

# Potomac ALMANAC

**A** Education • Learning • Fun  
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Patriots Improving  
As Playoffs Approach

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## 'Bye Bye'

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Har Shalom Players, performing in "Bye Bye Birdie," are (from left) Emily Dahl (seated), Julie Kromash, Hannah Kauffman, Valerie Weitz, Jonathan Cagle-Mulberg, Hannah Spector, Julie Cooper, Joelle Spector and Jamie Shegogue (seated).

MoverMoms  
Celebrate  
5 Years

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'Crafting  
For a  
Cure'

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# MoverMoms Celebrate 5 Years of Helping Others

More volunteers always welcome.

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

Chief Inspiration Officer Salma Hasan Ali describes the power of MoverMoms this way: “It might seem like it’s a drop in the bucket, but when people collectively do just a little, the bucket suddenly becomes full.”

Founded by Rebecca Kahlenberg of Bethesda and Heidi Bumpers of Cabin John five years ago, MoverMoms has burgeoned to a non-profit organization with more than 200 moms who feed the hungry, provide candy for U.S. troops serving overseas, collect trash on Sangamore Road, walk and talk with women in shelters, and travel with their own children to El Salvador to help mothers-to-be and other children — and do a myriad of other volunteer projects.

MoverMoms held its 5th anniversary celebration at the River

Falls Clubhouse on Sunday, Feb. 12. The event included remarks by Connie Morella, Catherine Leggett and Ana Sol Gutierrez; Patrice Moerman, a Bethesda guitar instructor who is lead singer of the band “Hot Flash,” provided live music. A video displayed the work of this group over the past five years — a chain of events set in motion when Kahlenberg organized a group of moms to serve dinner at the NIH Children’s Inn in 2007. So many moms were eager to join, that Kahlenberg decided to formalize the concept of a group of moms who would perform community service regularly. MoverMoms is now an acronym for “moms who make things happen — and make a positive difference in our community.”

One of the highlights of the celebration was the “Be Inspired” silent auction. Most of the auction items were gifts of service, gifts from the heart, or gifts of time donated by MoverMoms’ members or their families. Auction items included knitted scarves and hats, hand-made pottery, floral arrangements, a hand-painted box, private



PHOTO BY DENISE SCHLECKER

From left: Rebecca Kahlenberg (Bethesda) with daughter Amanda, Salma Hasan Ali (Potomac), Carol Weil (Bethesda), Peg Philleo (Bethesda), Tricia Russell (Prince William County, Va.), Cheryl Fisher (Chevy Chase) and Heidi Bumpers (Cabin John).

life coaching sessions, swim lessons, guitar instruction and more. Some of the member’s children joined in to offer cat sitting, hand-made cards and a Poms dance in-

struction session. Traditional items such as gift cards to local shops and restaurants were also up for auction. MoverMom Peg Philleo coordinated the silent auction and

raffle items. MoverMom Tricia Russell organized the food for the event that featured an “afternoon

SEE MOVERMOMS, PAGE 4

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## Proposal for Reducing Odor Causes Stink

Construction seeks to eliminate stench from sewer line vents.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE ALMANAC

Construction along the C&O Canal to help eliminate stench is currently causing a stink. The parking lot at Anglers Inn on MacArthur Boulevard, used by kayakers enjoying the Potomac River as well as runners, hikers and bikers traversing the Billy Goat Trail and towpath, is now filled with construction equipment and no parking signs. The public can't access the lower lot at this time.

"We visitors are in a little bit of a jam right now," said Matthew Logan, president of Canal Trust.

DC Water, Montgomery, Loudoun and Fairfax counties are building six ventilation buildings along the main sections of the Potomac Interceptor Sewer, a 50-mile long gravity sewer that transports wastewater from Dulles International Airport in Chantilly, Va. to the treatment plant in Washington D.C. The building at Anglers



Construction on buildings that will filter the odor from vents in a major sewer line is blocking parking to this popular Potomac River access point at Angler's Inn.

Inn will also include rest rooms.

The project will reduce the notorious odors generated by the sewer that have been released at vents located along the

canal. The vents are particularly noxious in the warmer months. DC Water began design and planning the problem in 1999.

The odor control system will reduce

smelly gasses as well as gasses in the interceptor that corrode the sewer pipes.

"I'm always dubious of high tech solu

SEE STINK, PAGE 12

## River Road Bike Path

Montgomery County's Department of Transportation intends to build a 1,200-foot, five-foot wide bike path on the north side of River Road, from Riverwood Drive to River Oaks Lane.

The county will need to acquire the land, finalize engineering and begin construction. The target completion date of the \$400,000 project is Spring 2013.

The proposed construction includes a grass buffer between the edge of the road and the proposed bike path as well as landscape trees and reconstruction of a portion of the existing guardrail. Some 31 trees will be removed; 76 would have been removed from the original design.

Bruce Johnson, chief of Transportation Engineering, helped lead a public hearing held earlier this month at the Executive Office Buildings in Rockville. About 45 people attended and 18 testified.

SEE BIKE PATH, PAGE 12

## Har Shalom Players To Perform 'Bye Bye Birdie'

Musical harkens to '50s and '60s.

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

It's 1958 — and Conrad Birdie is coming to the small town of Sweet Apple, Ohio to plant "One Last Kiss" on 15-year-old Kim MacAfee's lips. The story continues as Kim's family gets ready to appear on "The Ed Sullivan Show," where Conrad Birdie will be serenading Kim. The audience will remember most of the songs, including the title song, "Bye Bye Birdie," "Put on a Happy Face," "Lot of Livin' to Do," and "We Love You Conrad." The musical provokes memories of the glory days of the '50s and '60s when Elvis and Conway Twitty made a young girl's heart flutter.

This is the 7th Har Shalom Players show that Director Shelly Horn has produced: "I can't wait for opening night. This is the best show yet. 'Bye Bye Birdie' is a timeless, musical comedy that all generations will enjoy. We perform in the round, so there is constant movement and interaction with the audience. Many of the actors in the 54-member cast have been with me for all

seven shows — certainly a testament to their sense of community, support and commitment to great theatre."

Janet Ozur Bass is playing Mrs. MacAfee in the show — and she is also the wife, aunt and mom of four members of the cast. Her son Kalman is Hugo, her husband is Maude, the bartender, her niece Emily Dahl is Ursula and her daughter Beyla is in the children's ensemble. Bass explains what the show means to her: "What I love most about working on the show each year is what a great opportunity it is for community building within the Har Shalom family. Many of us have been working together for years on productions, and when we see each other at the auditions, it's a big reunion. At the same time, we also have the chance to welcome new faces and talent to the mix. The shows are not only a great showcase for community theater, they are also a wonderful opportunity for Sabbath observant families, like my own, to have fun with theater. We get the chance to see our kids grow up each year and take on bigger challenges and roles. 'Bye Bye Birdie' is a great show for just that. The kids are great — and their enthusiasm is totally infectious."

