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Several equestrian riders from the area gathered on Saturday morning to ride the newly developed Seneca Creek Trail. The trail is just one of several developed and maintained by EPIC, Equestrian Partners in Conservation.

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# NEWS

## Roaring Potomac

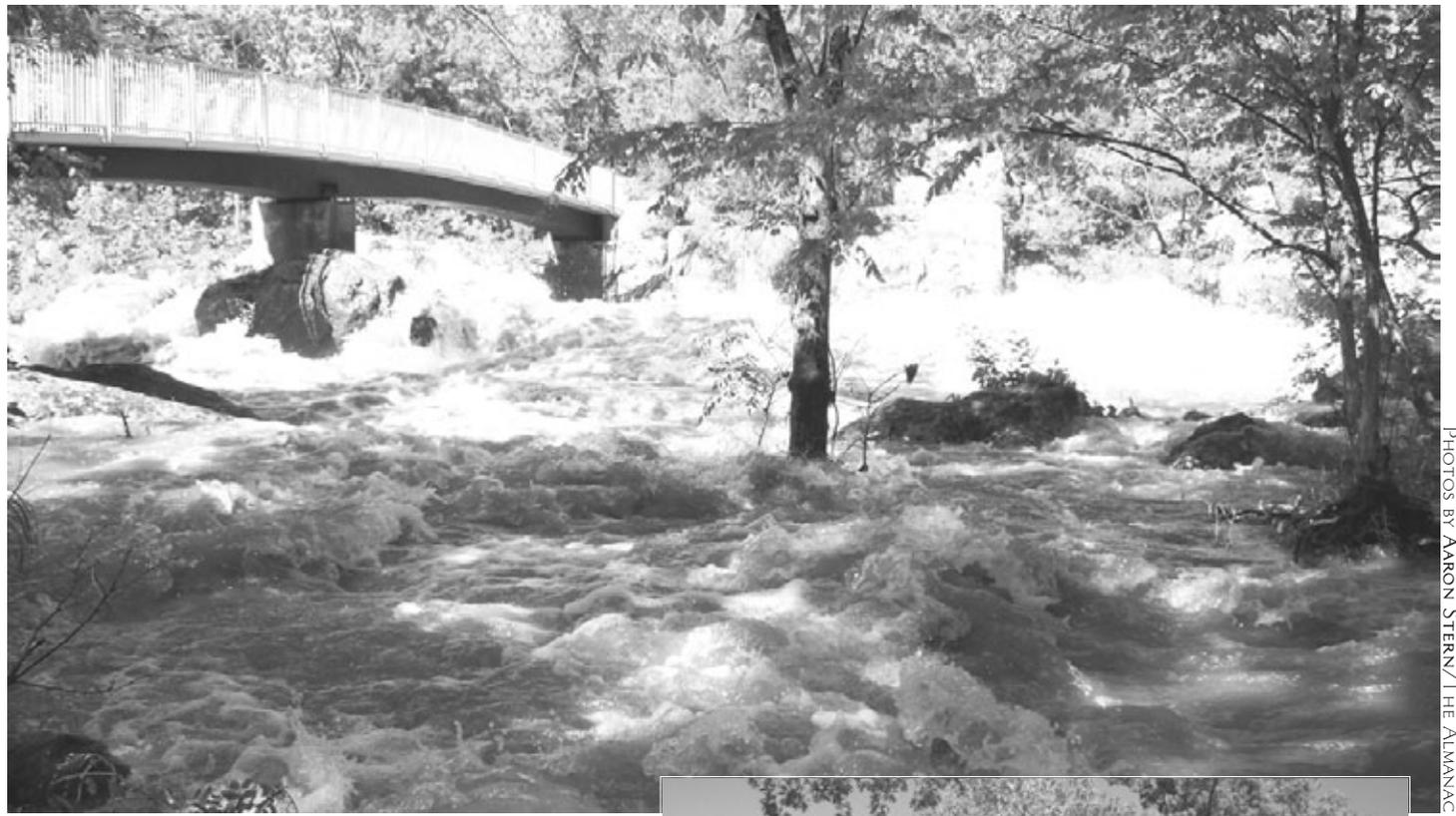
Potomac River nears flood levels after four-plus days of rain.

**F**ive days of nearly unabated rain took their toll on the Potomac River, which rose to just below 10 feet by Tuesday morning, May 13. The river is considered to be at flood level when it hits 10 feet, but was not expected to rise much higher than its Tuesday level, said Ally Baltrus, the supervising ranger at the Great Falls Tavern Park in the C&O Canal National Historical Park. The average level of the river in non-drought and non-flood conditions ranges between three and six feet.

The river was recorded at 10.46 feet, just flood level, at Little Falls at 3:45 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13. The river is considered safe for recreation at four feet or below.

With the rising water level, the park took precautions that included closing the Great Falls overlook path, and closing the Billy Goat A Trail. Billy Goat Trails B and C remained open as they are at higher levels.

"In the spring it's not uncommon to close



Last week's deluge sent the Potomac River rising and forced the closing of the Great Falls overlook trail.

### River Levels

See <http://www.potomacpaddlesports.com/level/> or <http://newweb.erh.noaa.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=lwx&gage=brkm2&view=1,1,1,1,1,1,1>

the Billy Goat [A] trail, we've already done it this year," Baltrus said.

The Charles F. Mercer packet boat at Great Falls Tavern was dry-docked in case the water level crested the towpath and spilled into the Canal. The last time that happened was in 1996.

"This happens every 12 years or so," Baltrus said. "The Canal has historically battled floods."

—AARON STERN



The view of the Potomac River from the towpath near Great Falls Tavern. Water levels reached just above 10 feet by Tuesday afternoon but were expected to rise only slightly higher. The last time the towpath was breached was in 1996.

PHOTOS BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

## Police Cite Similarities in Another Home Invasion

Home invasion targets elderly residents.

BY AARON STERN  
THE ALMANAC

**A** series of home invasions targeting the elderly continues. On Wednesday, May 7, an elderly couple living in the 5800 block of Brookside Drive in Bethesda was bound and robbed by a man that matched the physical description of a man involved in four similar incidents that have taken place in Montgomery County and Washington, D.C. in the last eight months.

