die securing,  
He saved and loved Lady sincerely.

He's sincere and wants sincerity,  
Affectionate and friendly to Lady.  
He saved and loved Lady sincerely;  
Devoted to his Master and Mistress, and loyal? Completely

Affectionate and friendly to Lady;  
He rescued many, making them glad.  
Devoted to his Master and Mistress, and loyal? Completely,  
That stubbornly sweet Lad.

## "Making Mom's Favorite Food"

NAME: ANNIKA SEBASTINE  
AGE: 12

Every year  
(Although there's no exact day)  
My family gathers  
Around the marbled kitchen counter  
To make pani puri,  
My mom's favorite food.



Serena Huang, 12, Grade 7, Potomac, The Abstract Table, color pencil on watercolor paper; Cabin John Middle School, Potomac, Sonia D'agnese, art teacher



Serena Huang, 12, Grade 7, Potomac, A Flicker of Promise, graphite pencil, marker, and watercolor on watercolor paper; Cabin John Middle School, Potomac, Sonia D'agnese, art teacher

We start with her describing to us about  
What life was like  
"Back in my day"  
She chatters away about how she  
Would always get pani puri  
From one of the vendors  
Lining the streets of Mumbai.  
She tells us how much she loved  
One of the vendors pani puris  
And how it's now her favorite food  
Blah, blah, blah  
I think,  
Great story!  
When can we start eating?  
Finally, she stops  
And we can finally start making  
The food.  
I snatch one of the shells  
Out of the plastic carton.  
Crack! Pop!  
Goes the spherical shell  
When we crack a little hole  
In it  
With our fingers.  
As I grasp the pale yellow oval  
With two fingers.  
Then, I spoon in some  
Potatoes  
All mashed up  
As a base  
So the liquid doesn't leak out.  
The pani puri water

Green, black, or red  
Gets poured into the hole of our shell.  
A little bit of yogurt is added to cut  
Back on the spice  
And it is topped with aloo bhujia,  
Crispy pieces of fried potato.  
We mix and match the different  
Liquids  
Trying to find out our favorite combo.  
A little bit of potato goes in  
Then some red sauce with yogurt and  
Aloo bhujia  
The first time  
And maybe just  
Black liquid and potato  
The next.  
The first bite  
Is the most special.  
Crunch!  
Goes the shell when  
It snaps between my teeth  
And the spicy sauce soaks  
Into my tongue  
As I grab a glass of water.  
I take another  
Shell  
Out of the box  
For my brother.  
He hates spice  
So I make sure

# CHILDREN'S ALMANAC

FROM PAGE 5

To make it extra spicy  
 Just for him.  
 I fill up a plate  
 With three  
 Or four puris  
 And sit down  
 At the dining table  
 Crunching away  
 Happily.  
 One more through the lips  
 My mouth overwhelmed by a wave of  
 sauce  
 Rushing down my throat  
 I guess that one had  
 Too much liquid  
 I think  
 So I get up  
 To make another one  
 Once again I taste it  
 This time it's too spicy  
 Standing up again  
 And again  
 And again  
 As I cram  
 More  
 And more  
 And more  
 Down my throat  
 Critiquing myself on each one I make.  
 I race  
 With my family  
 To see who can eat  
 The most puris  
 My mom says  
 Her friend has eaten  
 Sixty at once.  
 The most I can eat  
 Is thirty.  
 Then  
 My mom tells me  
 That that was just an appetizer  
 As she brings out more food to eat.  
 But after all that  
 I can't eat any more.  
 So I collapse on the sofa  
 With a full belly  
 And a wide grin on my face.