"The best part about working with Har

SEE BIRDIE, PAGE 12



Camryn Shegogue (Kim MacAfee) and Manny Ozur Bass (Hugo Peabody) rehearse "Bye Bye Birdie."



# MoverMoms Celebrate 5 Years of Helping Others

FROM PAGE 2

tea" theme with tea sandwiches, scones, pastries and cupcakes donated by Georgetown Cupcakes. Whole Foods, a MoverMoms sponsor, donated much of the food.

MoverMoms' 2012 projects are already in the works. Kahlenberg will depart for El Salvador with her

daughter Amanda, 10, and a guide/translator Manuel Umanzor of Silver Spring next week to set up the group's second international volunteer service trip. Last July, six members with six of their children volunteered at a maternity center and an elementary school in Perquin, one of the poorest parts of the country, near the

Honduran border. "We taught nutrition, parenting, yoga and exercise — and even gave them cooking lessons," said Kahlenberg. "We are planning to return this summer."

"The children immediately connected with one another," said Salma Ali. "My son, Zayd was not certain he could contribute, but he

taught the children to make paper airplanes, and they had a wonderful time flying them. All the children jumped rope, did crafts and learned pottery with MoverMom Barbara Selter. Our children came away with an understanding of how happy one can be even if they don't have a lot of resources."

Other projects that MoverMoms are involved in are "Walk-On," and "Cupcakes and Conversation." Once a week, they visit a women's shelter and walk with the women or, in inclement weather, bring cupcakes and discuss current topics with them. They deliver "gently read" magazines to the shelter when they visit. One of MoverMom's flagship projects was to collect unused Halloween candy for "Treats for Troops." They have continued this initiative along with collection drives for many causes including preparing and serving dinners at homeless shelters and sharing information about other volunteer opportunities.

The group also educates members about global issues and other cultures through their book club, museum outings and other educational group activities and outings.

MoverMoms is currently collecting new and gently used kitchen items such as potholders, kitchen

towels, cooking utensils and other small cooking items. Kahlenberg will take these with her next week to El Salvador. Donations can be dropped off at 7101 Loch Lomond Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Information about becoming part of the group is available at its website: [www.movermoms.org](http://www.movermoms.org). Members are free to donate as much or as little time as their schedule allows.



**Silent auction items at MoverMoms' anniversary celebration.**



PHOTOS BY DENISE SCHLECKSER

**Rebecca Kahlenberg (left) and Salma Hasan Ali celebrate 5 years of MoverMoms.**

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## BUSINESS

# Whitman Grad's Paromi Tea Makes Its Mark

Brothers grow natural and organic tea company.

By SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

Paul Rosen loved the taste of "bush tea" from the U.S. Virgin Islands where he grew up — tea that was created from the herbs and flowers native to the environment. When he returned as a teenager to the Bethesda, he was unable to find teas with the "fresh as the day it was picked" aroma and taste that he desired. Because of his passion to satisfying this tea craving, he was inspired to research hundreds of varieties of tea — and to launch his own tea company, Paromi Tea.

Rosen explained the name "Paromi." "We were looking for a name that would do justice to our process and the finished product. Captured in the name are the qualities that set us apart. P stands for purity. We have carefully selected the ingredients which are meticulously blended in small batches. AROM stands for the aroma which is luxurious and fragrant, with character and body harmoniously balanced. The I is for Inspiration — an exceptional, total sensory tea experience which offers a playground for your senses."

After graduating from Walt Whitman High School, Rosen went to the University of Arizona. While

in Tucson, he discovered a Chinese tea house and began studying with the Chinese tea master. He found her because he was searching for a restaurant or tea-house which served full-leaf teas. After tasting her tea, he began spending as many as five days a week there, learning everything he could about the tea process.

Four years ago, Rosen launched his natural and organic tea company because he had never been able to find the type of tea he loved on store shelves, in restaurants — or anywhere in the U.S. He traveled to China, and, after consulting with many herbalists and master tea makers, hired two for his company. He located a company to produce biodegradable tea bags, package the tea and put it in air-tight jars. Then he began telling the mid-Atlantic about his new, delectable product.

Two years ago, his brother Gregg joined the company. Together they have worked night and day to promote their tea — and they are building a network of dedicated repeat customers. Paromi Tea is now on the shelves of Whole Foods, Roots Markets and Fresh Markets. It is being served in Persimmon and Wild Tomato Restaurants.

"Tea is the second most consumed beverage in the world," Paul Rosen said. "Our teas are quite different and unique from any other teas on the market. They

come from around the world — China, India, Argentina and South Africa, just to name a few. The whole-leaf difference plays an important role in how they taste and the health benefits they deliver.

Tea particles packaged in bleached paper bags cannot produce the complex, nuanced flavors and aromas of whole leave leaves.

"Our teas are accented with fruits, spices, herbs, flowers and essential oils. At Paromi Tea, we believe blending is an art. Our herbalist and master tea blenders skillfully pair the loose teas with premium fruits, spices, herbs, flowers and essential oils. Every tea blend is carefully crafted to achieve the ideal balance of flavors and aromas."

Paromi Tea bags are biodegradable, 100 percent natural and contain no bleached paper, glue, staples or strings to taint the brew. The bags are large, transparent



Paul and Gregg Rosen of Paromi Tea

and pre-portioned. The protective glass jars keep the tea fresh and fragrant.

Paromi teas come in a variety of original flavors as well as the classics. The black, green, oolong, rooibos and yerba mate tea flavors include Coconut Almond, Lemon Ginger, Mint Green, Chocolate

Orange, Cinnamon Chai, Chamomile Lavender and Earl Grey.

Paromi Teas can be purchased on-line or in the aforementioned grocery stores. For more information or to place an order, call 877-727-6648 or go to [www.paromi.com](http://www.paromi.com).

## Planners Release Book on Historic Sites

The 10th- anniversary edition of the award-winning "Places from the Past: The Tradition of Gardez Bien in Montgomery County, Maryland," a book that inventories the county's historic sites, is now available online.

The coffee table-type publication, illustrated with photographs, architectural drawings and maps, is available as free downloads by chapter or as a print-on-demand digital edition for a fee. Visit [www.montgomeryplanning.org/historic](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/historic)

Gardez Bien is the county motto adopted in 1976 that means to guard well or take good care.

The book features a series of essays on building traditions, housing types and outbuildings as well as an inventory of historic

districts and sites. The inventory is organized by geography within the county and includes orienting maps as well as images and descriptions of some 400 individual historic sites and 20 historic districts. Initially printed a decade ago, the 357-page book had gone out of print. The new release, with an updated forward, makes the encyclopedic "Places from the Past" available again in paperback or, for the first time, in hardcover binding and electronic format.

