‘Bye Bye’

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).

Reducing Odor Causes Stink

MoverMoms Celebrate 5 Years

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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 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 instruction 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 treat.

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).

See MoverMoms, Page 4
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 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 to 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 the notorious odors generated by the sewer that have been released at vents located along the canal. The project will reduce the notorious odors generated by the sewer that have been released at vents located along the Potomac River access point at Angler’s Inn.

The project will reduce the notorious odors generated by the sewer that have been released at vents located along the sewer line. The building at Anglers Inn will also include rest rooms.

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 their sense of community, support and commitment to great theatre.”

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 Shalom Players is seeing their growth over the years.”

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

A 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. Members are free to donate as much or as little time as their schedule allows.

What’s hot in 2012?

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Silent auction items at MoverMoms’ anniversary celebration.

Rebecca Kahlenberg (left) and Salma Hasan Ali celebrate 5 years of MoverMoms.
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—a tea that was created from the herbs and flowers native to the environment. When he returned as a teenager to Bethesda, he was unable to find tea with the “fresh as the day it was picked” aroma and taste that he desired. Because of his passion for 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 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 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.
Congregation 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 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 community will be held at B’nai Tzedek, on Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 29. And on Feb. 21 and 28.

The reception, held in honor of B’nai Tzedek’s Supporters’ Fund, included a talk given by journalist, Rachael Strecher, and three months living with the Jewish community in Sana’a, Yemen’s capital. 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.

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

Exhibiting ‘Art Without Borders’

JAMmART (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.

JAMmART, 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 Alman at 301-548-3770, paltman@jccgw.org. Web Site: http://www.jccgw.org/
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.

‘Crafting for a Cure’ Benefits Ovarian Cancer Research
Taking control through their craft.
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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

Address .................................. BR FB HB .................................. Postal City .................................. Sold Price .... Type .... Lot AC .... PostalCode .... Subdivision .... Date Sold

1. 13 OVERPOND CT ................. 4 .. 4 .. 1 .... POTOMAC ...... $963,000 .... Detached ...... 0.49 ....... 20854 ....... COPENHAVER ........ 12/19/11

2. 10620 BEECHKNOLL 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 ......... 12/01/11

Source: MRIS, Inc. For more information on MRIS, visit www.mris.com
Taking Control Through Their Craft

FROM PAGE 7

“We never really meant to go into business,” said Schulman. “It just happened. We were merely learning how to make silk prints, jewelry, pottery, and fused 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 wearables of art. Everyone has her own style and destroy their memories, 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 earnings to ovarian cancer.”

“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.

Facebook Comments

Networking

People

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, drew 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 Leavy, 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
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 9:30 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. Continue 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.villageyogayoagi.com.

NOW THROUGH MARCH 2

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, Petras, Ebersohl, 1710 Research Blvd., Suite 220, Rockville. Call Deborah Sokobin at 301-348-3760.

THURSDAY, FEB. 16
Seniors Organized for Change. 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Bess Shav will present “The Jews of Shanghai.” Lectures free, then lunch, $5 reservations required. At Ring House, 1801 E. Jefferson St., Rockville. Call Bess Shav at 301-634-2231 or www.BSOmusic.org.

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 to 11:30 a.m. Admission is $8. With DJ Mike Marcotte and Guests. Slow Blues lemonade from 9 to 11 a.m. and dancing from 9 to 11:30 a.m. At the Back Room of Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or info@allmep.org. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Michael Hart at 301-762-8750 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.DancingbytheBayou.com.

Where Do People in Maryland Come From? 7 p.m. Demographer Kristina 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.ruruuc.org.

Potomac CaddieCups 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 Edmond Drive, Rockville.

FEB. 17 TO 20

SATURDAY, FEB. 18
Guided Tours: “A Walk in Father Henson’s Footsteps.” Free. Noon to 4 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 25 from noon to 3 p.m. At Josiah Henson Special Park, 11420 Old Georgetown Road, North Bethesda. Visit www.josiahhensononline.org.

SUNDAY, FEB. 19
Walte Dance. 3:30 to 6 p.m. Admission is $10. With the Taylor Among the Devil’s Band. Introductory Walte Workshop from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m. from 3:30 to 6 p.m. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Joani Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org or e-mail info@WaltzTimeDances.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 301-762-8750 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.DancingbytheBayou.com.

