

Potomac ALMANAC

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Nora Hill, 4 years old, holds her sculpture "Zoo for animals."

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On the Road To Success

Combined efforts bringing new look to River Road median.

BY SHARON ALLEN GILDER
THE ALMANAC

It has been said, “it takes a village” to accomplish some tasks. That’s true for the new look coming to the median in the heart of Potomac Village on Maryland Route 190, better known as River Road. The combined efforts of Potomac’s Little Farms Garden Club, the Potomac Chamber of Commerce and Maryland State Highway have led to plans for a weed-free lane divider.

On March 16, members of the garden club’s median committee, Eleanor Keyser, Linda Sillin and Elizabeth Nash, met at Hunter’s Inn with Adam Greenberg and Jennifer Matheson from the Potomac Chamber of Commerce along with State Highway representatives Greg Edwards, resident maintenance engineer for the Gaithersburg facility; Cedric Ward, assistant district engineer for traffic; Bill Rosser, the State’s landscape division’s liaison for district 3, and Ken Hartman, director of Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, where the consortium of organizations was formed to develop and design a solution that would eliminate the median’s uncontrolled wild grasses, weeds and the litter perpetually caught in them.

“This is a partnership between the garden club, the Village of Potomac and State Highway,” said Edwards. “We’re looking at this as a win-win. The state is helping them spruce up the neighborhood and they are relieving me of some maintenance work.”

Sillin noted, “You have to join forces with other organizations that you know can accomplish the goal to get things done.”

SEE MEDIAN, PAGE 10



PHOTO BY MARIE WOOD

Spec. Chris Kurtz greets one of the horses present at the Potomac Hunt Races held on Sunday at the Kiplinger Farm in Poolesville. Spec. Kurtz, who is recuperating at Walter Reed, was injured in Afghanistan.

Aiding Yellow Ribbon Fund

Potomac Hunt Races benefit charity for military families.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

The horses were lined up and ready for the flag to drop to start the 59th running of the Potomac Hunt Races. Held at Kiplinger’s Bittersweet Field near Poolesville on May 15, the steeplechase took place on a clear spring afternoon in the rolling countryside. Questioning, Won Wild Bird, Lear Heights, Sweet Buns, Ice is Nice and other horses took off with leaps and hurling hoofs for the finish line. The record-breaking crowd of more than 7,000 cheered as the horses flew over hurdles and timber jumps. At the same time,

funds were raised for a local charity — the Yellow Ribbon Fund.

For the past two years, the proceeds of the Potomac Hunt Races have benefited the Yellow Ribbon Fund which helps injured service members and their families who are recuperating at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center. Started six years ago by volunteers from Bethesda, Potomac and Chevy Chase, the group has raised funds to provide more than 1,400 free rental cars, 18,000 taxi rides, 9,000 free hotel nights, thousands of tickets to sporting games, concerts, plays and hours of mentoring and guidance to support the servicemen and their families.

“When we needed help and could not cut through the red tape of the military, I called the wonderful people at the Yellow Ribbon Fund,” said Bridgit Niesen,

SEE POTOMAC HUNT, PAGE 15

Tasty Support

‘Taste of Potomac’ to raise funds for Adoptions Together.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Adoptions Together social worker Tenneh Kemah was desperately seeking a “Forever Family” for three siblings, ages 10 – 13 that had been uprooted from one foster home to another for 10 years. The foster parent could no longer provide a home — and Kemah had run out of options. Bright, talented and friendly, the children just wanted to be together in a home they knew they could return to each day — and have a parent who would be there for them.

Adoptions Together “mined” the background of the children, looking for any relative or friend who could or would adopt them. They found no one. Finally, the foster parent located a friend who wanted to adopt the children. With Kemah, who is director of Permanency Support Services, spearheading the process, Adoptions Together moved quickly to complete all the paper work, set up the court hearings, and all the requirements for adoption. In a very short time, they completed all the necessary steps.

But just a few weeks before the adoption was to take place, it fell through because a family member died suddenly, leaving her children to be raised by the same woman



SEE ‘TASTE OF POTOMAC,’ PAGE 15

Resident Writes Food Memoir about Gourmet Group

Forty years of sharing love of food and cooking.

BY SENITRA MCCOMBS
THE ALMANAC

Potomac resident and novice writer Shirley Law Jacobus describes the benefits of starting a gourmet group in her recent memoir “We’re Eating What? A Memoir, Recipes, and How-To-Guide from America’s Longest Running Gourmet Group.”

In “We’re Eating What?” Jacobus describes how she shared her love of food and cooking by starting a gourmet group con-

sisting of 14 members — seven couples — almost 40 years ago.

“We started out not really knowing each other. But through time we’ve developed close relationships with each other and we’ve shared lots of experiences besides just eating together. We’ve been there for each other in good times and bad times,” she said.

Moreover, Jacobus hopes that readers will “realize what a pleasure it is to build long term relationships.”

As time went on they lost some members

either through death or divorce. However, the eight remaining members diligently get together for their monthly dinners.

Jacobus’ inspiration to write “We’re Eating What?” came after a group member suggested that she write a cookbook with all the recipes from their dinners.

However, she didn’t want to write just a cookbook. Instead she decided to pen a



Shirley Law Jacobus

memoir about starting a gourmet group.

Although it’s not a cook book, “We’re Eating What?” is filled with recipes including an appendix with complete menus from about five or six of the group’s themed dinners.

Her favorite section of the book is chapter one because it covers how the group was formed and how they worked out the particulars of meeting and their dinners.

“It was something I thoroughly enjoyed doing and it brought back many pleasant memories,” Jacobus said.

The biggest challenge the novice author

SEE COOKING, PAGE 11

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC



Arts Specialist Barbara Korb teaches the students and organized the art show.



Thomas Hatchett, 5 years old, with his "Matisse Cutout."



Jack Anceri, 5 years old, holds his sculpture "Car Wash."



Rama Allsopp, 2 and a half years old, points to his painting.



And there was music: Anna Rose Chi, 15 years old (violin) and Somin Kwon, 16 years old (clarinet).

Geneva Day School Displays Works of Young Artists

Artwork adorned the walls, halls and tables of Geneva Day School on Friday, May 13, as young students from ages 2 through 6 displayed a variety of creative works. Paintings, drawings, collages, cut-

tings, pastings, sculptures and more were on display.

The curriculum for 4-year-old pre-kindergarten students focuses on art inspired by nature and Native American art.

The curriculum for kindergartners em-

phasizes various techniques used at different periods to study art history. Periods included art of cave men, to Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, specific artists from the Middle Ages to present times, plus various styles of landscapes, cityscapes, seascapes,

and more. Kindergartners learn the secrets of styles and artists, and culminate their study with a field trip to the National Gallery of Art downtown in Washington, D.C. For more information about the art program, see www.genevadayschool.org.



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OBITUARY

Charles McPhee

Charles Lambert McPhee died May 8, 2011 at his home in Woodland Hills, Calif., after a five-year battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease). He was 49 years old.



Mr. McPhee, who grew up in Potomac, was best known as the Dream Doctor. He devoted his career to making the language of dreams understandable and accessible, sharing his encyclopedic knowledge and the lessons dreams can teach through a nationally syndicated radio show and his award-winning website, Dreamdoctor.com. Through the radio show and the website, McPhee amassed the world's largest database of dreams. The collection – over 600,000 dreams – continues to be an important resource for the study of dreams.