Author Clare Lise Kelly is a historic preservation planner who has been researching historic sites in the county since 1989. Find book and digital ordering information at [www.montgomeryplanning.org/historic/places\\_from\\_the\\_past/](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/historic/places_from_the_past/)

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# ART

## Last Jews of Yemen Exhibit at B'nai Tzedek

**C**ongregation B'nai Tzedek in Potomac, held a reception on Tuesday, Feb. 7, for the opening of the "Last Jews of Yemen" photography exhibit — portraying one of the oldest indigenous Jewish communities in the Middle East, and the last surviving remnant of this ancient community.

The exhibit, consisting of 28 photos and journal entries, is sponsored by JIMENA, "Jews Indigenous to the Middle East and North Africa." The exhibit will be on display at B'nai Tzedek through Feb. 29. A lecture series on the Jews of Yemen will be held at B'nai Tzedek, on Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 21 and 28.

The reception, held in honor of B'nai Tzedek's Supporters' Fund contributors, included a talk given by Josh Berer, who along with photo-



**Guest speaker Josh Berer (left), exhibition co-creator, and Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt of B'nai Tzedek, speaking about the exhibition.**

journalist, Rachael Strecher, spent three months living with the Jewish community in Sana'a, Yemen's capi-

tal. Their photos and journals resulted in this exhibit. Free and open to the community. For information

contact jabramson@bnaitzedek.org, www.bnaitzedek.org, or call the synagogue's office at 301-299-0225.



**B'nai Tzedek Director of Programming Judy Abramson (left) discusses the exhibition with co-creator, Josh Berer.**



**Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt, welcomes those attending the reception.**

## Exhibiting 'Art Without Borders'

JAMmARTt (Jews and Muslims Making ART Together) will celebrate the opening of its exhibition Art Without Borders: A Celebration of Humanity at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, Goldman Art Gallery, with a reception on Sunday, Feb. 19 from 2 to 4 p.m. The exhibition will feature interfaith programming including, art projects, presentations, and panel discussions.

JAMmARTt, a group of local Jewish and Muslim artists, was founded in July 2008 with the shared goal of forging interaction, respect, and understanding between the two communities through the creation of a work of art.

The exhibition and related programs will run at the JCCGW, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville, from Feb. 19 through March 18. The opening reception and exhibition are free and open to the public. Contact Phyllis Altman at 301-348-3770, paltman@jccgw.org. Web Site: <http://www.jccgw.org/>



**From left: Betsy Nahum-Miller, Bano Makhdoom, Amna Ibrahim, Marsha Goldfine, Nabila Altafullah, Yonina Blech-Hermoni, Paul Falcon, Shirley Waxman, Shela Qamer, Sabir Rahman, Seema Khan, Ruby Sharif and Huda Totonji. (Not pictured: Bonnie Korr, Gale Pressman and Riffat Malik)**

## POTOMAC ALMANAC

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## PEOPLE

# 'Crafting for a Cure' Benefits Ovarian Cancer Research

Taking control through their craft.

BY SUSAN BELFORD  
THE ALMANAC

All are touched by cancer, some more than others. Five Potomac women who met every week in a crafting group were devastated when one of their members was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. As an antidote to worrying and losing

sleep while their friend was fighting the disease, they mobilized — and "Crafting for a Cure" was born. They started selling belt buckles, necklaces, earrings, and brooches — and donating all their profits for ovarian and gynecological cancer research.

They began crafting when their children left for college. Long-time friends, Danielle Slotkin and Carole Schulman took a class

in pottery at Glen Echo and then formed a crafting group with mutual friends who liked art and crafts. Every Wednesday, Slotkin and Schulman met with Emilie Watzman, Terri Sorota and Melanie Bodie to learn a new craft, but more importantly, to talk, share happiness and sorrows, and support one another in every way.

SEE TAKING CONTROL, PAGE 9



Belt buckles created by Crafting for a Cure.

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## LET'S TALK Real Estate



by  
**Michael Matese**

### Know the Lingo

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**Balloon Mortgage** – A mortgage that has level monthly payments that will amortize it over a stated term, but provides for a lump sum payment, due at the end of the specified term.

**Chain of Title** – The history of all the documents that transfer title to a parcel of real property, starting with the earliest existing document and ending with the most recent.

**Clear Title** – A title that is free of any liens, legal obligations or questions as to ownership of the property.

**Covenant** – A clause in a mortgage that obligates or restricts the borrower and, if violated, that can end in foreclosure.

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# Potomac REAL ESTATE

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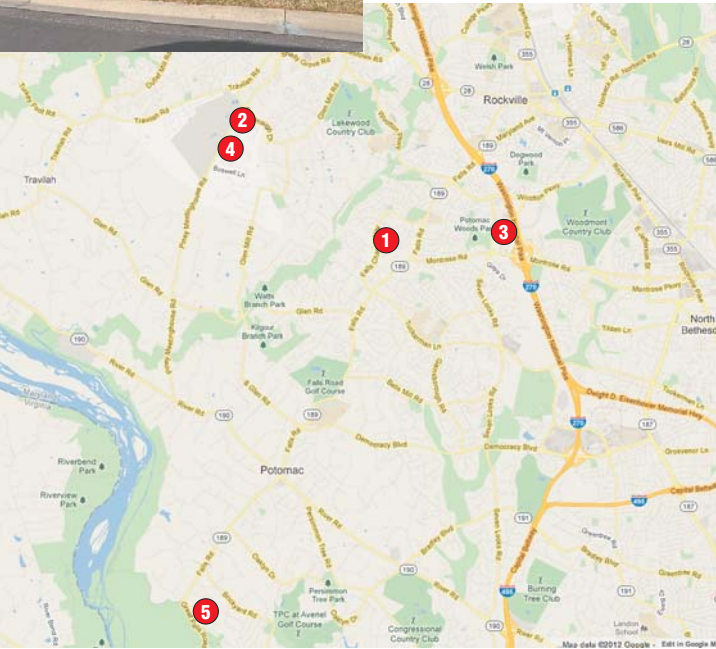
3 12500 Park Potomac Avenue #706N, Potomac — \$900,000



4 13322 Deerbrook Drive, Potomac — \$890,000



5 10920 Picasso Lane, Potomac — \$867,500



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2 10620 BEECHKNOILL LN .....	4	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$936,500	Detached	0.29	20854	PINEY GLEN VILLAGE	12/28/11
3 12500 PARK POTOMAC AVE#706N	2	..	2	..	1	POTOMAC	\$900,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		20854	PARK POTOMAC	12/01/11
4 13322 DEERBROOK DR .....	4	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$890,000	Detached	0.17	20854	PINEY GLEN VILLAGE	12/19/11
5 10920 PICASSO LN .....	6	..	3	..	1	POTOMAC	\$867,500	Detached	1.13	20854	DADA WOODS	12/03/11

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## PEOPLE



Seated, from left, are Emilie Watzman and Carole Schulman. Standing, from left, are Terri Sorota, Melanie Bodie and Danielle Slotkin.