Is He Dead? at Winston Churchill High School

T
he 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 comedy of a character 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 Sciozent, 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 estate. As the play progresses, 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.

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**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 Curdo 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 $150/advance, $125/door. The seven-piece band Junkyard Saints commingles New Orleans-style party music with funk, swing, Latin, 888, 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.

**SATURDAY/FEB. 25**

Violinist Nurit Bar-Josef. 8 p.m. Will perform with the National Philharmonic, under the direction of Conductor Peter 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 or call the Strathmore box office at 301-581-5100. Tickets are $28-58.


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.

**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.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 1**

Max Raabe und das Palast Orchester. 8 p.m. Tickets are $28 to $58. Guests are encouraged to dress in their best. At the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. By appointment, call Jackie Hoysted at 240-506-6910 or email JackieHoysted@aol.com.

**NOW THROUGH MARCH 3**

23 + 23. Waverly Street Gallery’s 4th Annual Invitational Show. For the fourth year, the 23 other artists to exhibit their work alongside the Gallery artists. At Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Call 301-951-5441 or visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com.

**NOW THROUGH MARCH 3**

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 Burguieres. Oil and acrylics on canvas. At the Yellow Barn Gallery at Glen Echo. Call 301-371-5593 or the artist at ally@galleryburguieres.com.

**NOW THROUGH MARCH 18**

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*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.

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**Potomac Almanac ● February 15–21, 2012 ● 11**
Reducing Odor Causes Stink

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 project was scheduled for completion in May 2013, but a breach caused by Tropical Storm Hannah in 2008 has delayed it.

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)

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.

Copper Gutter Thefts Investigated

In several of the thefts, a later model, beige, bronze or gold pick-up 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 301-657-0112. Anyone who witnesses similar suspicious activity is asked to call the police non-emergency number at 301-279-8000.

River Road Bike Path Moves Forward

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 supportive 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

‘Bye Bye Birdie’

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=GOQVbZzgk8.

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 or at www.tinyurl.com/BirdieTix.

For information on group sales, email play@harshalom.org or call 301-299-7087, Ext. 302. Ticket pick-up and check-in begins one hour prior to the show.

Photos by Ken Moore

F rom Page 3

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News

F rom Page 3

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.

Reducing Odor Causes Stink

F rom Page 3

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.

In several of the thefts, a later model, beige, bronze or gold pick-up 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 301-657-0112. Anyone who witnesses similar suspicious activity is asked to call the police non-emergency number at 301-279-8000.
Making the Grade
School officials offer strategies for strengthening study habits.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Almanac

When 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 completing homework assignments.

“Establishing a regular procedure; study for a length of time, have a short break, and return to studying,” said Borra. “Establish routines develop into habits,” said Borra. “Establish a regular procedure; study for a length of time, have a short break, and return to studying.”

“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.”

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 assignments 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.”

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Barbara Jean Parkinson, age 67 of Sterling, VA, died February 7, 2012 at her residence. Born on September 17, 1944 in New York she was the daughter of the late Charles and Elizabeth Lundy. Mrs. Parkinson was a member of Cornerstone Chapel in Leesburg, VA. Barbara attended Michigan State University where she received her Bachelor’s Degree in Music. During her high school years she was a member of the singing group known as The Jill’s. She worked for Connection Newspapers for many years. Barbara enjoyed and loved spending time with her grandchildren and doing crafts with them.

She is survived by her son Mark(Rachel) Parkinson of Purcellville, VA; daughter Sheila (Wayne) Smith and son Mark (Jill) Parkinson of Loveland, OH; brother Wayne Lundy of Loveland, OH; and five grandchildren.

A graveside service was held on Friday, February 10, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. Ebenezer Cemetery, Round Hill, VA with Pastor Mike Emerson officiating.

Memorial contributions can be sent to the Cornerstone Chapel at www.cornerstone-chapel.net.

Please visit www.hallh.com to express online condolences to the family.
Patriots Improving as Playoffs Approach

Juniors Wallerstedt, Ellis lead Wootton past Kennedy.

By Jon Roetman
The Almanac

After 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 had eight rebounds during a victory against Kennedy on Feb. 10.

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 Watkins Mill on Feb. 17 and a road matchup with Magruder on Feb. 21.

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

Freshman Ceece 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.
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