As in the previous four incidents, the victims in Wednesday's incident were bound as the suspect robbed their home. The most recent incident comes three weeks after police released a composite sketch of the suspect believed to be involved in those four incidents.

The couple was awakened at approximately 2:30 Wednesday morning by an unknown male intruder, armed with a handgun, who demanded valuables, according to police. The couple was restrained by the

suspect while he searched the residence. The suspect struck the woman at some point during the invasion, but she did not require medical transport. The male victim was not injured. It is believed that the suspect may have been in the residence for approximately an hour. He obtained property from the home, and then fled. The victims were able to free themselves around 5:40 a.m. and call police.

The suspect is described similar to that of the first four invasions, as a Hispanic male between 20 and 30 years old, 5'8" tall, weighing approximately 150 pounds. He was wearing green military-style fatigues and a bandana to cover his face.

Wednesday's incident bears many similarities to the first four, said Lucille Bauer, a spokesperson for Montgomery County Police.

**THOSE SIMILARITIES** include the fact that all of the victims have been elderly, and have been bound by the intruder while their homes were robbed, as well as the physical description. The perpetrator wore a mask in all of the incidents except for the Picasso



Sketch of suspect

Lane incident, and police were able to produce as composite sketch of the suspect's face as a result. The physical description given in all of the incidents is similar.

"By investigative standards we can not conclusively say that these incidents are linked, but there are similarities," said Bauer.

**AROUND 11:40 P.M.** on Sept. 17, 2007, the 92-year-old victim was at her home in the 7600 block of Maryknoll Avenue in Bethesda when an unknown man forced entry into her home by breaking a window in her basement. He disabled her circuit breaker. When she went downstairs to check, he tied her up while he ransacked her house, taking personal property.

On Nov. 27, 2007, the 77-year-old victim was at home when the suspect broke a basement window to gain entry. When her lights suddenly went out, she went to the basement to check the fuse box, she was tied up, while he ransacked the house and took property. She was able to break free and run to a neighbor's house to seek help.

On Jan. 9, 2008, an 84 and 85-year-old couple was at home when they were bound, the house was not ransacked, but property was taken from the residence.

A fifth home invasion occurred Sept. 18

of last year on Marseilles Drive in Potomac, but police are not investigating that as a related incident. In that case the two victims were elderly but the incident occurred during the daytime and involved deception as the perpetrators pretended to be delivery men. Detectives believe the case dissimilar enough that it is not connected to the others.

**IN EACH CASE** when the victim was able to describe features of the suspect, he is described as a Hispanic male, in his 20's, 5'2" to 5'8" tall, medium build, and spoke with an accent, according to police. A computer-generated composite was created after the February incident, the only incident in which the suspect was not wearing a mask.

Montgomery County Police want senior citizens, especially women living alone, and their neighbors and family members to be aware that these crimes have occurred every few months.

Anyone who sees a suspicious person or vehicle in a neighborhood is asked to try to write down as much descriptive information as possible, to include the tag number of a vehicle.

For a possible crime in progress, call 911; otherwise call 301-279-8000.

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION



**Despite the rainy weather, several riders take advantage of the newly developed Seneca Creek Trail, developed by EPIC, Equestrian Partners in Conservation. EPIC helps to develop, fortify and connect trails around Montgomery County as well as land conservation.**



**Naomi Manders prepares her Appaloosa, Tucker, for a trail ride Saturday morning.**



**Liza Duant, Mike Rubin and Bob Ladd wait for other riders to arrive to participate in a trail ride on the newly developed Dry Seneca Creek Trail.**

## Boundary Feedback

**Public weighs in on possible new school boundaries and timelines.**

BY AARON STERN  
THE ALMANAC

**A**fter nearly three months of meetings and dialogue between Montgomery County Public School officials and an advisory panel of PTA members, parents from Potomac, Seven Locks, and Bells Mill Elementary Schools on Monday, May 12 got their first opportunity to weigh in with their concerns on new school boundaries.

**“If the family’s willing to provide transportation ... it should take away most of the issues.”**

— Mike Dager,  
Potomac Elementary parent

A boundary study was authorized by the County Schools last year to alleviate overcrowding at Potomac Elementary, which was built with a capacity of 411 students but currently has 545 and seven portable classrooms in back of the school. A new Bells Mill is currently under construction and a renovation of Seven Locks is scheduled to begin in 2010 with students moving into the new facility for the 2012-2013 school year.

Five boundary options are currently under consideration by the school system and the Boundary Advisory Committee, the group of parents and PTA members that has worked with Crispell’s office to devise new boundaries. Public comment via letters and emails are welcome and the Board of Education is scheduled to hold public hearings on the matter in mid-November before making a final decision on the design and timing of the new boundaries.

One of the main concerns expressed by parents at Monday’s meeting was the dividing of families and friends.

Mike Dager, a Potomac Elementary parent, has sons in grades two and four currently. His older son would

## An EPIC Inauguration

**Despite the rain, EPIC christens its first formal trail.**

BY AARON STERN  
THE ALMANAC

**T**he rain had fallen for two days straight, and as the 10 a.m. start time neared for the first ride on the newly cleared Dry Seneca equestrian trail, things looked dicey.

“We said, ‘Well, we’ll just go on out there, [at] 10 o’clock, we’ll just see what happens,’” said Naomi Manders, a board member of Equestrian Partners in Conservation (EPIC), a non-profit organization that works to preserve and promote equestrian heritage in Montgomery County. “We didn’t think people were going to show up and then all of a sudden they started showing up and all of a sudden we had quite a gang.”

About 20 riders in all showed up for the ride and though a contingent of hikers who had hoped to join them stayed away because of the weather, the morning was a success, Manders said. The riders set off

### Hit the Trail

Equestrian Partners in Conservation (EPIC) christened their first formal trail last weekend and the trail is open to the public. To learn more about EPIC, visit their Web site at [www.epicmontgomery.org](http://www.epicmontgomery.org).

shortly before 11 a.m., and the rain stopped almost on cue.

Shortly after fording an unusually high Dry Seneca Creek — riders braved about two feet of swift water, nothing too dangerous, said Manders — they split up into two groups and proceeded.