## Taking Control Through Their Craft

FROM PAGE 7

"We never really meant to go into business," said Schulman. "It just happened. We were merrily learning how to make silk prints, jewelry, pottery, and infused glass — and then Emilie was diagnosed. She met Ruth Meltzer, who also had ovarian cancer and brought her into the group."

"We felt so helpless," said Slotkin. "We thought about what we could do to help our friends. We came up with the idea of "Crafting for a Cure" to provide more funding for research.

We had been making all these wonderful crafts, and didn't exactly know what to do with all of them. When we decided to sell them for the cause, our crafting became therapeutic. It was really about the process, not the product, although now we had a purpose."

Bodie commented that the group makes something out of nothing.

"It's also about recycling," said Sorota. "We use buttons, old costume jewelry, beads and paper to decorate our items. They become one-of-a-kind wearable works of art. Everyone has her own style and medium, so each buckle, pin, bracelet or necklace is completely different."

Watzman is now a survivor, but Meltzer died this past year. The group has many memories of her, and often they include "Ruthie" stories in their conversa-

tions. She left them beads and other pieces to weave into their designs. Each piece is a tribute to her memory and her spirit.

"Crafting for a Cure" has been selling their wares at craft shows, home parties and through word-of-mouth. They would like to form a 501-C 3 non-profit, but no one wants to deal with the paperwork and applications. Shulman said, "None of us really want a business. We just like the joy of creating beautiful art and crafts. And now we are able to give back — and hopefully make a difference in finding a cure for ovarian cancer."

Everything is reasonably priced to sell. Belts are \$45-\$55, earrings are \$15 - \$20, pins are \$35 and up, necklaces and bracelets start at \$60, depending on the stones in the item. The group donates their entire profits after expenses for materials. Last year they donated over \$2,000.

"We sold our buckles and jewelry at the WHC Sisterhood Boutique at the Bindeman Center last December," said Slotkin. "That was our most successful show, and we are hoping to participate in more boutiques and craft fairs this year. We would also like to start selling through home shopping parties."

To host a party, order jewelry or belt buckles, or to invite "Crafting for a Cure" to a craft show, contact Danielle Slotkin at 301-996-4516 or e-mail C20854@aol.com.



### Networking

A crowd of almost 60 people turned out for the Potomac Chamber of Commerce mixer on Feb. 9 at Normanie Far Restaurant. Adam Greenberg, president of the Potomac Chamber of Commerce, draws the winning business card for one of the door prizes from the basket held by Jennifer Matheson of the chamber.



Manpreet Singh of New York Life Insurance Company talks with Carol Leahy, president of the Potomac Theatre Company about the upcoming PTC production of Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Nile."

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE  
THE ALMANAC

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## Potomac (20854)

11406 Falls Rd.....\$1,149,000.....Sun 1-4.....Leslie Friedson.....Long & Foster..301-455-4506  
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9229 Bentrige Ave.....\$1,149,000.....Sun 1-4.....Leslie Friedson.....Long & Foster..301-455-4506  
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11750 Old Georgetown Rd. #2318..\$391,335.....Sat 11-6.....Bob Lucido.....Toll..410-979-6024  
11750 Old Georgetown Rd. #2332..\$449,335.....Sat 11-6.....Bob Lucido.....Toll..410-979-6024  
11800 Old Georgetown Rd. #1326..\$474,040.....Sat 11-6.....Bob Lucido.....Toll..410-979-6024  
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**[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)**  
**All listings due by Monday at 3 P.M.**



# ENTERTAINMENT

**Zumba at Village Yoga.** Ready to party into shape? That's what the Zumba program is all about. Classes are held on Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m., and Saturday mornings 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Village Yoga, 10154 River Road, Potomac. Call 301-299-1948.

**Beginner's Yoga Classes at Village Yoga.** Village Yoga is adding a new Beginner's Yoga Class on Mondays, 8-9 p.m. Continues our Thursday, 7:30-8:45 p.m. Beginner's Gentle Flow class as well. Village Yoga, 10154 River Road, Potomac. 301-299-1948. [www.villageyogayogi.com](http://www.villageyogayogi.com).

## NOW THROUGH MARCH 2

**The Last Jews of Yemen Photography Exhibit & Lecture Series.** Free. Photos depicting Jewish life in Yemen. Lecture series on their history, society and prospects for their future. Photos: Feb. 8 – March 2. Lecture Series, Tuesdays, Feb. 14, 21 and 28 at 7:30 p.m. RSVP to [rsvp@bnaitzedek.org](mailto:rsvp@bnaitzedek.org). At Congregation B'nai Tzedek, 10621 South Glen Rd., Potomac. Call 301-299-0225 [www.bnaitzedek.org](http://www.bnaitzedek.org).

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 15

**CEO Roundtable.** 7:30 to 9 a.m. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to engage in an facilitated discussion centered around business development with other CEOs. At the law offices of Apatoff, Peters, Ebersohl, 1700 Research Blvd., Suite 220, Rockville.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 16

**Seniors Organized for Change.** 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Bess Shay will present "The Jews of Shanghai." Lectures free, then lunch, \$5 reservations required. At Ring House, 1801 E. Jefferson St., Rockville. Call Debbie Sokobin at 301-348-3760.

**BSO Concert.** 8 p.m. American conductor James Gaffigan will lead the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and French pianist Lise de la Salle in Mozart's popular and passionate Piano Concerto No. 20. At The Music Center at Strathmore. Call the BSO Ticket Office, 410-783-8000 or [BSOmusic.org](http://BSOmusic.org).

**Slow Blues and Swing Dance.** 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. With DJ Mike Marcotte and Guests. Slow Blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 to 11:30 p.m. At the Back Room of Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or go to [info@CapitalBlues.org](mailto:info@CapitalBlues.org) or [www.CapitalBlues.org](http://www.CapitalBlues.org).

**Potomac Cuddleups Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Stories, rhymes and songs for babies from birth to 11 months and their caregivers. No registration required. At the Potomac Library in Potomac.

## FEB. 17 AND 18

**"A Change Gon' Come."** A creative telling of the life and struggle of Harriet Tubman. Tickets are \$10 and \$15. Friday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. At the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville.