His radio career began on KRUZ-FM in Santa Barbara, California in 2000. In 2002, Cox Radio hired Mr. McPhee to take the show to Atlanta, where he worked for two years before returning to California under contract with Springhill Syndication. Mr. McPhee also wrote weekly dream interpretation columns for America Online, the health content provider Thrive Online, the teen website Bolt.com, and SupaNet, an internet service provider in the United Kingdom.

He was the author of three books on sleep and dreaming: "Ask the Dream Doctor: an A to Z Guide to Deciphering the Hidden Symbols of Your Dreams," "Stop Sleeping Through Your Dreams: A Guide to Awakening Consciousness During Dream Sleep" and "The Dream Doctor Dream Diary, a Companion Guide for Listeners of the Dream Doctor Show."

A graduate of Princeton University and the University of Southern California, where he earned a master's degree in communications, Mr. McPhee was a founding partner of Home Sleep Diagnostics in Los Angeles, now the largest provider of sleep disorder services in California. He also served as director of the Sleep Apnea Patient Treatment Program at the Sleep Disorders Center of Santa Barbara, and coordinator of the Sleep Disorders Center at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. His work on sleep disorders in pregnancy facilitated a Perkins Foundation Grant, which has supported medical research and publications on sleep apnea in pregnancy for the benefit of pregnant women and their babies. He began his career as coordinator of the sleep research laboratory at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda.

ALS, a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects the body's motor neurons, is called an orphan disease; as a rare disease, it does not attract sufficient research funding to make significant progress towards finding a cure. During his five years with the illness, Mr. McPhee became a student of the disease, making himself available for experimental treatments with the hope that he would advance medical understanding of the illness.

Mr. McPhee is survived by his wife, Petra Goebbel McPhee, his daughters Celia and Ella, his parents, Joan Lambert McPhee and Henry Roemer McPhee of Potomac, a brother, Roemer McPhee III of New York City, sisters Joan McPhee of Providence, R.I., and Larkin McPhee Perese of Minneapolis, Minn., and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Memorial services will be held in Potomac on Saturday, May 21. Contributions in Charles McPhee's memory may be made to the ALS Association (alsa.org).

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Moving A Luxury Home

Moving from one home to the next can be a stressful task, and thinking about getting art and that grand piano and the antique pool table can cause dreams that will wake you up. Avoiding that is relatively simple however, with a little advance planning and the right movers. There are specialty movers and shippers whose one task is to see that your invaluable art collection or the hand made piano get to where they're going safely.

When you begin looking, ask your neighbors and friends who they used and if they'd hire them again. You should also get references when you're talking to moving companies. A little research can go a long way to alleviating potential headaches. Specialty movers will bring their own boxes and packing materials.

If you'd prefer to do the packing yourself, the movers can provide the packing material for you, saving yourself a trip. Luxury homes have larger rooms which usually translates into bigger and heavier furniture. This may necessitate lift gates and again, skill and talent are a factor. Most local movers don't use lift gates because they're not usually critical for most local moves. But, if your furniture is large and very heavy, be sure to use a mover that has those lift gates to avoid possible accidents.

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field notes ...

Remembering Carmel

BY CAROLE DELL

*Brothers and sisters I bid you beware -
Of giving your heart to a dog to tear.*
Rudyard Kipling

Serendipity brought us together. It happened in a parking lot at the Carmel Valley Ranch Resort, in California, during our family vacation. As I watched, a pup, skinny and loose-jointed in a Raggedy Andy sort of way, tried to follow one person then another through the clubhouse door, only to have it close on his expectant nose.

I thought he must belong to someone, but then he turned and with a forlorn droop, puppy-loped his way out toward the busy road. Frantic, I ran after him, swept him up in my arms and our holiday turned into a rescue mission.

While in California, I planned to visit my girlfriends and had not anticipated a sidekick. But it took this three-month-old, 30-pound pup less than a day to convince me that we were in this together. I named him Carmel, traded in my rental sedan for a van, bought a crate and then outfitted him with every conceivable piece of equipment I thought he needed. He settled in as if he knew that he had found what he wanted and was now prepared to enjoy his good fortune.



Carole Dell



He met my girlfriends, walked the beach with their dogs and shared my hotel room bed. When my friends and I went to lunch at an outdoor café, he ignored their dogs under the table and sat upright in a chair next to me.

By the time Carmel and I reached Los Angeles I needed a break and put him in a doggy day care center for the afternoon. There, I felt he could romp and play with his own kind. When I arrived to pick him up I found him huddled in a corner. When he saw me, he gave me the kind of welcome that dogs the world over have used to their advantage. What must he have felt that day when I walked away?

At home, our scraggly pup with the unknown pedigree grew into eighty pounds of attitude with a bearing as if he'd won at Westminster. His floppy ears popped up like two satellite dishes; his eyes turned deep tawny, slanted and sly, and his coat, a shiny red gold. It was a stun-

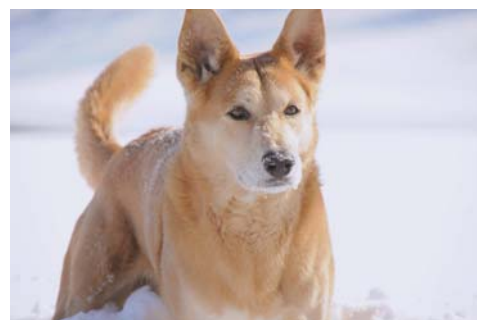
ning transformation.

He quickly claimed my daughter's room, ensconced himself on her queen-sized bed and refused to leave when she returned for a visit. We fenced the yard, (no electric dog fence for this boy), and installed an automatic gate to keep him safe. I needed a new car and bought an SUV to accommodate his size. We coddled Carmel continuously and he took advantage of every weakness we had. But, we didn't care; by now we loved him insanely.



And, he loved us in return, but doled it out as reluctantly as a kid giving up candy. It drove us crazy. He let me put my arms around him, but slipped out of my husband Donald's grasp with a growl. Carmel's elusiveness made him that much more desirable. After all, we just wanted a good hug. He rolled over for stomach scratches, stretching his front legs languidly in the air, but if I sat by him on the sofa, Carmel moved away. He slept on our bed but jumped off, grumbling, when we joined him.

There was a side to Carmel that I am afraid even an animal communicator couldn't reach, although I never tried one. As he grew to love and trust us, we grew to accept this part of his nature. He slinked and stalked around the lawn looking for who knows what and his eyes would turn as brittle and as menacing as the standing hairs on his back if he didn't like the looks of someone.



Carmel was a dichotomy of dog displays where he loved his toys, little kids and a good swim in the pool one day, but wouldn't relax in our arms the next. I fantasized about his history. Could he be the result of some coyote dad that slipped out of the hills of Carmel Valley to spread his genes? "Mom, you're dreaming, he's just an orange mutt," chimed my daughters.

But, mutt or not, he was my wonder dog and in the circle of humans that he loved most, I was his sun. He followed me everywhere and



when I left, he heralded my return with a long, joyous howl, his nose to the sky in glee. Then he rushed off to find a toy. He would drop it in front of me so I could stuff it back into his mouth for our reunion ritual.

And, then we lost him.