“We walked and trotted — it is absolutely a gorgeous, gorgeous trail,” Manders said. “You’re not out in the fields, you’re in the

SEE EPIC, PAGE 4

SEE PUBLIC, PAGE 4

## Students Arrested in Drug Bust

A 17-year-old female Winston Churchill High School student from Potomac and a 17-year-old male Walt Whitman High School student were arrested on Friday, May 9, by Montgomery County Police and charged with possession with intent to distribute. The arrests came after the two entered a Rockville home with another man, then left with a bag that they had not entered the home with before all three drove away in a car, according to police.

A search of the Whitman student's home revealed additional marijuana, ecstasy, scales, \$6,600, psilocybin mushrooms, packing materials, and related documents, police reported.

The arrests were part of an investigation that also netted two other suspects, including a Rockville man and a Silver Spring man, who were also charged with various possession charges.

Further investigation revealed that several students from area high schools including, Walt Whitman in Bethesda, Winston Churchill in Potomac, and Woodrow Wilson in northwest Washington, D.C., had pooled their money together to purchase the marijuana with the believed intent to distribute to other teenagers. Marijuana valued at approximately \$12,000 was seized. The investigation is continuing and additional arrests are pending.

Detectives from the Montgomery County Police Special Investigations Drug Interdiction Unit are involved in an on-going marijuana distribution investigation, which resulted in the four arrests.

## Infill Development Bill

Montgomery County Councilmember Roger Berliner (D-1) (Bethesda, Chevy Chase, Potomac) on Tuesday, May 6, introduced legislation addressing infill development — including provisions that would require a reduction in the size of infill homes built on smaller lots.

Councilmember Berliner's introduction of the Infill Development Reform Act of 2008 comes one year after the Council approved funding to create the Infill Development Task Force. The task force was created to evaluate and propose specific solutions to the problems posed by infill development in Montgomery County.

Much of the infill development in the county is taking place in older, established neighborhoods, including numerous neighborhoods in District 1. In some cases, new homes are being built on formerly empty lots. In other cases, existing homes either undergo extensive remodeling or are completely razed with larger homes built on the lot. In some cases, the infill construction is out of character with the neighborhood.

The Infill Development Task Force was composed of residents, representatives of the home building industry, an architect and a Realtor. The task force was advised by staff from the county Department of Permitting Services and from the Planning Department at the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County facilitated the task force meetings. The first meeting of the task force was held on June 20, 2007. After months of detailed presentations and discussions, the task force completed its work on Dec. 18.

"This bill is a balanced approach to promote a more graceful transformation of our older neighborhoods," said Berliner in a statement. "It proposes a modest reduction in the size of homes on small lots. In addition, this bill reflects the work of our hardworking task force that reached consensus on a wide range of issues, including building height and neighborhood notification and guidelines. I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact this important measure."

A public hearing for the bill is scheduled for June 17 at 7 p.m. in the County Council Office Building at 100 Maryland Ave. in Rockville. The bill will be considered in worksessions of the Council's Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee.

For more information on the legislation, call 240-777-7828.

# EPIC Christens Trail

FROM PAGE 3

woods, you're way up high and you're looking down on this lovely stream. There are some spectacular views as you go along."

The ride marked the culmination of a two-year effort conducted by EPIC, the Potomac Bridle & Hiking Trails Association, numerous volunteers and local property owners whose lands the trail crosses. To unify a series of short, unconnected trails grass was mowed, loose rocks were pulled out, trees were felled, and a stretch of hillside behind Tulip Pond was regarded to complete the trail that runs roughly two miles between Sugarland Road and Montevideo Road.

"The trail was completely fractured, you just couldn't go north and south after a certain point because it had just deteriorated into a billy goat trail," Manders said.

The completion of the group's first sanctioned trail which runs on parkland as well as private property — with the permission of the property owners — is a relief to those who miss the old days of a more horse-friendly Potomac.

"After being in Potomac for a while, where everything was getting built up so much, you really are in the wilderness," said Elaine Jones, a member of EPIC who volunteered extensively to help clear the trail.

The trail is designed for use by horses and hikers, Jones said, and is best accessed on Sugarland Road, where signs mark the trail's entrance. A trailhead will be added in the future to ease parking and access, said Manders.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

**Mike Rubin rides his horse, Kepy, during a trail ride in Poolesville on Saturday morning. The trail was the second portion of the Dry Seneca Creek Trail developed by EPIC.**

## Public Reacts to Boundaries

FROM PAGE 3

be a Hoover Middle School sixth-grader if the change is made in 2010 and wouldn't want his younger son to move to Bells Mill or Seven Locks and then matriculate to Cabin John Middle School as a result.

"In our situation it would be a disaster ... they're very close," Dager said. "If the family's willing to provide transportation... it should take away most of the issues."

Fifth-graders are typically grandfathered at their elementary schools, but fourth-graders are not, said Bruce Crispell, the head of the County School's Division of Long-range Planning. Such situations as Dager's would likely be considered on a case-by-case basis and would likely require a school reassignment application, Crispell said.

The timing of the boundary implementation was also raised at Monday's meeting, and has been an issue during discussions of the Boundary Advisory Committee. Bells Mill representatives have expressed a desire for the moving process to be complete by the time students move into the rebuilt Bells Mill in August 2009.

Potomac Elementary parents have expressed concern over the possibility of their children moving to

Seven Locks for a year in 2009 — which could push that school over capacity and force many students into portables — then move to the Seven Locks holding facility in 2010 and back again to the renovated Seven Locks in 2012.

Seven Locks parents have raised concerns that if not enough students are funneled to their new facility, their school would be well under its modernized capacity of 411, thus either affecting the services rendered to students or causing the Board of Education to scrap the school's renovation plans and consider closing the school.

Crispell acknowledged that if Seven Locks reopens significantly under-capacity teachers could be moved out, but many of the schools services already operate at minimum capacity and could not be reduced any further.

According to the Division of Long-range Planning, the members of the Boundary Advisory Committee and the PTAs of each school will make recommendations to Crispell's office by May 19. Crispell's office will in turn make a recommendation to County School's Superintendent Jerry Weast, who will make his own recommendation to the Board of Education early this fall. The Board of Education is scheduled to hold a work session on Nov. 6, then public hearings on Nov. 12 and 13 before holding a final vote on the new boundaries on Nov. 20.