## FEB 17 TO 20

**Mid-Atlantic Jazz Festival.** Featuring Roy Haynes, Kim Burrell, Carmen Bradford, Terrell Stafford, Nicholas Payton, Warren Wolf and Winard Harper. Also included are workshops, a high school band competition, and a jazz play for the family, "Bud Not Buddy," produced in partnership with Adventure Theatre. At the Hilton Washington, DC/Rockville Hotel and Executive Meeting Center, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville. Call 301-563-9330. Many

free performances; others cost \$8 to \$55. Visit [www.midatlanticjazzfestival.org](http://www.midatlanticjazzfestival.org).

## SATURDAY, FEB. 18

**Guided Tours: "A Walk in Father Henson's Footsteps."** Free. Noon to 4 p.m. And Saturday, Feb. 25 from noon to 3 p.m. At Josiah Henson Special Park, 11420 Old Georgetown Road, North Bethesda. Visit [www.JosiahHensonSite.org](http://www.JosiahHensonSite.org).

## SUNDAY/FEB. 19

**Waltz Dance.** 3:30 to 6 p.m. Admission is \$10. With the Taylor Among the Devils Band. Introductory Waltz Workshop from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m.; dancing from 3:30 to 6 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to [www.WaltzTimeDances.org](http://www.WaltzTimeDances.org) or e-mail [info@WaltzTimeDances.org](mailto:info@WaltzTimeDances.org).

**Dr. Gershon Baskin: The Conduit to Freedom.** 3 to 5:30 p.m. Free. Sharing the Secrets that Freed Gilad Shalit. The lecture is sponsored by the Alliance for Middle East Peace and the Global Campaign for Middle East Peace, and hosted jointly by Bethesda Jewish Congregation and Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church. At 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. RSVP to: [eventsbjc@gmail.com](mailto:eventsbjc@gmail.com) or [info@allmep.org](mailto:info@allmep.org).

## TUESDAY/FEB. 21

**Mardi Gras Zydeco Dance Party.** 8:30 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$15. With Ruthie & the Wranglers and Little Red & the Renegades. Introductory Zydeco Lesson from 8 to 8:30 p.m.; dancing from 8:30 to 11 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Michael Hart at 301-762-6730 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to [www.DancingbytheBayou.com](http://www.DancingbytheBayou.com).

**Where Do People in Maryland Come From?** 7 p.m. Demographer Krishna Roy will review some challenges that immigrants must confront in the D.C. area. At River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda. Call 301-229-0400 or visit [www.rruuc.org](http://www.rruuc.org).

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 22

**Ellen Cherry.** 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12. The performances will feature songs from her album (New) Years, as well as tracks from her upcoming spring 2012 release, Please Don't Sell the Piano, featuring the debut of her upcoming Strathmore-commissioned work, "Pickett's Charge." At the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Call 301-581-5100 or visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org).

## THURSDAY/FEB. 23

**Seniors Organized for Change.** 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Dr. Murray Feshbach presents an Update on Russia. Lectures free, then lunch, \$5 reservations required. At Ring House, 1801 E. Jefferson St., Rockville. Call Debbie Sokobin at 301-348-3760.

**Slow Blues and Swing Dance.** 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. With DJ Mike Marcotte and Guests. Slow Blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 to 11:30 p.m. At the Back Room of Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or go to [info@CapitalBlues.org](mailto:info@CapitalBlues.org) or [www.CapitalBlues.org](http://www.CapitalBlues.org).

**Design Seminar.** 6 to 8 p.m. How to Fall In Love With Your House Again. All seminars include either lunch or supper. You will learn the basics on how to successfully remodel, an enterprise which can appear to be both nerve-rattling and mind-

## HIGH SCHOOL THEATER



**Sophomore Hope Kean (Marie Leroux) and Junior Alex Bankier (Jean-Francois Millet).**



**Junior Jonathan Goldman (Bastien Andre), Senior Michelle Pargament (Cecile Leroux), Sophomore Hope Kean (Marie Leroux).**



**Seniors Monica Hammer (Madam Caron) and Nina Katz (Madam Bathilde).**



**Senior Michelle Pargament (Cecile Leroux) and Junior Erik Rigaux - (Chicago).**

# 'Is He Dead?' at Winston Churchill High School

The throaty guffaw you just heard emanating from the great beyond belongs to Mark Twain, who is no doubt getting a kick out of the posthumous success of his 1898 play "Is He Dead?" — an exceedingly silly doodle of a comedy that Twain never saw produced in his lifetime.

Thankfully, "Is He Dead?" was recently resurrected from Twain's archives and has received a first-rate polish by playwright David Ives. Directed by Lynda Scionti, Churchill is one of the first high schools in the area to take on the production. Senior Laura Sperling is Assistant Director.

A production opened on Broadway in 2007 to some critical praise. "Is He Dead?" relies on a familiar farcical device — a man in a dress — but finds ways to mine the premise for maximum laughs. The main character is Jean-François Millet, the real-life 19th century French painter of "The Gleaners" and other masterpieces depicting peasant life. As the play opens, the impoverished Millet (Alex Bankier) is trying to figure out how to pay off his many debts. His paintings aren't selling and his mood is sinking faster than the Seine at low tide.

On the urging of some friends, Millet agrees to fake his own demise to inflate the value of his art. "The deader he is, the better he is," explains one character. The ruse works magnificently, with Millet posing as his widowed sister, Daisy Tillou (pronounced "to you"), to collect the proceeds.

Twain's comedy moves so fast that many jokes are liable to fly past the audience.

Once Millet puts on an evening gown as Daisy, the play turns into anarchic slapstick, with characters entering and exiting at screwball speed.

The frenzied gallery of supporting characters include — Millet's ditzzy fiancée, Marie (Hope Kean), her jealous sister, Cecile (Michelle Pargament), his best friend, Chicago (Erik Rigaux), his over-eager pupil Phelim (Daniel Metherell), and another student, with a penchant for sausage and Limburger cheese, Dutchy (Kamran Partovi) make the greatest impressions.

At times, it's difficult to discern where Twain's writing ends and Ives' polish begins. "Is He Dead?" is an example of an expertly constructed comedy — grounded in the mechanics of classical storytelling but somehow lighter than air.

## FEB. 24, 25, 26

**"Is He Dead?"** A new comedy by Mark Twain as adapted by David Ives. Performances are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2:30 p.m. At Winston Churchill High School, Gertrude Bish Auditorium, 11300 Gainsborough Road, Potomac. Tickets \$8 presale online at: [www.wchs драма.org](http://www.wchs драма.org) or \$10 at the door.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11



# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 10

boggling. Bring your questions and plans for your own house, and share a meal on us where the experts will personally address your particular design concerns. At the Offices of Hopkins & Porter Inc., 12944-C Travilah Rd., Suite 204, Potomac. Call Debbie Ciardo at 301-840-9121, #27.