## Hope Within The Air...

NAME: ASHRA SIDDIQUI  
 AGE: 12

The flowers blooming slowly  
 The sun giving life to all,  
 Shining through my room  
 Not a single cloud in the sky  
 I smile, a big wide smile  
 The birds dance in the sky gliding with the  
 soft wind  
 The bees were buzzing along hovering  
 above the flowers  
 The air is crisp, with the smell of flowers  
 blooming all around  
 The grass is verdant full of little insects  
 hopping joyfully  
 A little boy plays in the fields,  
 Giggles merrily  
 The sun's beams brushed my face to feel  
 warm all over  
 I take a deep breath,

Taking in all of the beauty  
 As the day goes on,  
 The sun rises within the sky  
 More beauty and life emerge  
 The senses of nature pleased my eyes,  
 And tears formed in the corners  
 A small Blue Bird perches on my window-  
 sill  
 It sings it's heart out, whistles flowing  
 gracefully  
 Until it's voice cracks to a piercing screech  
 The clouds darken  
 Flames emerge gradually  
 The grass loses its verdant color  
 The flowers sink down into dust  
 Branches falling with might  
 Everything turns gray  
 And the whole world bursts into chaos  
 right in front of my eyes  
 Loud noises coming from every which way

Glass breaking  
 Scarring into my skin  
 It cuts deep,  
 Blood drips out  
 Just like the color drained out of the  
 world.

As the night emerged things only got  
 worse  
 The wolves woke up from their sleep and  
 moaned through the night  
 The last leaf falls on a dead tree,  
 Slowly drifting down to the ground

I crawl on the creaky floor,  
 And I find a small puzzle piece  
 It's full of vibrant colors  
 It felt strange,  
 Something was not right  
 The piece glowed with a golden hue  
 I placed it on my palm  
 It grew brighter by the second

As the hours went on  
 For what seemed like eternity  
 I was filled with glowing puzzle pieces  
 Bundled up in my hands

With my scarred body,  
 I scrambled every nook and corner  
 To find more  
 Of these mysterious pieces

As I put the pieces together one by one,  
 They grew even brighter all together  
 The shine blinded my eyes  
 Piece by piece,  
 The world trickled back with color  
 I could sense it,  
 There was HOPE in the air

I could smell it  
 Tickling the hairs in my nose  
 I could hear it  
 Soft, joyful noises filling my ears  
 I could taste it  
 Tingling my taste buds with its sweet fla-  
 vor  
 I could feel it  
 Brushing my face and goosebumps all  
 over  
 I could see it  
 There was HOPE in the air



# ALEXANDRIA RESTAURANT WEEK 2024

**JANUARY 19-28**

Enjoy special \$30, \$40, or \$50  
 per person **prix fixe dinners.**



**#ALXRestaurantWeek**



Browse the menus at  
[AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com](https://AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com)



# Potomac REAL ESTATE

## October, 2023 Top Sales

IN OCTOBER, 2023, 27 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD  
BETWEEN \$2,125,000-\$738,000.