# PETS OF THE WEEK

To adopt an animal visit [www.paw-rescue.org](http://www.paw-rescue.org), call 301-572-4PAW.



**Petey**

**Dina** is a female, 6-year-old, 40 pound, spayed, Lab mix. Gentle Dina had a tough, neglected life until rescued by PAW, including the surprise delivery of puppies. She has an affectionate nature, gets along well with children and other dogs but not with cats. Dina is now looking for a forever home where a kind adopter will appreciate her sweet disposition.



**Dina**

**Petey** is a male, 7-year-old, 20 pound, neutered, JRT/Fox Terrier mix. Great boy Petey is an active Terrier mix that loves to play fetch with tennis balls. He's housebroken, walks well on a leash but doesn't like cats. Petey would be best as an only dog in an adult household and or one with an older dog-savvy child.

## PET NOTES

Colleen Pelar, award-winning author of "Living With Kids and Dogs ... Without Losing Your Mind", certified dog trainer, and parent will present a workshop for children, 5-12 years old, on Saturday, **May 17** at 3 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Pelar will teach children how to read simple dog language and how to keep themselves safe around their own or other dogs. All children must be accompanied by a parent; younger siblings may come watch. The workshop is free, but participants are asked to register at [www.yourdogfriend.info](http://www.yourdogfriend.info) or 301-983-5913. This workshop is sponsored by Your Dog's Friend and the Montgomery County Humane Society.

## SCHOOL NOTES

**Chris Orlando**, mathematics teacher at **Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School**, was the big winner at this year's April 15 Champions for Children Gala, receiving the Teacher of the Year award and a chance to compete for Maryland Teacher of the Year. Orlando teaches several sections of AP Calculus BC, one section of International Baccalaureate higher level mathematics and one section of multivariable calculus.

**Watkins Mill High School** junior Quratul-Ann Malik has been elected student member of the Board of Education for 2008-2009. Malik was chosen by 56 percent of the secondary students who cast ballots in the April 30 election, conducted by the Montgomery County Region of the Maryland Association of Student Councils. Eighty-five percent of students in all eligible middle school and high school plus one alternative program (more than 64,000 students) turned out to vote.

**The Board of Education** met on Monday, April 28, and among other items, approved a resolution on non-recommended reductions to the Fiscal Year 2009 operating budget request and appointed seven administrators. In addition, the Board reviewed the work of the Study Circles program and reconstituted the Special Education Ad Hoc Committee. The Board also reviewed a summary of the 2008 regular session of the Maryland General Assembly and approved the observance of National Volunteer Week, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and Teacher Appreciation Week.

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## PEOPLE



**Holy Child Athletic Director Sheila Wooters receives the Maryland State Athletic Directors Association 2008 Athletic Director of the Year Award. Wooters took the position right out of college in 1974.**

# Focused with Singular Purpose

## Holy Child's Sheila Wooters named Maryland Athletic Director of the Year.

The typical college graduate doesn't land their dream job right out of college. The typical college graduate doesn't stay at their first post-collegiate job for the next 30 years, either, but perhaps Sheila Wooters is a little atypical.

After graduating from St. Leo University in Florida a semester early in the winter of 1974, Wooters, who is originally from Silver Spring, got a call from the Connelly School of the Holy Child. She had swum in college and had coached swimming during her summers, and Holy Child was looking for an athletic director. Wooters was looking for a job. Wooters took the job and 34 years later she's still there.

"I gotta tell you, I love it," she said. Her work has not gone unnoticed, either.

Last week Wooters was named by the Maryland State Athletic Directors Association as the group's 2008 Athletic Director of the Year. The award marks only the second time in 30 years that the award has

been given out to the athletic director of an all-girls school.

"I was pretty shocked actually, quite shocked," Wooters said.

Wooters left Holy Child for 10 years between 1984 and 1994 to work at Holy Cross Elementary School, then returned to Holy Child to again serve as the school's athletic director. In the 34 years since she first took the job, much has changed at Holy Child.

"The athletics are night and day. I had two or three coaches back then, now I've got 56 between the upper school and the lower school," she said.

Still, coordinating the schedules, transportation, athletic trainers and doing whatever else needs doing doesn't always seem like a job, she said.

"You start early and you stay late — nights, days, weekends," she said. "But people say, 'Oh, you're at school so late.' I'm watching a lacrosse game, I'm not exactly sure that's working. I'm not digging ditches."

With four sons, Wooters likes to tell people that she's with girls all day, boys all night. And with 34 years under her belt, she's looking forward to the future.

"I'm very fortunate to be part of the Holy Child community ... Holy Child has been a big part of my life for a long time," Wooters said. "The girls here are fabulous, I love being with them."

— AARON STERN

## Getting To Know ...

### Julie Zhu

Julie Zhu, a senior at the Math, Science, Computer Science Magnet at Montgomery Blair High School and a Potomac resident was recently chosen as a Presidential Scholar twice: Once in academics and in once in the arts.

#### Where did you grow up?

I was born in Lansing, Michigan, but I grew up here, in North Potomac.

#### Tell us about your family.

My parents are extremely supportive, but have a hands-off approach to parenting. Most of the time, they leave me alone to do my work. They think that school is my own responsibility. However, they're very active in my after-school activities like painting and volleyball. My parents watch me play volleyball all over the Chesapeake region and come with me to beautiful painting locations.

#### Favorite school subject:

Math.

#### What do you want to do when you get older?

No idea, but art will always be a part of my life.

#### Awards and achievements:

Presidential Scholar in art and academics  
Maryland Arts Equity Foundation (MAEF) scholarship  
1st Place Rockville art show  
Best in Show Yellow Barn High School art show  
AP distinguished scholar

#### What are your hobbies?

I love to paint. Capturing emotions in pieces of paint has always been my passion. Especially the emotion in a person's face. Sadness, joy, bitterness, every dimension of emotion, are embedded in wrinkles, highlights, and color. But besides painting, I also like to cartoon. Every week, I illustrate Jay Mathew's column in the Washington Post and draw a cartoon for my school newspaper, Silver Chips.

When I'm not doing art, I play and coach volleyball, and play piano.

#### Favorite place to hang out in the community?

My favorite place to go, not hang out necessarily, is Great Falls. I always like to go after a rainstorm because the tumbling waters look like they're about to eat me. When I stare at them for a long time, they seem to grow larger and larger, a cool illusion to try.