**Preschool Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs and rhymes for children ages 3 to 6 and their caregivers. At Potomac Library in Potomac.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 24

**Junkyard Saints Mardi Gras Party.** 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10/advance; \$12/door. The seven-piece band Junkyard Saints commingles New Orleans-style party music with funk, swing, Latin, R&B, jump blues, ska and a splash of zydeco. Part of Strathmore's Friday Night Eclectic. At the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Call 301-581-5100 or visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org).

## SATURDAY/FEB. 25

**Violinist Nurit Bar-Josef.** 8 p.m. Will perform with the National Philharmonic, under the direction of Conductor Piotr Gajewski. A free pre-concert lecture will be offered at 6:45 p.m. At the Music Center at Strathmore. To purchase tickets to the All Bach concerts, visit [www.nationalphilharmonic.org](http://www.nationalphilharmonic.org) or call the Strathmore box office at 301-581-5100. Tickets are \$28-\$81.

**Poetry Event: "Lyrical Rhythms: The Sounds of Freedom."** 3 to 4 p.m. At the Josiah Henson Special Park, 11420 Old Georgetown Road, North Bethesda. Visit [www.JosiahHensonSite.org](http://www.JosiahHensonSite.org).

**Swing Dancing.** 9 p.m. til midnight. Admission is \$15. One-hour lesson from 8 to 9 p.m. With the Tom Cunningham Orchestra. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Visit [www.tomcunningham.com/calendar](http://www.tomcunningham.com/calendar).

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 29

**Black History Month Author Event.** 7 p.m. Free. Joe Torres, co-author of "News for All the People: The Epic Story of Race and the American Media," will be the guest speaker at a special event presented by Montgomery County Public Libraries in observance of Black History Month. At Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave. Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library)

## THURSDAY, MARCH 1

**Max Raabe und das Palast Orchester.** 8 p.m. Tickets are \$28 to \$58. Guests are encouraged to dress in their

## FINE ARTS

### NOW THROUGH FEB. 27

**Mirror To The World: Documentary Photography 2012.** Free. Photoworks presents its annual tribute to documentary photography, featuring images that span the globe — all from a local group of not-yet-famous photographers. Photoworks Gallery open on Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. and Sundays, 1-8 p.m. Exhibit appointments available, 301-634-2274. At Photoworks Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo.

### MARCH 3 AND 4

**Paintings by Ally Burguières.** Oil and acrylics on canvas. At the Yellow Barn Gallery at Glen Echo. Call 301-371-5593 or the artist at [ally@galleryburguières.com](mailto:ally@galleryburguières.com).

### NOW THROUGH FEB. 18

**Exquisite: It's the Nature of Things.** Featuring works by Rebecca Clark, Megan Peritore and Pam Rogers. Curated by Jackie Hoysted. At Countdown Temporary Art Space, 4526 Cheltenham Drive, Bethesda. By appointment, call Jackie Hoysted at 240-506-6910 or email [JackieHoysted@aol.com](mailto:JackieHoysted@aol.com).

### MARCH 3 THROUGH APRIL 14

**Works by John Paton Davies Jr.** Opening reception is Sunday, March 11 from noon to 2 p.m. A Singular View: The Art and Words of John Paton Davies, Jr., an exhibit of monoprints from the archives of the American diplomat and artist. At the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Call 301-581-5100 or visit [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org).

### NOW THROUGH MARCH 3

**23 + 23.** Waverly Street Gallery's 4th Annual Invitational Show. For the fourth year, the 23 member artists of Waverly Street Gallery invite 23 other artists to exhibit their work alongside the Gallery artists. At Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Call 301-951-9441 or visit [www.waverlystreetgallery.com](http://www.waverlystreetgallery.com).

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PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE ALMANAC

The parking lot by Angler's Inn is closed for the construction of an odor abatement building that will also house restrooms.

Hikers and residents have complained of stench coming from the vents in a major sewer line that runs near the canal and MacArthur Boulevard. Now construction is underway on buildings that will filter the odor.

## Reducing Odor Causes Stink

FROM PAGE 3

tions, but I've been assured this is a good approach and to trust that the engineers know what they are doing," said Logan.

Ventilation sites are being built at Angler's Inn, along the Clara Barton Parkway in Cabin John and near the Little Falls Pumping Station in Bethesda. Other sites are in Washington, D.C. and Virginia.

**LAST WEDNESDAY**, Feb. 8, a community forum was held at Rockwood Manor so park and river enthusiasts could voice their concerns and brainstorm solutions to prevent this upcoming paddling season from becoming a wash.

Approximately 50 people attended the meeting.

Ideas included better parking signs to direct casual users to Great Falls rather than parking along MacArthur when they see other cars stopped.

Paddlers attending the meeting also suggested a drop-off zone, where they could unload kayaks and canoes, before finding a place to park down the boulevard.

The project was scheduled for completion in Maryland originally in November 2011, then March 2012. The DC Water web site currently lists the completion date as fall 2012, although that might be a little optimistic as well.

## River Road Bike Path Moves Forward

FROM PAGE 3

Johnson gave the public an overview of the project, including the safety of walkers and bikers, and access to Potomac Elementary School and the C&O Canal via Swain's Lock.

Three landowners who will be impacted by the bikeway testified as well.

Some testified that a bikeway could increase the number of bikers and hikers using the area and increase the risk of them being hit, although most of the participants at the public hearing were support-

Tropical Storm Hannah ripped a 125-foot gap in the canal towpath, called Angler's Breach, in 2008.

Repair is currently being done, which has further affected the parking area across from Angler's Inn, as well as use of the canal and park.

A \$3.6 million project will restore the towpath and improve safety to visitors and minimize the potential for additional breaches to occur, according to National Park Service Superintendent Kevin Brandt.

The park service's non-profit partner, The C&O Canal Trust, donated \$100,000 to the project.

"If it hadn't been for our donors rallying their support immediately after the breach, this project would not have been competitive and eligible for public funding," said Logan.

The non-profit was founded in 2007 to partner with the park service to "protect, restore and promote the C&O Canal." (See [www.canaltrust.org](http://www.canaltrust.org))

Upon completion the canal will hold water once again.

"This area is a gateway to the popular Widewater area of the canal as well as a necessary link to return water to the seven mile stretch of the canal downstream," said Brandt.

A Massachusetts company repairing the breach still expects to complete the project by the original target date of Fall 2012.

ive of the project. Some bikers suggested that a five-foot-wide sidewalk/bikeway is too narrow and not a true bike path.

Some bikers say the best thing the county could do for bicyclists is improve the shoulders on River Road.