It appeared suddenly, a fatal cancer of large dogs, especially Golden Retrievers, called Hemangiosarcoma (cancerous tumors of the blood vessel cells that spread quickly) and his was stage three.

He was barely 10-years-old but genetics had stepped in and dealt a blow in spite of all my efforts. I had worried about his safety; fed him the best foods; raced to the vet at the slightest blip; and took him with me everywhere possible.

Looking back, the most wrenching moments came each time I had to leave without him. So, when last October we were packing for another Carmel vacation, without our Carmel, there he was on my bed as he always sat, watching me reproachfully. I hugged him and he didn't resist. "Be careful, I want to see you again." I never said that before and felt something foreboding, but since the weight of my love for him caused much worrying, I had to let it go.

The following morning, in Carmel, the phone rang at 7:30 in the morning and it was a call I had always dreaded. Carmel was sick, my friend who stayed with him said, very sick. Suddenly he was hospitalized, operated on and we were on a plane home that day.

He survived surgery and the VCA Hospital in Gaithersburg let us visit him when we arrived late that night. When he saw me he whimpered in joy and I was heartbroken to see him so scared and weak. But, Carmel was treated with extraordinary kindness and he showed them a level of trust that surprised me, considering the situation.

The following day while we were visiting,

SEE CARMEL, PAGE 7



POTOMAC ALMANAC

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Carmel

FROM PAGE 6

he had an allergic reaction to an appetite stimulator and in the melee he bit both the nurse and me. Delirious, his teeth raked across my arm, scoring a long bloody wound. The vet straddled him like she would an alligator and held him long enough for me to stuff a towel in his mouth. An injection calmed him and when we were told we could take him home the next morning, I had reservations. But, within hours he became his sweet self again.

Carmel had stage three cancer but I decided that he had been through enough and eschewed chemotherapy. I wanted him to be home with us for the time we had left together. We had two months for a long goodbye. As the disease took its toll, Carmel carried his affliction with dignity and I cherished each moment and each breath he took, knowing they were numbered.

I did what he always wanted me to do: stay home with him. He never left my side and I rarely left his, so he could relax, close his eyes and dream his secret dreams. We took quiet walks in all his beloved places, went for car rides, which he always loved, and just sat next to each other in solitude.

Looking back, I don't know how I weathered his passing in those last moments, but I did know that the time was right when it arrived and felt that he also was ready. With the sensitivity and help of Potomac Animal Hospital's Dr. Michael Scott, Carmel ended his days peacefully at home surrounded by those of us he loved the most. He rested on his favorite bed that we moved to his favorite spot outside in the dappled fall sunshine. I held his head and whispered over and over how much I loved him. We buried Carmel with his beloved toys in our garden at the driveway circle, where for 10 years he trampled the flowers during his morning sniff.

I still see reminders of him in every part of our home. At times we hear his hefty footfall and imagine that he is with us in our bedroom. Or, I can wake in the morning and look over at his favorite winged-back chair, thinking he is sleeping there. What remains is his shadow, a brown outline of his form left on my favorite fabric when he claimed the chair as his. He barely fit, but curled himself around like a big fox with his nose buried in his tail, his eyes opening suddenly if I moved in bed.

We all have our stories of the loss of a pet, of the pain of parting with that one extraordinary companion whose absence forever breaks our hearts. Their impact on our lives is immeasurable and time cannot diminish it. So it is with my Carmel.



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ENTERTAINMENT

NOW THROUGH MAY 22

“Once on This Island.” Performances are 7:30 p.m. on Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are \$16/\$18/\$9 by calling the Arts Barn box office at 301-258-6394, or online at www.gaithersburgmd.gov/ArtsBarn. For more information about KAT 2ndStage, visit the KAT web site at <http://www.katonline.org>. At the Gaithersburg Arts Barn.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 18

“Race To Nowhere,” documentary film screening, hosted by Bells Mill PTA and open to the public. Movies at Montgomery Mall. 7:30 p.m. To purchase tickets, \$10 online at <http://www.racetonowhere.com/state-screenings/MD> or \$15 @ door.

Illustrated Lecture. 8 p.m. Free. With renown Jerusalem paper-cut artist Archie Granot, presented by ArtSites, the Guild for Judaic Art. Granot uses multiple layers of interlaced designs to create three-dimensional reliefs. His unique works utilize Hebrew inscriptions and Jewish imagery. At Tikvat Israel Synagogue (Library), 2200 Baltimore Road, Rockville. Contact Roz at Rozf002@juno.com

Spring Luncheon. 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dr. Joyce Antler, author and playwright, will discuss her book, *You Never Call! You Never Write! A History of the Jewish Mother* and Jen Chaney, Washington Post reporter will speak at the luncheon hosted by the Greater Washington Women’s Chapter of the Brandeis National Committee. At Lakewood Country Club, 13901 Glen Mill Road, Rockville. Members \$70. Non-members \$80. All proceeds to benefit Science for Life Research in neurodegenerative diseases. Reservations required. 301-340-8940.

MAY 19, 20, 21

Sing It! Shout It! Tell About It! 7:30 p.m. Hoover Middle School presents the Gilbert & Sullivan operetta “Ruddigore.” Tickets are \$5 at the door. At Hoover Middle School, 8810 Postoak Road, Potomac. Call Hoover Middle School at 301-469-1010.

THURSDAY/MAY 19

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



PHOTO BY KATHY JUDD

FRIDAY/MAY 20

An Evening with the Arts. 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wine and cheese reception plus an art and music performance by Washington Conservatory Faculty Jazz Quartet, with art auction. A Benefit for the Children’s Inn at NIH. Cost is \$40. At the Bumper Car Pavilion, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo.



FRIDAY/MAY 20

The Kathy & Mo Show. 8 p.m. Starring Kathy Najimy and Mo Gaffney. Tickets are \$35/regular, \$33/seniors and students. At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Box Office: 240-567-5301.

NOW THROUGH MAY 22

“Rough Crossing.” Rockville Little Theater stages this Tom Stoppard comedy. Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$16/adults; \$14/seniors and students. At the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. Call the box office at 240-314-8690, or online at www.ticketleap.com. For more information about Rockville Little Theatre, visit the RLt web site at www.rlt-online.org.

FRIDAY/MAY 20

Story/Stereo. 8 p.m. Free. Emerging Writer Fellowship recipients Merrill Feitell (Here Beneath Low-Flying Planes) and Susanna Lang (Even Now) will read. Musical guest: The Cornel West Theory. Details: www.writer.org or call 301-654-8664. The Writer’s Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda.

SATURDAY/MAY 21

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the Gordon Webster Sextet. Beginner Swing Dance Lesson from 8 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Go to www.thejamcellar.com, call Curtis Breitenlohner at 301-404-2064 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222.

“Strut Your Mutt.” 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dog parade and festival fund-raiser. Organized by the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club, this event will bring together over 5,000 participants and hundreds of dogs for a day of outdoor festivities. At Woodmont Avenue between Bethesda Avenue and Elm Street, Bethesda. Go to www.strutyourmuttbethesda.org or call 301-980-4302

Verdi’s Requiem. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$32-\$79. Performed by the 200-voice all-volunteer National Philharmonic Chorale, the concert will showcase soprano Arianna Zuckerman (mezzo-soprano); Patricia Miller (tenor); Don Bernardini (tenor); and Kevin Deas (bass). At the Music Center at Strathmore. Visit nationalphilharmonic.org or call the Strathmore ticket office at 301-581-5100.