#### What are some ideas you have on ways to improve your community?

In my neighborhood, two students were killed by hit-and-runs. They were walking along a road without a sidewalk. I wish that in the future, sidewalks could be paved along these roads near schools and communities so that these tragedies don't happen.

#### What is the last book you read, favorite television show and last movie you saw?

Last book: "The Kite Runner"

Last TV Show: "Scrubs"

Last movie: "Mary Poppins" (I love this movie)

#### What is your favorite (or least favorite) thing about school?

I love the diversity of my school. The different perspectives have enriched my educational experience.

#### Where do you see yourself in five years?

When I'm dreaming, I see myself in a New York art studio painting night and day. I don't care if I'm starving and poor, I just devote myself to my art.

But realistically, I think I'll be in graduate school for math or econ.

#### What are you looking forward to about vacation from school?

My summers in high school were all spent in internships ranging from statistics to cancer research to economics. But this summer, I'm looking forward to hanging out with

my friends before we all leave for college.

#### Who is a historical figure you would like to meet?

I'd like to meet Da Vinci. Get in his head and see how he manages to keep up with all of his interests. I love science, math, writing, and art, and I'd like to ask him how he combines all of his loves, so I can do it too. Also, I bet everyone wants to know what he was thinking when he painted the Mona Lisa.

#### Describe how you would most enjoy spending a single day?

Painting and picnicking with friends.

#### If you could be anyone else, who would you be and why?

I wouldn't want to be anyone else.

#### Do you have a favorite quotation?

Too many.

#### What does it mean to you to receive your recent honors?

I feel lucky.

#### How has attending a magnet school helped you prepare for the future?

The Blair magnet has prepared me extremely well for life, not just academics. I've learned to tackle problems with novel approaches, instead of following a formula. The magnet has allowed me to work in research groups to build remote sensing rovers and safety devices, and finally, work at NIH to conduct research with a professional in the field of my choice. We don't just learn more in the magnet, we learn how to think, which will help me wherever I go. I think it's a shame that the magnet is falling apart due to recent budget cuts. Future kids are really going to miss out.



Julie Zhu

# PETS

## Helping Homeless Animals

**'In the Ruff' golf tournament to benefit rescue groups.**

BY CAROLE DELL

For many of the homeless dogs and cats that languish hopelessly in shelters, next Monday will be a day to remember. Their future could be forever changed as a result of the generosity of golfers and volunteers at the "In the Ruff" golf tournament at Manor Country Club in Rockville.

**THE PET CONNECTION**

The golf outing includes lunch, dinner and an auction, which can also be attended by non-golfers, that will benefit Potomac's animal rescue organization PetConnect Rescue, as well as the Washington Animal Rescue League and Russell Rescue. There will be a "meet and greet" of adoption animals, trips and prizes, in-

cluding a Mercedes-Benz for a hole in one. All monies raised will go directly to the care and support of the animals.

Pet Connect Rescue is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization that offers dogs and cats a new life by rescuing them from over-crowded shelters in areas as far south as the Carolinas and north to New York.

PetConnect's share of the golf tournament proceeds will make it possible for the organization to continue its rescue process which includes transport, vet checks, foster care and adoption interviews where, hopefully, a dog or cat will find a loving and secure home.

For golfers though, security is elusive when trying to master the vagaries of their sport. But next week's "In the Ruff" tournament will offer players of every level the opportunity to feel like a champion. In fact, just playing with friends on Manor's newly reno-

vated Arthur Hills course, with a margarita in hand at hole 10 and a back rub waiting at 17 could be more than enough reward.

But, margaritas do not make champions and back rubs last for a brief blissful time.

What will bring on that championship feeling is the knowledge that this day of fun translates into many days of happiness for a homeless dog or cat. So, as golfers tee off at Manor Country Club in Rockville

on Monday, May 19, they will do it for the dogs.

To learn more about "In the Ruff" golf tournament visit [www.intheruffgolf.org](http://www.intheruffgolf.org) or call 301-908-6466. To donate to PetConnect or foster a pet, visit [www.petconnectrescue.org](http://www.petconnectrescue.org) or call 301-299-3798 for more information.

*Carole Dell is board co-president of PetConnect Rescue, a non-profit dog and cat rescue organization based in Potomac.*



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# CIVIC CALENDAR

To submit an item for the Civic Calendar, e-mail [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com) or fax the submission to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Thursday at noon two weeks prior to the event.

For questions, call Matthew Razak at 703-917-6476.

## THURSDAY/MAY 15

**Assistive Technology for Students** at Walter Johnson HS Cafeteria 6400 Rock Spring Drive, Bethesda, 6:30-9 p.m. Joan Green, M.A. CCC-SLP will speak about what parents can do at home using technology to help their children who have communication, literacy and cognitive challenges. For more information or to RSVP contact Joan@innovativespeech.com. RSVPing is strongly encouraged for the event.

## FRIDAY/MAY 16

**DBSA** (Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, National Capital Area) Family Support Group, will meet at 7:30 p.m., in the Parish Hall of St. Raphael's Church at 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville. The meeting is for the families and friends of people who have been diagnosed with depression or bipolar illness. Call 301-299-4255 or 301-570-9065 for more information. Also visit the group on the internet at [www.dbsanca-family.org](http://www.dbsanca-family.org).

**Aunt Minnie Award.** Susie Essman will be the featured guest speaker at the Women's Auxiliary Aunt Minnie Luncheon scheduled at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, North Bethesda. The event will honor Beth Sloan as this year's recipient of the Aunt Minnie Goldsmith Award. Online registration and information is available at [www.hebrew-home.org](http://www.hebrew-home.org). Tickets start at \$100. Contact the Development Office, Hebrew Home of Greater Washington at 301-770-8329 for more information.

## SUNDAY/MAY 18

**Li-Ming Toastmaster** will have meeting from 10:20 to 11:45 a.m. at County Council building (2nd floor conference room 2F, behind cafeteria) at 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville. Contact 301-765-1090 for more information.

## MONDAY/MAY 19

**Genealogy. Researching Your Genealogy: A Beginner's Guide** will be at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike at 11 a.m. Cost is \$10. Call 301-581-5100 for more information.