PHOTOS FROM BRIGHT MLS



**3** 11013 Balantre Lane  
— \$1,925,000



**5** 11201  
Spur Wheel Lane  
— \$1,810,000



**2** 9215 Bells Mill Road — \$2,000,000



**6** 8710 Belmont Road — \$1,805,000



**1** 9464 Newbridge Drive — \$2,125,000

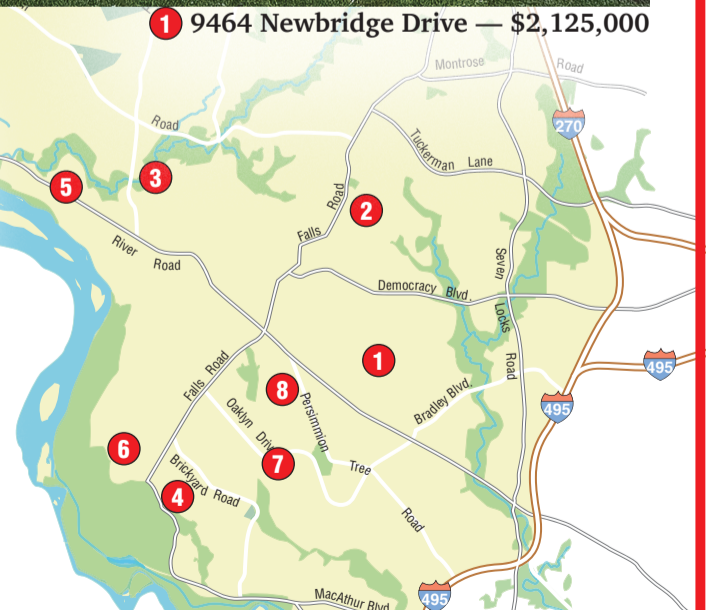


**7** 10001 Chartwell Manor Court  
— \$1,700,000

Address.....	BR	FB	HB..	Postal City...	Sold Price .....	Type ....	Lot AC .	Postal Code.....	Subdivision.....	Date Sold
<b>1</b> 9464 NEWBRIDGE DR.....	5	4	1	POTOMAC.	\$2,125,000	Detached	2.00	20854	FALCONHURST.....	10/06/23
<b>2</b> 9215 BELLS MILL RD.....	6	5	1	POTOMAC.	\$2,000,000	Detached	0.50	20854	PINE KNOLLS.....	10/06/23
<b>3</b> 11013 BALANTRE LN.....	4	5	2	POTOMAC.	\$1,925,000	Detached	2.00	20854	POTOMAC VIEW ESTS.....	10/20/23
<b>4</b> 11007 FAWSETT RD.....	6	5	2	POTOMAC.	\$1,895,000	Detached		20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE.....	10/30/23
<b>5</b> 11201 SPUR WHEEL LN.....	7	5	1	POTOMAC.	\$1,810,000	Detached	2.00	20854	SADDLE RIDGE.....	10/17/23
<b>6</b> 8710 BELMART RD.....	4	3	1	POTOMAC.	\$1,805,000	Detached	2.06	20854	POTOMAC FALLS.....	10/30/23
<b>7</b> 10001 CHARTWELL MANOR CT..	5	4	1	POTOMAC.	\$1,700,000	Detached	0.48	20854	AVENEL.....	10/30/23
<b>8</b> 9820 NEWHALL RD.....	3	2	1	POTOMAC.	\$1,699,000	Detached	1.06	20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE.....	10/27/23

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[HTTP://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/NEWS/2023/NOV/16/POTOMAC-HOME-SALES-OCTOBER-2023/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2023/nov/16/potomac-home-sales-october-2023/)



# BULLETIN BOARD

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

## SATURDAY/JAN. 27

Show Way, The Musical. 11 a.m. At Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Rockville. Adapted from the book by Jacqueline Woodson, SHOW WAY is a quilt with secret meanings to show enslaved people the way to freedom. As each generation passes, the SHOW WAY shines a light on the past and paves a road to the future, stitching together possibility and promise.

## SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION BEGINS

Montgomery County Recreation is once again hosting safe, fun and exciting camps that promote children's active and healthy lifestyles this summer. Camp registration begins at 6:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 16 for County Residents. Non-County residents will be able to register beginning Thursday, Jan. 18. Montgomery County Recreation camps offer a broad range of summer programs located across the County. Campers will spend most their time outdoors with an emphasis on safety and fun. Programs will become viewable online Friday, Jan. 5. Residents will also be able to view a digital guide and build their own.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY TO PROVIDE \$300,000 TO JEWISH, MUSLIM, SIKH, AND ZOROASTRIAN COMMUNITIES TO ADDRESS INCREASED SECURITY MEASURES

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich has expedited \$311,700 in Nonprofit Security Grant funding to Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, and Zoroastrian communities in Montgomery County to enhance security measures. Since the outbreak of violence in Israel and Gaza, concern has risen that these communities have been, or will be, threatened by violence and other crimes motivated by hate and bias. These awards will provide immediate assistance to the organizations that are receiving funding to invest in various security measures to protect their communities and facilities.