SUNDAY/MAY 22

Open Door Reading. 2 p.m. Free. Novelist Ann McLaughlin reads from *A Trial in Summer*, and Alan Orloff—a TWC “alum” and former student of McLaughlin’s—reads from his new novel, *Killer Routine*. Details: www.writer.org or call 301-654-8664. The Writer’s Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda.

Bradley Hills Chancel Choir Concert. 3 p.m. Featuring Durufle’s Requiem with orchestra, as well as the premiere of *Beatus vir* by McNeil Robinson and *Mi chamo-cha* by Joshua Bornfield (both commissions of the Donald Sinclair Sutherland Endowment Fund). Suggested donation: \$15, \$10 for students and seniors. At Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. Call 301-365-2850. Visit www.bradleyhillchurch.org.

Dharma Teachings. 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. The morning session will focus on the meaning of the Refuge and Bodhisattva vows that will be given by Shamar Rinpoche at Natural Bridge on June 26 during the Annual Bodhi Path Meeting. The afternoon session will focus on emotions, in the context of the 51 mental factors.



TUESDAY/MAY 24

Musician Jacob Johnson. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18/door; \$15/advance. At the Unitarian Universalist Church, 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville. Visit www.FocusMusic.org.

Suggested donation \$25 morning session, \$20 afternoon or \$40 for the day. At the Potomac Bodhi Path Center, 12540 Falls Road, Potomac. Email: admin@bodhipathmd.org Telephone: 240-453-9200 <http://www.bodhipath.org/potomacmd/>

Sholem Aleichem Yiddish Memorial. 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Yiddish of Greater Washington. Tickets are \$8/\$5. At the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Rd., Rockville. Call 301-348-3864.

Family Carnival & Silent Auction. Noon to 3 p.m. Free. Games, rides, moon bounces, arts and crafts, and food. Adults can bid on silent auction items including tickets to sporting events, travel & vacations, spa services, jewelry, restaurant gift certificates, and more. Sponsored by the Rabbi Joseph Weinberg Early Childhood Center of the Washington Hebrew Congregation. At The Julia Bindeman Suburban Center, 11810 Falls Road, Potomac. Visit www.whcecc.org.

JSSA Annual Gala. 6 p.m. The largest annual fundraiser for the Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA). Barry Forman will be honored for his outstanding record for public leadership. At the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, 7400 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Call 301-610-8342 or email lschrier@jssa.org.

Organ Grinders. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Street organ grinders will gather at C & O Canal. There will also be demonstrations of a variety of antique music boxes and other mechanical music devices. At 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. Call 301-598-4768.

TUESDAY/MAY 24

“Ukrainian Spring” Concert. 7 p.m. Nina Matvienko, will be performing along with other artists. At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 25

Zemer Chai Jewish Choir. 8 p.m. With Dr. Ysaye Barnwell, of the acclaimed *Sweet Honey In The Rock*. Tickets are \$20/advance; \$40/preferred; \$25/door. At Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase. To purchase tickets, go to www.zemerchai.org or call 301-963-3462.

Effective Communication. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Free. Become the speaker and leader you want to be. With speakers from Toastmasters International. At Beall Elementary School, 451 Beall Ave., Auditorium 1st floor, Rockville.

MAY 25 AND 26

Festival of the Arts. 6 to 9 p.m. Will feature Walt Whitman High School student displays of painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, graphic design, ceramics, and digital and commercial art — with full evenings of choral, orchestral and jazz performances by more than 10 different Whitman ensembles and one-act plays developed by students in the drama department. At Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda.



SATURDAY/JUNE 4

Violinist Soovin Kim. 8 p.m. Performs Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto with the National Philharmonic. At the Music Center at Strathmore. Soovin Kim will also conduct a master class for high school students on Friday, June 3 from 5-7 p.m. in room 402 at the Music Center at Strathmore. On Saturday, June 4 at 7 p.m., a free pre-concert lecture will be offered at the Music Center at Strathmore’s Education Center. Visit nationalphilharmonic.org or call the Strathmore Ticket Office at 301-581-5100. Ticket prices are \$32 - \$79.

THURSDAY/MAY 26

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

FRIDAY/MAY 27

Swing Dance. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$14. Swing lesson from 8 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. With the Boilmaker Jazz Band. At the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Contact dbarker@glenchopark.org, call 301-634-2231, or go to www.DanceDC.com.

Blues and Soul Fusion Dance Party. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$10. Dance lesson from 8 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. DJ Ken Roesel. At the Back Room, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Visit <http://www.dancebuddies.com/AllThingsBlues.htm> or contact Ken Roesel at 703-282-4187 or at DanceBuddies@Starpower.net.

MAY 28 TO MAY 29

Hometown Holidays. 1 to 10 p.m. Features George Clinton & Parliament/Funkadelic, plus more than 40 bands and entertainers on eight stages. Children’s activities, a teen party on the Rooftop, Taste of Rockville and an Arts and Crafts Festival. Concert performances start at 9 a.m., followed by the ceremony at 9:30 a.m. and the parade at 10:30 a.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/events/hth.

MAY 29 TO JUNE 12

“Romeo et Juliette.” Presented by the Bel Cantanti Opera Company. Tickets: On line: Adult - \$38, Student - \$15 / At the door: Adult - \$40, Student - \$15 / Groups of 10 and more: \$30. Call 301-266-7546 or tickets@belcantanti.com At the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville.

SUNDAY/MAY 29

Waltz Dance. 3:30 to 6 p.m. Admission is \$10. Waltz Workshop from 2:45 to 3:30 p.m. Dancing from 3:30 to 6 p.m. With the band, Taylor Among the Devils. 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 or email info@WaltzTimeDances.org.

FINE ARTS

Imagination Bethesda Celebrates Children and the Arts

The 17th annual Imagination Bethesda, a children's street festival celebrating children and the arts, is scheduled for Saturday, June 4 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Musical performances and professional children's entertainers will light up the stage, while hands-on art and craft activities will line the streets along Woodmont Avenue and Elm Street in downtown Bethesda.

Organized and managed by the Bethesda Urban Partnership, the festival will host local businesses and arts organizations that will provide a variety of hands-on art and craft activities to entertain and energize the 12-and-under crowd. Additionally, the festival will feature face painters, balloonists, a stilt-walker, a juggler, free giveaways and more.

Imagination Bethesda is a free event produced by the Bethesda Urban Partnership and is sponsored by MIX 107.3 FM, DC50 (WDCW-TV), The Gazette, Washington Parent and Bethesda Magazine. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

Event participants hosting hands-on activities include: Adventure Theatre



Rocknoceros will be performing.