**Veterans Forum.** Join U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen and a panel of experts to discuss the many issues facing veterans today and the steps Congress is taking to address them at The Activity Center at Bohrer Park, 506 South Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg, 10-11:30 a.m. The panel will also provide information on benefits and services available to veterans and their families. Call 301-424-3501 for more information on the veterans forum.

## TUESDAY/MAY 20

**Book-A-Librarian.** Drop into the Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, any Tuesday morning between 10 and 11 a.m. for individualized help with getting around the library. Call 240-777-0970 for more information on this program.

**Free Skin Cancer Screening.** 5-8 p.m. at Suburban Outpatient Medical Center, 6420 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda. Sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, OASIS/Macy's,

Suburban Hospital and the Sidney J. Malawer Memorial Foundation. To make an appointment or for more information on the program, call 301-896-3939.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 21

**College Prep Workshop.** 7 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. Marcia Libes Simon of College Planning Service will talk about the college application process. The fee is \$35 for JCC members and \$45 for the general public, per family. To register or for more information on the workshop participants may contact Tracy

Schneidkraut at 301-348-3889 or [tschneidkraut@jccgw.org](mailto:tschneidkraut@jccgw.org).

## WEDNESDAY/JUNE 4

**DBSA** (Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, National Capital Area) Family Support Group, will meet at 7:30 p.m., in the Parish Hall of St. Raphael's Church at 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville. The meeting is for the families and friends of people who have been diagnosed with depression or bipolar illness. Free. Call 301-299-4255 or 301-570-9065 for more information. Also visit the group on the internet at [www.dbsanca-family.org](http://www.dbsanca-family.org).

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by  
**Michael Matese**

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**Adidam Revelation Bookstore** presents (on DVD) monthly talks by Avatar Adi Da Samraj and presentations by his students about their relationship with him. In Potomac, Thursday, **May 15**, 7:30-9 p.m. Requested donation \$9. For more information and location call Michael Dustrude 301-983-0250.

Congregation B'nai Tzedek, 10621 South Glen Road, Potomac, will be having a **Mitzvah Day**, Sunday, **May 18**, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Join them as they come together to help those in need. Lots of social action activities to choose from: meals for homeless shelters; blankets for Project Linus; dog biscuits for animal shelters; Bingo with the elderly, etc. Donate blood to the Red Cross from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call Jamie at 301-299-0225 ext. 301 or [jperkins@bnaitzedek.org](mailto:jperkins@bnaitzedek.org) to register.

**Sholem Aleichem Yortsayt Commemoration**, Sunday, **May 18**, 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. The fee is \$3 for members of the JCC, Yiddish of Greater Washington and Workmen's Circle, or \$5 for the general public. Reservations are not required. Contact Lynn Gittleson at 301-348-3840 or [lgittleson@jccgw.org](mailto:lgittleson@jccgw.org).

**Lecture: Looking Ahead to Israel at 70**, Tuesday, **May 20**, 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville, with Dr. Micha Balf. Free. Reservations are not required. Contact Lynn Gittleson at 301-348-3840 or [lgittleson@jccgw.org](mailto:lgittleson@jccgw.org).

**Jewish History Book Club**, Wednesday, **May 21**, 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. For the book selection contact Barbara Winnik at 301-348-3778 or [bwinnik@jccgw.org](mailto:bwinnik@jccgw.org). Free.

**Shalem Institute** offers a guided

mid-day **Prayer Peace Circle**, on Wednesdays from noon-12:45 p.m. in the Shalem Meditation Room & Library, 5430 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 140, Bethesda.

For more information, contact 301-897-7334 or visit [www.shalem.org](http://www.shalem.org).

**Friendly Family Services** meet at St. Dunstan's Church, 5450 Massachusetts Ave. at Fort Sumner Drive, Bethesda at 9:15 a.m. Sundays, with fun songs, a children's Bible lesson, and Holy Eucharist in a 40-minute service geared to small children. Young families are invited to try this "easy entry" service. Call 301-229-2960 or e-mail [stdunstans@verizon.net](mailto:stdunstans@verizon.net).

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## SCHOOLS

# Fun Times at Potomac Elementary Fair



As fellow first-grader Eitan Weinbaum looks on, EJ Trapsi draws a duck from the duck pond run by Hoover Middle School sixth-grader Kerry Billings. Local middle school and high school students helped run the activities at the Fun Fair and earned Student Service Learning hours for doing so.

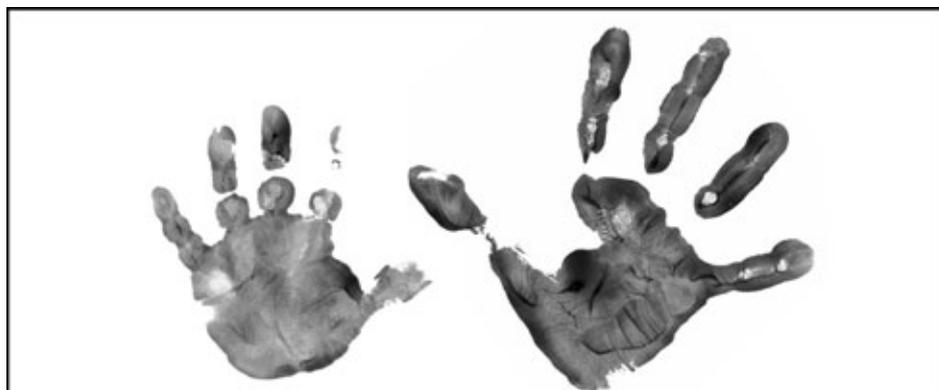
For an evening, Potomac Elementary School was almost unrecognizable as a school. The gym was filled with moonbounces and a jousting arena, the cafeteria was packed with carnival-style games and behind the school a miniature train carried students around the parking lot while others tackled a climbing wall.

Potomac Elementary School held its annual Fun Fair on Thursday, May 8, as local middle school and high school students helped to run the games and activities for Potomac Elementary's students and parents. The equipment and games were courtesy of Carnival Day, a company run by Potomac Elementary parent Bob Sickels.

Intermittent rain that had fallen throughout the day ceased in time for the night's activities, allowing the wall-climbers and train-riders to go about their business and nearby students explored the school's new playground equipment while others played basketball. The next day students were still talking about it.