For more information on the Montgomery County Nonprofit Security Grant program, visit <https://mcmdgrants.smapply.org/prog/FY24Nonprofit-Security/>

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST RESIDENTS FILE INCOME TAX FOR 2023

The Montgomery County Community Action Agency's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program is recruiting volunteers to become IRS-certified VITA tax preparers, schedulers, greeters, quality reviewers and site coordinators during the upcoming tax season (January-mid-April). VITA provides free tax help to Montgomery County residents, including ITIN taxpayers, with household incomes of \$64,000 or less.

The program links residents to valuable tax credits that can provide critical financial support to lower income households. Last year, volunteers served 2,820 hours, helping Community Action's VITA program serve 1,946 households. That represented a tax impact of nearly \$7 million.

Online information sessions for prospective volunteers will be held from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 6-7 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 8. The sessions will provide an overview of the program and the various volunteer positions available. Please register online for one of the sessions.

Visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/CASHBACK](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/CASHBACK) or call 240-777-1123 to learn more about volunteering, or email [VITA@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:VITA@montgomerycountymd.gov).

## STUDENTS CAN RIDE COUNTY BUSES FOR FREE

Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) recommends youth save on their transportation costs by picking up a free Youth Cruiser card available at area schools and libraries. Youth Cruiser cards offer free bus fare for all MCDOT Ride On buses, and most Metro buses operating in the County.

The Youth Cruiser SmarTrip card is for Montgomery County residents ages 5 to 18 (older if still in high school) that provides free rides on all Montgom-

ery County Ride On buses, including Ride On extRa, Ride On Flex and Flash. The card also will waive fares on most Metro buses operating in the County. Value also can be added to the card for service on Metrorail and Metrobuses outside the County.

Bicycles can be mounted on the front of all Ride On buses or taken aboard the Flash bus currently operating on U.S. 29/Columbia Pike, which makes using buses a friendly option for young riders.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY EXPANDS LIST OF ELECTRONICS FOR RECYCLING

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has expanded its electronics recycling program. The County is now accepting more electronics and is accepting audio and video tapes for recycling.

The list of additional recyclable electronics includes:

Audio tapes  
Cameras  
Clocks  
Drones  
Empty printer ink and toner cartridges  
Remote controls  
Small handheld electric tools  
Small handheld vacuum cleaners  
Surveillance cameras  
VHS/cassette tapes

The Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station is located at 16101 Frederick Road in Derwood.

The County is working with organizations and recycling facilities that refurbish electronics for reuse or disassemble them to sell the metal and plastic components.

The County requires its contractor and nonprofit partners to erase data from equipment that will be reused and to destroy remaining memory devices. To protect against unauthorized use of personal information, it is recommended to erase personal data before dropping off computers and other electronics.

Community members and businesses can take their electronic recyclables to the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station. The electronics drop-off is open daily and is in the Recycling Area of the Transfer Station site. Residents are responsible for the off-loading of material from their vehicles.

View a complete list of acceptable electronic products and other related articles at <https://bit.ly/2ZVZoB2>.

## ONGOING

Potomac Area Neighbors Club. The Potomac Area Neighbors Club is a diverse group of more than 100 members who live in the Potomac and surrounding areas. The club offers bridge, Mah Jong, Canasta, book groups, luncheons, speaker events, and trips to museums and local attractions as a way to help new and current residents form friendships, expand horizons and take advantage of local opportunities. Visit [PANC.clubexpress.com](http://PANC.clubexpress.com)

24/7 Homeless Information Line. Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services, in partnership with EveryMind, has launched a 24/7 Homeless Information Line, with trained specialists to provide information on County homeless services and shelter resources. Callers can also provide information about the location of individuals in the community experiencing homelessness. The reports will be forwarded to community outreach partners who will attempt to locate the individual and offer support and resources. The information line number is 240-907-2688. Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/homelessness](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/homelessness) for more.