Create an 'Annie' decoder ring
American Plant
Plant a flower
Artworks
Draw with pastels
Audubon Naturalist Society
Create a nesting bag
Be With Me Playseum
Make air-dry cupcakes and wood painting projects
Beanstalk Montessori Mommy & Me
Montessori crafts
Bethesda Green
Make-your-own BeGreen chain
Bethesda Magazine
Coloring books, balloons and bubbles
Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts & Culture
Make and decorate musical instruments
Gymboree Play & Music of Bethesda
Movement to music activities
Imagination Stage
Make-your-own mask
Iran Cultural & Educational Center
Face painting, make a bookmark
Jabberü

Global and cultural crafts
Joy of Motion Dance Center
Decorate your own traced dance pose
Kidville
Decorate a door knocker or picture frame
Language Fundamentals
Build with magic noodles
Montgomery County Police 2nd District
Learn crime prevention and safety
Musikids
Explore musical instruments
Plaza Artist Materials
Create-your-own photo mat
Round House Theatre
Create miniature costume designs
Strathmore
Arts & crafts
Tea with Mrs. B
Imaginary tea parties, paper flowers
Washington Parent
Prize wheel and giveaways

Performances on stage include:

11 a.m. — The Funny Guy
12 p.m. — Wild Zappers
1 p.m. — Rocknoceros
2 p.m. — The Little Maestros
2:30 p.m. — Urban Impact
3:30 p.m. — Mutts Gone Nuts

Food vendors include: Delhi Dhaba, Haagen-Dazs, Hard Times Café, Lebanese Taverna, M&N's Pizza and Smoothie King.

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7 pm Chamber Orchestra, featuring pianist, Adonis Gonzalez, and Philharmonic

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Strathmore Ticket Office: 301-581-5100
www.strathmore.org

Special group rates: 301-581-5199

STRATHMORE

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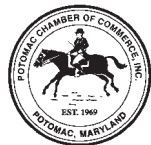
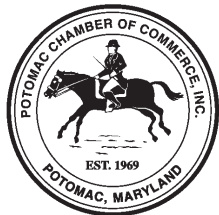
Call the Potomac Chamber of Commerce:

301-299-2170

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- Fireworks and Fun – July 3
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Potomac (20854)

11116 Korman Dr.....	\$829,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Homi Irani.....	Coldwell Banker.....	301-996-1695
9410 Lost Trail Way.....	\$439,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Leslie Friedson.....	Long & Foster.....	301-455-4506
13522 Broadfield Dr.....	\$1,069,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Leslie Friedson.....	Long & Foster.....	301-455-4506
11211 River View Dr.....	\$1,895,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Leslie Friedson.....	Long & Foster.....	301-455-4506
14 Arlive Ct.....	\$759,900.....	Sun 1-4.....	Irene Wertheimer.....	Weichert.....	301 455 6095
10304 Snowpine Way.....	\$1,000,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Yasmin Abadian.....	Long & Foster.....	301-983-1212
10633 Willowbrook Dr.....	\$1,699,900.....	Sat/Sun 1-4.....	Autumn Ambrose.....	Potomac Heritage.....	240-453-9444
10613 Willowbrook Dr.....	\$1,895,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Ingrid Dallaire.....	Long & Foster.....	301-215-4779
11409 Falls.....	\$1,795,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Norman Domingo.....	XRealtyNET.....	888-838-9044

Potomac (20817)

9613 Weathered Oak Ct.....	\$1,499,999.....	Sun 1-4.....	Ron Danielian.....	Coldwell Banker.....	301-431-8677
9412 Rosehill Dr.....	\$2,475,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Cecil Jackson.....	Jackson Premier.....	301-972-4181
7600 Carteret Rd.....	\$739,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Dale Gold.....	Weichert.....	301-718-4080

Rockville (20850, 20852)

502 King Farm Blvd, #205.....	\$349,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Leslie Friedson.....	Long & Foster.....	301-455-4506
9704 Delamere Ct.....	\$725,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Andy Alderdice.....	W.C. & A.N. Miller.....	301-466-5898
11005 Arroyo Dr.....	\$899,000.....	Sun 1-4.....	Katie Wethman.....	Keller Williams.....	703-636-7300
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2208	\$328,720.....	Sat/Sun 11-6.....	Bob Lucido.....	Toll MD.....	410-979-6024
11800 Old Georgetown Rd #1325	\$423,995.....	Sat/Sun 11-6.....	Bob Lucido.....	Toll MD.....	410-979-6024
5902 Tudor Ln.....	\$644,500.....	Sun 1-4.....	Debbie Cohen.....	Long & Foster.....	202-288-9939
11800 Old Georgetown Rd #1114	\$449,690.....	Sat/Sun 11-6.....	Bob Lucido.....	Toll MD.....	410-979-6024
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2202	\$534,790.....	Sat/Sun 11-6.....	Bob Lucido.....	Toll MD.....	410-979-6024
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2236	\$464,495.....	Sat/Sun 11-6.....	Bob Lucido.....	Toll MD.....	410-979-6024
604 Harrington Rd.....	\$349,900.....	Sun 1-4.....	Stephanie Horwat.....	Weichert.....	301-385-6115

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NEWS



PHOTOS BY SHARON ALLEN GILDER/THE ALMANAC



Little Falls Garden Club seeks to remove the weeds and make the median maintenance-free.

Spring has sprung and so have the wild grasses and weeds in Potomac Village's soon to become weedless median.

Working To Improve Median

FROM PAGE 3

The construction process will be implemented after the garden club meets with the Chamber to select a color and stamping design for the median. Edwards is a fan of stamped concrete versus pavers that have sand between them that can encourage weed growth. He has advocated for color-through concrete versus a topical colorant. Though topical colorant can be brighter, color-through is blended evenly through a cement mixer. "My preference is color-through. It makes the best solution for everyone and if there's ever any chipping, there is no color difference," he said.

Edwards said as soon as color and design decisions are finalized, the existing plantings and soil on the median will be excavated to a depth of six inches. Then a four-inch bed of compacted crushed stone will be laid. Next, tinted concrete will be poured and stamped in a brick-like pattern.

The contractor needs approximately three days from start to finish for the transformation of the median. If all stays on course, State Highway's goal is to have the project finished before the U.S. Open golf tournament at Congressional Country Club that

begins in June.

Sillin, who said Keyser has been her mentor for 20 years, applauded her diligence on the median's facelift, "Eleanor Keyser would not take no for an answer. She was the locomotive for this project."

Keyser, an original member of the 50-year-old garden club said, "We're thrilled. We could never have done this without Adam and Jennifer. It's a done deal. It's so rewarding to know that something can get completed."

Greenberg said, "We're glad the garden club came to us. Between the work of the club, the Chamber and State Highway we were able to get the efforts done. The Chamber has had many, many complaints from residents and businesses in Potomac about the median so to get this cleaned up is a really big event."

The garden club's 50th anniversary celebration is slated for Sept. 13 at Bethesda Country Club. Keyser is hoping for a huge turnout. "Hopefully, former members who've moved away will come back and local people who are no longer involved. We have many new members. We want to have young blood coming in so the club doesn't die off and disintegrate. It's very rewarding to know the group is staying active," Keyser said.