"Everybody was just raving about it today, the kids had a ball," said Potomac Elementary School principal Linda Goldberg.

— AARON STERN



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Potomac Elementary School fourth-grader Alex Gold (front) and second-grader Brian Armstrong make spin art at the school's annual Fun Fair last week.

PHOTOS BY AARON STERN/  
THE ALMANAC



A train pulls students and parents through the basketball court behind Potomac Elementary School during last week's Fun Fair.

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# CALENDAR

To have community events listed free in *The Potomac Almanac*, send mail to 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, Va. 22102, e-mail to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com), or fax to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and artwork encouraged. Unless otherwise noted, all events are in Potomac. If you have any questions, call Matthew Razak at 703-917-6457.

## WEDNESDAY/MAY 14

**Archaeology Lecture.** 8 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. Dr. Peter Feinman will speak on the topic, "William Foxwell Albright and the Origins of Biblical Archaeology." Admission is \$10 for JCC members, Archaeology Series benefactors and PJLL Melton graduates, or \$14 for the general public. Reservations are not required. Contact Lynn Gittleston at 301-348-3840 or [lgittleston@jccgw.org](mailto:lgittleston@jccgw.org).

**Focus Music.** Tom Kimmel will perform at O'Brien's BBQ, 387 East Gude Drive, Rockville, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 general and \$12 members. Visit [www.focusmusic.org](http://www.focusmusic.org).

### Born to Read.

Introduce one's baby to books, language, and narrative with rhymes, songs, bounces, and short stories at the Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, 10:25 a.m.. Babies ages newborn to 24 months attend with an adult. Call 240-777-0970.

**Preschool Storytime.** Stories, songs, rhymes, and literary activities for children 36 months and up at Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, 10:30 a.m. Registration not required for individual children; groups should call ahead. Call 240-777-0970.

**English Conversation Club.** The English Conversation Club is for people who want to practice speaking English in a friendly setting at the Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, 2 p.m. Call 240-777-0970.

**Book Group.** Join in a monthly book group at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. Call 301-986-1761.

**Lunchtime Concert.** Wednesday lunchtime concerts will take place from 12 - 2 p.m. at the Bethesda Place Plaza located at 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. This week's performer is Hula Monsters (Hawaiian Swing). Free. Contact 301-215-6660 or visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).

## THURSDAY/MAY 15

**Evening Concert.** Thursday Night concerts will take place from 6-8 p.m. in Veterans Park located at the corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues in Bethesda. This week's performer will be Terry Terrific and the Euphonism (Rockapella). Contact 301-215-6660 or visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).

**Time for Twos.** Stories, songs, rhymes, and literary activities for children 24 to 36 months attending with an adult at Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, 10:25 a.m. Registration not required for individual children; groups call ahead. Call 240-777-0970.

## FRIDAY/MAY 16

**Wine Tasting Social.** Area single seniors are invited to enjoy Friday night in the city with wine tasting,

appetizer sampling and plenty of mingling at the Rockville Senior Center Wine Tasting Social from 7 - 9 p.m. The Rockville Senior Center is located at 1150 Carnation Drive. Register for this event online through Rock Enroll <http://rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov> activity #24941. Registration is required. The admission fee is \$10 for members of the Rockville Senior Center, \$12 for non-member city of Rockville residents and \$15 for non-member non-residents. Call 240-314-8810.

**Dance.** Imagination Stage presents a specialty workshops and performance titled "XX" at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. Call 301-280-1660.

**Contra Dance.** The Friday Night Dancers presents contra dancing as well as some square dances and waltzes in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. There is a Contra dance lesson from 7:30-8:15 p.m. followed by the called dance from 8:30-11:30 p.m.

Beginners are always welcome. This week Mary Lea's band.

Admission: \$9. Contact email: [info@fridaynightdance.org](mailto:info@fridaynightdance.org)

**Salsa Dance.** High Energy Productions presents a Salsa Dance with a Salsa lesson from 8 - 9 p.m., taught by Keith Givens, followed by dancing to live music until midnight by Salsa bands in Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Visit [www.oohsalsa.com](http://www.oohsalsa.com).

## SATURDAY/MAY 17

**Celebration of Hope Gala.** The Wellness Community - Greater Washington, D.C., will be hosting its Celebration of Hope Gala from 7 - 11 p.m. at the Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, Potomac. Tony Snow, cancer survivor and former press secretary to President George W. Bush is honorary chair of this fundraising event. Visit us at [www.thewellnesscommunity.org/dc](http://www.thewellnesscommunity.org/dc) or call 301-493-5002. All proceeds will benefit The Wellness Community - Greater Washington, D.C.

**Gala in the Park.** "Retroville" is the 1950s theme for the 2008 Gala in the Park at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, to benefit the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture. The evening includes a reception, dinner, a 1950s-style band and dancing, and carousel rides. In the Spanish Ballroom and Bumper Car Pavilion from 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Tickets \$175. Call 301-634-2230.

**English Conversation Club.** Join in practicing and improving your spoken English with the help of volunteers leading discussions at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, 3 p.m. Call 240-777-0690.

**Dance.** Imagination Stage presents a specialty workshops and performance titled "XX" at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. Call 301-280-1660.

**Storytime.** Kat Tales featuring Kat and aerobics at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, 11 a.m. Call 301-986-1761.

**Music.** The German School will present the U.S. premiere of Peter Schindler's "Missa in Jazz" at Our Lady of Mercy, 9200 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15/general, \$8 students. Call 301-767-3846.

**Dog Walk.** The River Center at Lockhouse 8, C&O Canal National

Historical Park, Cabin John, will host a dog walk from 10-11 a.m. Meet with four-legged and two-legged friends for a scenic pooch parade along the C&O Canal towpath and surrounding trails. Contact Potomac Conservancy's River Center Coordinator, Bridget Chapin, at [chchapin@potomac.org](mailto:chchapin@potomac.org) or 301-608-1188, x213, or go to [www.potomac.org](http://www.potomac.org).

**Strawberry Festival.** The 18th Annual Strawberry & Artisan Festival will be at Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 South Glen Road, Potomac, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. It will feature strawberry shortcake, a silent auction, used clothing, artisan jewelry and more. All proceeds benefit over 14 programs and missions locally and abroad. Call 301-299-9383 or visit [www.potomac-umc.org](http://www.potomac-umc.org).