Senior SmarTrip Card. There is a SmarTrip card, for those 65 and older, that may be used to ride Metrorail at senior fares, ride free on Ride On buses and some Metrobuses in Montgomery County Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. or half fare at all other times. The cost of the Senior SmarTrip card is \$2. There is no value on the card at the time of purchase. Visit any library in Montgomery County, the Silver Spring TRIPS Store, the Mobile Commuter Store, or the Montgomery County Treasury Office and bring proof of age (state ID, birth certificate or passport). For more information, call 311.

# POTOMAC ALMANAC

[www.PotomacAlmanac.com](http://www.PotomacAlmanac.com)

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## A Bit More to Say



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

To dive deeper into my Kenny-with-cancer dilemma, it's quite possible that my future treatment, or lack thereof, will come down to whether I restart my cancer treatment and irreparably harm my kidneys (leading to dialysis) or don't restart my cancer medicine and subsequently don't damage my kidneys/don't need dialysis but as a consequence, the cancer tumors grow unmedicated which leads to predictable complications that don't end well for me.

This damned if I do, damned if I don't situation reminds me of a long ago Three Stooges episode titled "Restless Knights (1935), a period-type story about a time in British history. The Stooges got in trouble for something and were sentenced to death. As they stood in a front of a firing squad, Curly asked if there was another way to die. The man in charge said he could be burned at the stake or hung. Larry asks Curly how he'd like to die. Curly says: "I'd rather be burned at the stake." Larry asks "Why?" Curly replies: "A hot stake is better than a cold chop." And Curly laughs, sort of proud of his reasoning. When I consider my cancer verses kidney dialysis choice, I'm not the least bit amused (except as I remember this exchange between Larry and Curly).

Unfortunately, my two options are not mutually exclusive. They could happen simultaneously if the lack of a clear alternative/plan "B" exists. Which if I were to hazard a guess, is not an uncommon outcome for a cancer patient when the side effects of the treatment overwhelm the body's the body's immune system and party, so to speak comes to an end. A 'party' which, for me anyhow, has been going on for nearly 15 years, to my oncologist's surprise. He of the original; "13 month to two years" prognosis offered up during the original Team Lourie meeting in late Feb. 2009.

And to invoke the late Maurice Chevalier, "I remember it well." It was, after all New Year's Day in 2009 when my symptoms, which had manifested a few days earlier with pain in my left ribcage migrating to my right, got the best of me. On that day, I had difficulty catching my breath/breathing (inhalation in particular) and when getting up off the couch became similarly difficult, I realized that a trip to the Emergency Room was necessary. (On a holiday no less, but that's how much abnormal pain I was experiencing.) At the time, I never imagined that this initial visit would lead to a stage IV non-small cell lung cancer diagnosis eight weeks or so later. That's when we all met my oncologist for the first time and heard my "terminal" prognosis. Out of the blue is how I describe it. But after the hearing the oncologist read the reports from all the various doctors (pulmonologist, thoracic surgeon, general surgeon - to include the biopsy, and pathologist) I had visited in the previous two months since that initial Emergency Room visit, I was perplexed as to how and why a lifelong non-smoker in otherwise perfect health, with no cancer history in my immediate family, could be so diagnosed at age 54 and a half.

But that was then, this is now (age 69). An age when I don't believe I have as many lives left as I did then. Though I think I've taken cancer's best shot - and lived 14+ years to write about it, I've been worried/anticipated this doomsday-type scenario when the complication of side effects might lead to the problem I've written about today. Not that I'm describing/feeling that this recent turn of health events/side effect trouble as some sort of self-fulfilling inevitability, nevertheless; I'm not particularly surprised, more grateful that it took so long to get it here. I can't really say I feel as Lou Gehrig felt on his "luckiest man on the face of the earth" farewell at Yankee stadium, but I have lived to see the Red Sox win two more World Series since I was diagnosed and if I had known then that I'd outlive my prognosis by - 13 years, I might have thought I was the luckiest man. Given that non-small cell lung cancer stage IV was my original diagnosis, the leading cause of cancer deaths by far; in fact, as many deaths as the next three cancer groups combined, (breast, prostate and colon) to have survived - for any reason has been a miracle. You won't hear any complaints from me.

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