HOME SALES

In April 2011, 31 Potomac homes sold between \$1,630,000-\$415,000.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City ..	Sold Price ..	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
10000 AVENEL FARM DR	4	5	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,630,000	Detached	0.47	.....	AVENEL
12513 NOBLE CT	6	5	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,450,000	Detached	2.00	.....	PALATINE
12811 TRAVILAH RD	5	5	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,425,000	Detached	4.00	.....	STONEY CREEK ESTATES
11404 FALLS RD	5	4	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,230,000	Detached	0.63	.....	CHURCHILL GLEN
11401 BROAD GREEN DR	4	4	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,225,000	Detached	0.30	.....	CLAGETT FARM
11728 LE HAVRE DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,100,000	Detached	0.38	.....	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS
10705 LAUREL LEAF PL	5	4	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,090,000	Detached	0.26	.....	FAWSETT FARMS MANOR
8815 QUIET STREAM CT	5	4	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,079,900	Detached	0.27	.....	EAST GATE OF POTOMAC
10801 LOCKLAND RD	5	3	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,075,000	Detached	2.00	.....	POTOMAC OUTSIDE
12002 RIVER RD	5	4	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,070,000	Detached	2.10	.....	POTOMAC HUNT
8035 COBBLE CREEK CIR	5	4	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$1,057,000	Detached	0.25	.....	POTOMAC CREST
8145 BUCKSPARK LN E	5	3	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$950,000	Detached	0.51	.....	EAST GATE OF POTOMAC
12509 OVER RIDGE RD	5	2	2	POTOMAC	.....	\$860,000	Detached	0.35	.....	COPENHAVER
10808 HOB NAIL CT	4	2	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$841,000	Detached	0.25	.....	FOX HILLS
9004 ROUEN LN	6	3	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$833,000	Detached	0.36	.....	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS
12713 LINCOLNSHIRE DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$775,000	Detached	0.30	.....	FOX HILLS WEST
8124 PAISLEY PL	5	3	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$769,000	Detached	0.28	.....	INVERNESS FOREST
10129 COLEBROOK AVE	4	2	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$760,000	Detached	0.26	.....	BEDFORDSHIRE
12628 LAMP POST LN	4	2	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$750,000	Detached	0.27	.....	FOX HILLS WEST
419 WATTS BRANCH PKWY	4	2	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$750,000	Detached	0.30	.....	FALLSWOOD
10410 GARY RD	3	2	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$735,000	Detached	0.69	.....	POTOMAC HILLS
11008 POWDER HORN DR	4	2	1	POTOMAC	.....	\$705,000	Detached	0.37	.....	FOX HILLS
417 WATTS BRANCH PKWY	4	2	2	POTOMAC	.....	\$690,000	Detached	0.24	.....	FALLSWOOD
11401 FALLS RD	3	2	1	POTOMAC	\$670,000	Detached	1.03	LAKE NORMANDY ESTS
8623 WILD OLIVE DR	5	3	0	POTOMAC	\$635,000	Detached	0.26	REGENCY ESTATES
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Cooking Up Gourmet Memoir

FROM PAGE 3

...faced was recalling all of the memories from the past 40 years.

However, she incorporated the help of the other group members, like Richard and Patricia Messalle one of the founding couples, in gathering information for the book.

Pat Messalle joined the group when Jacobus made an announcement at an AAUW (American Association of University Women) meeting. And her husband followed suit shortly after.

"Everyone is very adventurous and willing to try anything — no complaints. Also everyone is very creative and goes all out in preparing their dish and also in creating a special ambiance when they host a dinner," she said.

She remembers a Halloween Dinner where they all dressed in costume and had Dragon Punch, hard-boiled eggs decorated as strained eyeballs, stew with Orzo as maggots and gummy worms baked apples.

While her husband Richard Messalle enjoys the "delicious soups" the group serves with each meal, especially one called Keshy Yena (on page 23), he also noted the group's camaraderie.

"Over the years we have developed a shared history and an interest in each other," he said.

He added that there is no competition over jobs or houses or social climbing within the group.

The group meets monthly at each member's house to host theme dinners that include several courses (appetizers, soup,

entrée with vegetable or salad and a dessert). They've done themes from over 41 countries and six continents.

They've also done dinners based on apples, chocolate and even alcohol.

Some of Jacobus' favorite dishes included a Red Velvet Cake with Black Raspberry ice cream and a chicken and pasta dish that she makes every warm weather season.

Her mother whose roots are in the Republic of Czechoslovakia was the catalyst that sparked her passion for unique foods and recipes.

"She just gave me an interest in food and cooking. It was always such a fun thing for her and she made it for me," she said.

On Saturday, May 7, the group held a Czechoslovakia-inspired dinner. "In this Czech dinner, we had goose liver pâté and oxtail soup and that was kind of unusual. So we do some unusual things sometimes."

Outside of her gourmet group, Jacobus fills her time by singing with the Rockville Chorus, entertaining her family and friends or appreciating art around the local museums and galleries.

As with most writers, she loves to read as well. Some of her favorite authors include James Patterson and Anita Shreve.

Before becoming a writer, the Massachusetts native was an elementary school teacher. She and her husband moved to Potomac eight years ago and she taught at a Rockville Elementary School for a while before retiring.

"We're Eating What?" is available at Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble.com and through the publisher's website at www.PublishAmerica.com.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

In Performance Landon's Upper School String Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Paul Scimonelli, performed Monday, May 9 at the Byron House assisted living facility at 9210 Kentsdale Drive, located on the campus of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Potomac. The Ensemble included musicians who have competed successfully in local competitions and played with the National Symphony Orchestra. The concert, coordinated by Landon juniors Adrian Martino '12 and Peter Dreux '12, is part of Landon's community service program. For the last five years, the Upper School Ensemble has performed concerts once a semester at area senior and assisted living centers around the Rockville/Bethesda area.

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Top-Seeded Churchill Girls Hold Off Wootton

Bulldogs will face Sherwood for region title.

JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

After entering halftime with the slimmest of leads on Saturday, the undefeated Churchill girls lacrosse team started to play like the region's top seeded squad. Back-to-back goals by Katie Ruben and Maddie Flax gave the Bulldogs a 7-4 lead in their playoff matchup with Wootton, leading to a Patriots timeout with 18:16 remaining.

"The floodgates are opening!" a Churchill fan shouted from the bleachers.

Not so fast.

"We knew that when we have our focus on, we're on. We can beat anybody."

— Churchill junior Maddie Flax

No. 8 Wootton scored three straight goals to tie the score at 7-7, and later scored two goals in the final 1 minute, 12 seconds to force overtime. But the Patriots' valiant effort fell short as Churchill advanced with a 12-10 victory in the 4A-3A West Region quarterfinals.

The Bulldogs followed the perfor-



Churchill junior Mairin Hall scored two goals for Churchill during its overtime win over Wootton on Saturday in the 4A West quarterfinals.

mance with a 20-12 win over No. 4 Blake in the semifinals on Monday, setting up a meeting with No. 3 Sherwood for the region title at 7 p.m. on May 18 at Churchill High School. The Bulldogs defeated Sherwood 12-11 during their regular season matchup on March 25.

The Bulldogs (14-0) are undefeated with a chance to win back-to-back region championships, but they barely got by their big-

gest rival — a test that could help them as they try to advance.

"This really proves a lot, that they have what it takes," Churchill head coach Christen P. Gjeldum said. "The fact that we played a hard team — because they're an awesome team — the fact we played Wootton right away really will help us with our next games. ... [The Bulldogs] said they like to have the target on their back so they can

live up to what their reputation is. I said, 'No pressure. This team, we're pretending it's not Wootton. It's just another team that's trying to mess up our perfect season.'"

Gjeldum said part of the reason Churchill struggled with Wootton was the Bulldogs' tendency to stray from the game plan.

"The plays do work, you have to be on the same page," Gjeldum said. "You can't make up your own things come playoff time, and every time we [followed the game plan] we scored. It's just playing together as a team."

After losing a late lead, Churchill regained its focus in overtime. Ruben and Bailey Boyland scored in the first three-minute period, and Jamie Oppenheimer gave the Bulldogs a three-goal advantage late in the second overtime period.