Written comments can be sent to the Department of Transportation, Division of Transportation Engineering, 4th Floor, 100 Edison Park Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

— KEN MOORE



Jonathan Cagle-Mulberg (Conrad Birdie) and Emily Dahl (Ursula Merkle)

## 'Bye Bye Birdie'

FROM PAGE 3

Shalom is that everyone genuinely just wants to have a good time. That doesn't happen with most theatre companies any longer. It's refreshing."

The Har Shalom Players will present "Bye Bye Birdie" on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 8 p.m. and on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 3 p.m. For a sneak peek of "Bye Bye Birdie" in rehearsal, watch <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOGV0bZzKc8>.

General admission tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for children (under age 13). Patron tickets, which include reserved upfront seating and parking, are \$75 for adults and \$36 for children (under age 13). Tickets can be purchased online at [www.harshalom.org](http://www.harshalom.org) or at [www.tinyurl.com/BirdieTix](http://www.tinyurl.com/BirdieTix). For information on group sales, email [play@harshalom.org](mailto:play@harshalom.org) or call 301-299-7087, Ext. 302. Ticket pick-up and check-in begins one hour prior to the show.

## Copper Gutter Thefts Investigated

Detectives from the 1st and 2nd District Investigative Sections continue to investigate over two dozen incidents of theft of copper gutters and copper downspouts from area residences.

Since Nov. 1, 2011 to Jan. 24, there have been 26 incidents in Bethesda, Potomac, and Rockville. Many of the thefts are clustered in an area that is inside the beltway, along River Road, and south to the Potomac River to the Maryland/D.C. line. The thefts are occurring at all times of day and night. The gutters and downspouts are easily accessible and copper has a high resale value at commercial recycle and scrap metal centers.

In several of the thefts, a later model, beige, bronze or gold pickup truck has been seen, in the area or in the victim's driveway. On a few occasions the suspects have been confronted. They claimed to be conducting work for a gutter company and then left without further confrontation.

Anyone with information about these or similar thefts, or the suspect(s) involved, is asked to call the 1st District Investigative Section at 240-773-6084 or the 2nd District Investigative Section at 301-657-0112. Anyone who witnesses similar suspicious activity is asked to call the police non-emergency number at 301-279-8000.





CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

**Francis Scott Key Elementary School (Arlington, Va.) teacher Briana Tavernier leads first grade students in a morning discussion. Experts say helping children succeed academically requires an open dialogue between parents, students and teachers.**

# Making the Grade

**School officials offer strategies for strengthening study habits.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE ALMANAC

**W**hen Jackie Jackson's son brought home his report card recently, the Centreville, Va. mother of three was shocked.

"His grades had fallen to an unacceptable level," said Jackson. "Getting my son to do his homework has always been a battle, but during the winter break when there was no school, we got out of our routine and haven't been able to get back on track."

Children with low grades and poor study habits can be a source of stress for some parents. Educational experts say that there are effective techniques that can improve learning practices.

Starting a dialogue is a good first step. "In terms of academic success, it is key that there is open communication between parents, students and teachers," said Lizabeth Borra, school counselor at Potomac Elementary School in Potomac. "We want to work as a team to teach students the tools to be lifelong learners. In order to do so, we must set expectations and work together."

Experts say that one of the best ways to improve academic performance and decrease battles over completing homework assignments is to develop a daily schedule that includes time for studying and relaxation. "Set up a regular time to do homework; routines develop into habits," said Borra. "Establish a regular procedure; study for a length of time, have a short break, and return to studying."

Once the schedule is in place, work to maintain it and hold children accountable. "Consistency helps establish a pattern. When it is done on a regular basis it becomes second nature," said Valerie Garcia, principal, Blessed Sacrament School in Alexandria, Va. "When a student is personally responsible they understand accountability and they understand the consequences if they don't follow through. Those

consequences can end up being a less than desirable report card."

Create a study environment with minimal distractions. "The best way to help children is to have a quiet place in the home for homework," said Dr. Marjorie Myers, principal, Key Elementary School, Arlington, Va. Support children, but avoid over involvement. "If parents help too much, children become dependent on them and don't develop their own sense of responsibility for getting their homework and studying done," said Myers. "Let them get a 'C' or a 'D' on a test and show them that if they ... study ... and pay attention in class, they can change those grades to 'A's' and 'B's.' It's their responsibility to learn and the intrinsic reward of earning that grade on their own is extremely valuable for future academic success."

There might be times when a child needs extra help. "If parents are concerned that their child may have difficulty learning they should contact the teacher," said Borra. "Teachers are well trained in working with students that have many different learning styles."

Organization is critical, particularly for older students. "Plan ahead," said Leila Sidawy of Georgetown Learning Centers in Great Falls and McLean, Va. "A great way to do that is to get a planner. This is important especially for students who have multiple activities that they are juggling like sports or clubs. Having a planner can help them stay on top of their assignments and avoid procrastination. The planner should include test dates, project due dates and after school activities. Getting organized will help a student feel more in control."

"Note taking is a crucial, but often overlooked aspect of academic success," said Sidawy. "Make sure students take good notes and keep them organized by date or subject, and include headings on the notes as well as relevant chapters or page numbers. After class, students should review the notes to help solidify the material."

Educators encourage parents to stay optimistic. "Maintain a positive attitude regardless of how challenging an assignment may appear," said Borra. "Prioritize studying and homework. Help your child understand the purpose of learning and that they will do it throughout their lives."

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# "Diseased"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

But not sickness. Not health, either, as last week's column ended. At least that's the way I characterize my having stage IV lung cancer. And I don't know if I'm splitting hairs here, since I've never worked in a salon, although I do get my hair cut regularly; but I have been accused of speaking double-talk. Double entendres and unnecessary redundancies I will admit to, though. Nevertheless, the characterization seems to help me navigate the occasionally treacherous waters that a terminal patient undergoing chemotherapy – again, can expect, both mentally and of course, physically. It's a game – to me, anyway; how to spin something so terribly unexpected: diagnosed with cancer at age 54 and a half, despite being a lifelong non-smoker from an immediate family with NO cancer history, into something manageable. And for those who know me – or read my columns regularly enough, I think you would admit I manage it reasonably well, something which I am quite proud of, by the way.

And as I continue to psych myself up for the inevitable chemotherapy-related changes – and challenges – ahead (infusions three through six are still ahead), I am eager – sort of, and of course, grateful for surviving this long, post-diagnosis, to have yet another opportunity to slay the dragon (shrink my tumors) again. It sure beats the alternative – no opportunity because, well, you know: I wouldn't be here writing this column, or anything else for that matter.

But writing I am, and hopeful I remain. Next week's column will be my three-year anniversary column. When initially diagnosed, back in February, 2009, I was given a "13-month-to-two-year prognosis" (life expectancy), and not given too much hope, if truth be told. Oncologists are not in the business – from what I had been told previously, and have now experienced for myself, of "blowing any sunshine up your skirt," to invoke a quote from M\*A\*S\*H's Lt. Col. Henry Blake (the recently deceased McLean Stevenson); honesty for which I asked and have thankfully always received. I'd rather know what I'm up against and work to overcome it than resign myself to its inevitability. And so far, given my post-diagnosis status, (still typing), I would say it – or something in combination with it, is working.

Although I don't expect the next 10-12 weeks of enduring chemotherapy to be very pleasant, it is nonetheless the best option available to me, given my rather limited knowledge of the subject. However, I am confident and comfortable in my oncologist's steady hand and ongoing concern as he continues to encourage me treating forward. We get along pretty well, although sometimes my Kenny-speak (unintended though it may be) is perplexing to him, so now what he does to interpret what he thinks I'm asking, is to speak back to me in words and phrases which he's comfortable using, and then await my reply. It's a tiny bit of a process – for which obviously we both have time, but it assures us that we're in complete understanding with what one another is trying to say. Given the fact that I've now outlived my original, worst-case prognosis: 13 months, by almost two years, I would say that whatever the doctor and I are doing, however we're communicating, it's working. I mean, I'm still alive. So onward and upward we go.

My next fact-to-face appointment with my oncologist is scheduled for February 24th, a week following my next CT Scan, the first scan since I will have re-started this "second line" of chemotherapy; another crossroads moment to be sure. "Progression" started this, perhaps regression (shrinkage) can end it? Two infusions in, four more to go. I still don't feel anything. But then again, I rarely have.

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





**Wootton junior Sarah Wallerstedt scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds during a victory against Kennedy on Feb. 10.**



**Freshman Cece Kobylski, with ball, and her twin sister, Ellie, are an important part of the Patriots' present and future.**



**Freshman Ellie Kobylski is one of two Wootton players to make at least 25 3-pointers this season.**

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Wootton Boys Beat Kennedy

The Wootton boys' basketball team improved to 11-9 with a 68-50 victory against Kennedy on Feb. 10. Willis Ibeh led Wootton with 22 points and Kyle Weissenburger added 17.

Wootton traveled to face Northwest on Feb. 14. Results were not available prior to the Almanac's deadline. The Patriots will close the regular season at home against Northwood on Feb. 17.

## Churchill Boys Bounce Back

The Churchill boys' basketball team defeated Quince Orchard 49-46 on Feb. 7 four days after losing to Clarksburg. The victory improved the Bulldogs' record to 15-4.

Churchill hosted Northwood on Feb. 14. Results of the contest were not available prior to the Almanac's deadline. The Bulldogs will close out the regular season with a home game against Watkins Mill on Feb. 17 and a road matchup with Magruder on Feb. 21.

## Coach Miller's Basketball Camp Sessions

Coach Miller's 4th Annual Fast Break Basketball Camp, directed by Churchill boys' basketball coach Matt Miller, is offering four week-long sessions during the summer for boys and girls entering grades 2-9. Session dates are: June 18-22, June 25-29, July 9-13 and July 16-20. Caps run from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Churchill High School. Cost is \$250 per camper, with a 10-percent discount for those who sign up prior to April 15.

Contact Miller at 202-213-0436 or Nic Mast at 724-986-9953.



**Willis Ibeh led the Wootton boys' basketball team with 22 points during the Patriots' 68-50 victory against Kennedy on Feb. 10.**

## Patriots Improving as Playoffs Approach

## Juniors Wallerstedt, Ellis lead Wootton past Kennedy.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE ALMANAC

**A**fter a 17-point first half against Kennedy, during which the Wootton girls' basketball team labored through a three-minute scoreless stretch, the Patriots' offense came alive in the third quarter.

**"Obviously, we're a young team and having seven new players on a varsity team takes a long time to get the team cohesive and working together well."**

**— Wootton girls' basketball coach Maggie Dyer**

Junior Sarah Wallerstedt asserted herself near the basket, scoring eight points in the paint. Junior Sophie Ellis showed off her range, knocking down a pair of 3-pointers. Freshmen Cece Kobylski, Ellie Kobylski and Sheri Addison each buried a jump shot and

Addison showed the ability to score in transition.

Wootton's 23-point third quarter propelled the Patriots to a 49-44 home victory on Feb. 10. Much like the team's ability to overcome a slow start against Kennedy, youthful Wootton took its lumps early in the season, but has started to play better with the postseason approaching.

The Patriots entered the 2011-12 season with seven first-time varsity athletes and a starting lineup consisting of three freshmen and two juniors. They also had to deal with the loss of graduated 6-foot-3 center Gabby Flinchum, who scored more than 1,000 points during her Wootton career. The combination led to a 2-10 start for the Patriots, including a six-game losing streak.

"Obviously, we're a young team and having seven new players on a varsity team takes a long time to get the team cohesive and working together well," head coach Maggie Dyer said. "We have struggled early in the season and I think a lot of it was just getting us working well together as a group."

After a rough start, Wootton split its next eight games. Against Kennedy, juniors Wallerstedt and Ellis led the way, each scoring in double figures. Wallerstedt finished with a double-double, scoring 15 points and grabbing 10 rebounds, while Ellis scored 13 points, grabbed five boards and snagged a pair of steals.

Ellis, the team's leading scorer at 10.4 points per contest, and Wallerstedt are often the Patriots' most experienced players on the floor. So what's it like to start with

three freshmen?

"It's a lot more pressure," Wallerstedt said. "You've got to be a leader. More is expected of me even though this is only my second year on varsity."

Cece and Ellie Kobylski are twin guards whose similarities extend only so far onto the basketball court. Ellie is one of two Patriots with at least 25 3-point field goals and Cece is second on the team in assists.

"They're very different," Dyer said. "They might look alike but they're very different players. They both always have a smile on their face; always give 100 percent — just work, work, work. They're very coachable, they want to learn [and] they want to improve."

"... Cece thinks more. She makes sure she's exactly where she needs to be. She wants to make sure she's executing the play to a T. Ellie plays a little bit more freely. But at the same time they both have great outside shots [and] they both can penetrate to the basket."

Each scored five points against Kennedy, while Cece added six rebounds and three assists.

Addison, the Patriots' leading rebounder at 8.4 per contest, scored eight points and grabbed six rebounds. Dyer said the freshman usually draws the Patriots' toughest defensive assignment.

"She's probably one of the most athletic players I've ever coached," Dyer said.

Seniors Evelyn Ting, Hana Bressler and Kara Pitts provide leadership, Dyer said.

Wootton will conclude the regular season with a home game against Northwood at 5:15 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 17.



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