"We knew that when we have our focus on, we're on. We can beat anybody," junior attack Maddie Flax said. "I think we just had a little lapse in focus, started to get tired late in the game. When we realized, 'You know what, it's time to pick it up,' we really kicked it into gear. We know how to rally ourselves and get ourselves back together."

Mairin Hall and Ruben each scored three goals for Churchill, and Oppenheimer, Boyland and Flax each scored two.

In the semifinals against Blake, Ruben had five goals and three assists, Boyland had five goals and two assists, Flax finished with five goals and one assist, Hall posted four goals and two assists and goalkeeper Kristina Roberts had eight saves.

Meanwhile, Wootton (9-5) ended its season with a loss that, while painful, could benefit the team from an experience standpoint next season. Sophomore Marisa

SEE BULLDOGS, PAGE 13

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC



Matt Leonard finished with three goals and three assists during a playoff victory against Blake on Saturday.

Seven Bulldogs Score in Playoff Victory

Churchill boys end season with loss to Wootton.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

Sharing the ball led to good things for the Churchill boys lacrosse team during its playoff matchup with Blake on Saturday.

Seven Bulldogs scored at least one goal and four scored at least two during a 14-6 victory in the 4A-3A West quarterfinals at Churchill High School. However, the Bulldogs' season came to an end two days later with a 10-7 loss to Wootton in the semifinals.

Against Blake, senior Brad Grossman spearheaded Churchill's unselfish attack, finishing with one goal and five assists. Sophomore Matt Leonard finished with three goals and three assists.

"Leonard played well, Grossman played real well, they both see the field very well

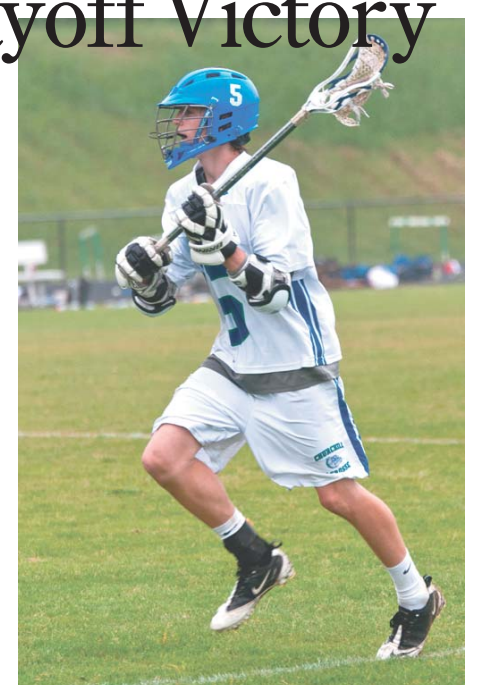
and they're both very unselfish," Churchill head coach Jeff Fritz said, "and that's all you can ask."

Francis Ford and George Hermes also scored three goals apiece for Churchill. Morgan Rhodes finished with two goals and Spencer Ralph and Cameron Moshyedi each had one.

"We moved the ball around on offense a lot, had possession, took a lot of pressure off our defense," Leonard said. "We played pretty well overall. Our whole team has really good chemistry. It really helps us win a lot of games."

Blake, the No. 7 seed, pulled to within three late in the third quarter, but No. 2 Churchill responded with six consecutive goals to pull away.

Churchill finished the season with a 13-3 record. No. 3 Wootton will face No. 4 Walter Johnson for the region title on May 18.



Brad Grossman tallied one goal and five assists against Blake on Saturday.

SPORTS



Churchill's Jamie Oppenheimer scored one of her two goals in overtime against Wootton on Saturday.

PHOTO BY
JAN GROSSMAN

Bulldogs To Face Sherwood for Title

FROM PAGE 12

Cresham scored a game-high four goals, sophomore Alex Spiropolus added one and junior goalkeeper Angela Bauroth had several saves. Each should benefit from taking Churchill, which is appearing in its third consecutive region championship game, to the wire.

"It's a little devastating because overall we've rebuilt so much this year and we have so many new players," Cresham said. "I believe we should have had this game from the beginning. We tried really hard and we gave it our all. We left it on the field, so there's nothing to regret. ... Next year I think we can

come out strong against this team. We're young, we have great players and I think we play well. ... So many young girls [on this team], now they know what it feels like to be playing in the playoffs and we can learn from it. That's all we can do."

Wootton head coach Kasey Marchwicki had a positive outlook on the future.

"Last year we had a pretty strong team and we had some pretty key seniors that we graduated, but I think this year, all together, we came together as a team," she said. "I just hope to keep incorporating that and next year our youth is going to be a little bit older and stronger and I look for good things."

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"I Can Live With That"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The call I've been waiting for; the results I've been hoping for:
"Hello Mr. Lourie? This is Diane from Kaiser."
"Hello Diane-from-Kaiser. How are you?"
"I have your CT Scan results. Everything is fine. There's no change."
"No change? I can live with that."
And so I shall, for another two months – until my next set of scans which will be a Bone Scan and an MRI of the brain. When I lie through them, it will have been six months since the last set. This six-month interval (three months longer than they had been scheduled/occurred for the previous two years when they were "ordered," as part of my treatment protocol, every three months) is the new year-three schedule as agreed upon last December when my year-long participation in a Phase II Study officially ended. My CT Scan, which this column is reacting to, is now scheduled for every four months rather than the previous every three months as previous columns have explained.

In effect, no news (so to speak), is certainly good news, especially when you're a cancer patient and/or a terminal patient. "Good news" as in the tumors haven't grown and/or moved is as good as it gets, realistically speaking. Of course, shrinkage or disappearance of the tumors would be even better news, but having been told on day one by my oncologist that he "couldn't cure me," that he "could only treat me" creates a different reality by which you must learn to live; at least I have. Expectations change. And since my original prognosis was "13 months to two years," and this is month 26, I'm unlikely now to look a gift oncologist in the mouth; I will look him in the eye and listen to what he says. And though I don't doubt the accuracy of his original diagnosis/prognosis, I'm happy to report that this most recent scan confirmed that I am surviving/not getting worse – despite the apparent odds.

So what happens next? Uncertainty, for sure. More or less of the same? Deterioration? Continued remission? No guarantees. Just knowing – and trying to understand – that I've now outlived my prognosis. Thank God! I don't view any of this as a challenge though, as in an affront. I view it more as a challenge like a hurdle, an obstacle to overcome so I will persist and persevere in my routine. Perhaps I can become an even better eater, a better pill-taker, a better exerciser. After all, I come from good peasant stock (as my father used to joke) with very encouraging immediate family history: both my parents lived into their mid-80s. If I help myself, maybe my genes will help me.

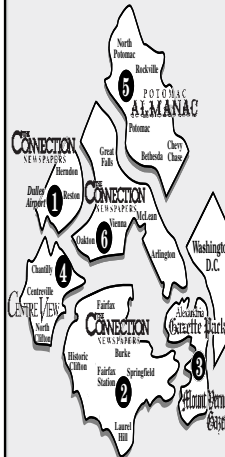
Nevertheless, I live in time intervals: from one scan to the next, from one doctor's appointment to the next, from one lab result to the next, waiting for the medical shoe to drop. There are limits to what I can control but unfortunately there are no limits to how much I can worry. Certainly I'm used to the ebb and flow of information, results, anxiety, etc., but it never goes away, it only goes into your subconscious where unfortunately it doesn't remain too long.

But hopefully I will remain a bit longer. And as the two- or four- or six month- intervals between miscellaneous scans pass, life will continue to go on – not exactly as it did before I was diagnosed but, given where I am today and how well I'm doing, comparatively speaking, I'd like to invoke the memory – and share the quote and sentiment from the legendary New York Yankee great, Lou Gehrig, in his retirement-from-Baseball speech: "Today, I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the Earth."

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

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Potomac Hunt Races Benefit Yellow Ribbon Fund

FROM PAGE 3

wife of a wounded warrior. “They helped us find transportation, a place to live — anything we needed they were more than willing to assist us with. Our mentor, Bob Talbot was invaluable to us. It is so comforting to know that someone will help you when you are in a large city, far from home, and don’t know anyone at all.”

Director of Communications Marie Wood was the first employee of the Yellow Ribbon Fund. She personally responds to the needs of the servicemen and their families. “One of the most important ways we serve is to help the servicemen and the families get away from the hospital grounds and to become more independent. One wife/caregiver said to me, ‘Having a car is like being released from jail.’ They feel completely tied down at the hospital complex and if we can help with a rental car or a cab voucher, it can make all the difference in the world.

“Our volunteers invite them to lunches, dinners, golf games, duck and goose hunts, fishing trips and other activities. We built a 10,000-foot patio and a playground in the Walter Reed complex. We see what individuals need — and we meet those needs. Our Family Caregiver Program sup-



Marie Wood presents the General H.H. Semmes Perpetual Trophy to Randolph Rouse, the owner of “One Sea,” the winner of the sixth race of the Potomac Hunt Races, and his rider Roddy Mackenzie.

ports the caregivers of the injured service members — 90 percent are women. We even provide therapeutic massages and yoga classes for the caregivers to help release the stress they are under. Movie and dinner nights have also been so well-received that now we provide ‘couples movie and dinner nights.’”

The Yellow Ribbon Fund also has an Ambassadors Program that supports the injured

service members when they return to their home towns. The program provides career guidance, job mentoring and opportunities, job training or higher education and companionship. The ambassadors are all volunteers — and currently serve in 24 different locations across the U.S.

The partnership between the Potomac Hunt Races and the Yellow Ribbon Fund was formed by Race Co-Chair and Master

of the Hunt Beverley Bosselmann and her husband Rainer. As avid fox hunters, they had been involved with the Potomac Hunt since 1996. However, when their son, Kirk, serving in Iraq as a Marine scout sniper was killed in Fallujah in 2004 at age 21, they decided to honor Kirk by supporting the troops through the Yellow Ribbon Fund. Bosselmann arranged for the proceeds for both this year and last year to go directly to the fund. A pony race is also dedicated to their son.

Boselmann traveled to Walter Reed Army Medical Center to personally invite injured service members and their families to attend the Potomac Hunt Races. This year eight families arrived on a bus from Walter Reed. Bosselmann met and spoke with Army Specialist Chris Kurtz, a double amputee injured in Afghanistan. Then she took Kurtz and his mom to a rail where they could get an up-close view of the timber jump. Kurtz commented that he had never been to a steeplechase and found it interesting and very exciting. His mom thought the race was terrific.

Boselmann said, “The day went beautifully, the sun came out and we had a successful and smooth running for a wonderful cause.”

‘Taste of Potomac’ To Support Adoptions Together

FROM PAGE 3

who had agreed to adopt the children; thus, the adoption was cancelled. To Kemah and the children and all the staff of Adoptions Together, the news that the children were once again without a home was dreadful as well as demoralizing.

Once again, Kemah started to look, spending hours and hours on the case. Suddenly a single man stepped forward. He had previously taken care of foster children and had a lot of experience with children. In his forties, he was longing for children to complete his life. After meeting the three children, he said he wanted to adopt them.

However, soon after his decision, the children were in a car accident. One was on life support, one was seriously injured, and the other had broken a leg. The new adoptive father took up residence at the hospital to support the children. After several months, when one of the boys was about to be released, he said, “I love you Dad. Thank you for being there for me.”

Again, Adoptions Together facilitated the adoption process quickly — and the four have become a “Forever Family.” “Tenacity would be a great word to describe the process of getting the four together — and making certain the adoption really happened. The children are thriving — and they have become a wonderful family. We have thrilled to have made a difference for the children and their dad,” Kemah said.

This is just one story of many which describe the work of Adoptions Together. The



Founder Janice Goldwater displays the banner of Adoptions Together's mission.

agency offers a full spectrum of family support services. Their guiding principle is “no child in need of a family will be turned away and families will have the support and guidance they need to thrive.” They facilitate both national and international adoptions. They focus on pre-adoptive counseling to help both the child and families prepare for their new relationship as a permanent family. The organization also offers a Professional Training Series for school counselors,

therapists and social workers.

The 4th Annual “Taste of Potomac” will be held May 21 from 7:30 - midnight at the Potomac estate of Adoptions Together board members Judy and Stuart Sebring. Attendees will enjoy tastings from 25 restaurants, including Potomac favorites, Bezu, Hunter’s Inn, Renato, River Falls Seafood, Chicken Out, Potomac Pizza, Cava, Stella, Fortune Garden, Vie de France, and Tally Ho. Live music will be provided by the band Fiasco. Silent and live auctions will feature trips, gourmet dinners, jewelry, wine, golf outings, fine art, sports tickets — and an autographed guitar from Nils Lofgren. Individual attendance tickets are \$100 if purchased this week. Tickets at the door are \$125. To RSVP, respond on-line at www.adoptionstogether.org. Premier and corporate sponsorships are also available. All the proceeds will benefit Adoptions Together as the restaurant tastings and auction items are all generous donations from businesses, restaurants and individuals.

“I was an adopted child,” said Judy Sebring. “I was always so grateful that I had a ‘forever family’ that I wanted to give back by helping other children and families. Every child deserves to have a family — no one should grow up without the love and support of a caring family.”

Adoptions Together was the vision of Janice Goldwater 20 years ago. As a social worker in Montgomery County, Goldwater saw the need for an organization to find adoptive families for hard-to-place children. She founded the non-profit adoption agency

to conquer the challenge of finding permanent homes for children regardless of their age, race or health issues. Since 1990, the organization has found “forever families” for more than 3,000 children. Goldwater, who is the executive director, said, “Today, there are 5,000 children in the D.C. metropolitan area who are living in temporary care, waiting to be adopted. We need to make their dreams come true. This year we have heightened our focus on permanency. We have been working very hard to place teens in foster care into permanent homes. Every child deserves a permanent legal connection to an adult.” In addition to providing child placement services, the organization also offers life-time counseling for families, adopted children, birth parents and foster families. The motto of the organization is “Every child, every family, and every step of the way.”

This year, the organization began “Parent Education on Demand” webinars available 24 hours per day. These include topics such as stress management, parenting challenging children, working with the schools, talking to your child about adoption and more.

Adoptions Together is seeking families who would like the opportunity to change the life of a child by becoming a “forever family.” Mature adults of all races, religions and family structures can make excellent parents. Opportunities are also available to serve in a volunteer capacity. For more information, contact Adoptions Together at 301-439-2900. The website is www.adoptionstogether.org.

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