**Laugh Riot.** Enjoy five local comics and have a chance to tell jokes yourself at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, 7400 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, 8-10 p.m. Cost \$10. Call 301-657-1234.

**Carousel Tours.** Carousel tours start at 12 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, and give visitors a closer look at the 1921 Dentezel carousel. Find out how it was made, how it works, and about the rest of the amusement park attractions that were built around it. Visit [www.nps.gov/glec](http://www.nps.gov/glec).

**Park Tour.** Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo, tours begin at 2 p.m. and lead visitors through a walking tour of the Park to learn about its history and the current programs in arts, dance and children's activities. Admission is free. Tours begin at the visitor's desk in the Arcade Building. Visit [www.nps.gov/glec](http://www.nps.gov/glec).

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**Cajun Dance.** Dancing by the Bayou presents a Cajun dance with Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys in the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo. Admission includes an introductory dance lesson from 3 - 3:30 p.m. followed by dancing until 6 p.m. Admission: \$20. Contact Email: [Dancingbythebayou@verizon.net](mailto:Dancingbythebayou@verizon.net).

**Waltz Dance.** Waltz Time presents a beginning waltz lesson from 3 - 3:30 p.m., followed by an afternoon of waltzes and other couples dances in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Dancing from 3:30 to 6 p.m. to the music of Jubilee. As always, no partner is required, and the cost is \$8, including lesson. Contact Email: [info@waltztimedances.org](mailto:info@waltztimedances.org).

## SUNDAY/MAY 18

**Violin Concert.** At 5:30 p.m., violinist



Tamaki Kawakubo will perform a free one-hour concert at Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ, One Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Call 301-320-2770 and

## PETS



## Strut Your Mutt

Thousands of area residents and their dogs will gather for an all-day street festival full of family fun and dog activities, Saturday, May 17 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Downtown Bethesda at Woodmont Ave. and Bethesda Ave. The third annual Strut Your Mutt event is a fundraiser for the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad, a community organization funded primarily by private donations. The schedule includes a Strut Your Mutt parade and contests, along with dog-related exhibitors, ranging from photographers to dog walkers to vets. There will also be a dog adoption show, kiddie play area, raffle and more. Individuals interested in participating in the day's activities can register online at [www.strutyourmuttbethesda.org](http://www.strutyourmuttbethesda.org).

[www.washingtonconservatory.org](http://www.washingtonconservatory.org).

**Critiques and Coffee.** A monthly Sunday morning photo jam session at Photoworks studio in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Bring photos to a morning critique led by a Photoworks faculty member. In the Photoworks Studio from 10 a.m. to noon. Call 301-229-7930 or visit [www.glenchophotoworks.org](http://www.glenchophotoworks.org).

**Argentine Tango/Milonga.** Flying Feet Enterprises presents an Argentine Tango/Milonga in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The evening will start with a tango lesson at 7 p.m. for all levels of Tango dancers. After the lesson, dance from 8-11 p.m. to music by a tango DJ who will play Argentine Tango music from the 1920s through today. Contact Phone: 301-299-8728.

**Contra and Square Dance.** The Folklore Society of Greater Washington presents traditional American dancing with a focus on New England style contra dances, including square dances, country mixers, waltzes and other couple dances in the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. All dances are taught, and no partner is necessary. The newcomers' welcome lesson is at 7 p.m., followed by called dances with Happy Foot from 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. Admission: \$12 nonmembers/\$9 FSGW members. Call 202-518-1299.

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**Film Screening.** Cinema Art Bethesda will show "Private Property," an intimate look at a tragically dysfunctional family. The doors to the Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema, 7235 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda, will open at 9:30 a.m. and the film will begin promptly at 10 a.m. "Private Property" is the final film in Cinema Bethesda's 2007-2008 season. The films will resume next September. A discussion led by a local film expert will follow each film. Tickets at the door are \$14. Visit <http://CinemaArtBethesda.org> or call 301-365-3679.

**Dance.** Imagination Stage presents a specialty workshops and performance titled XX at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda, 6 p.m. Call 301-280-1660.

**Hummingbirds.** Join the Audubon society and learn all about hummingbird's amazing adaptations, take a bird walk, and then prepare a hummingbird feeder for the yard at the Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase. Add a \$5 material fee per family. Fees: Members: \$12 per child; nonmembers \$14 per child. \$8 for each additional member sibling; \$10 for each nonmember sibling. Adults are free. Call 301-652-9188 x26.

**Kings Dominion Trip.** 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. for middle school students, sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington. For fee, other details or to register, contact Tracy Schneidkraut at 301-384-3889 or [tschneidkraut@jccgw.org](mailto:tschneidkraut@jccgw.org).

**Paws in the Park.** The Montgomery County Humane Society will host its annual "Paws in the Park - Wags & Whiskers Pet Walk & Family Fun Fair" from noon - 4 p.m. at The Old Ice Arena at Wheaton Regional Park in Wheaton. Join a walking team on the Yorkie or Beagle Trail, pucker up for a Bull Dog kiss at the Kissing Booth, enter your canine in the Ugliest Dog Contest or meet your new, four-legged best friend in the Petting Place, where rescued pets will be available for adoption. Leashed dogs are welcome. Proceeds will be

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

# THE ARTS

Send announcements, which are open to the public at no or minimal cost, to The Loudoun Connection, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102 or e-mail [loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:loudoun@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday, two weeks before the event. Photos/artwork encouraged. For more information, call Matthew Razak at 703-917-6457. For additional entertainment listings, visit [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com), E section.

## Last Chance

"**Seussical Jr.**" will be presented by Lopez Youth Performing Arts Company at the Northern Virginia Community College's Waddell Theater, 1000 Harry Byrd Highway, Sterling, **May 16**, at 7 p.m., and **May 17**, at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 presale and \$20 at the door. Call 703-787-0071 or

visit <http://www.lopezstudios.org/lytc.html>.

Blue Planet Theatre will perform "**Narnia: The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe**" Saturday, **May 17**, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, **May 18**, at 6 p.m., at the Northern Virginia Baha'i Center. Visit [www.blueplanettheatre.org](http://www.blueplanettheatre.org) for more details or to buy tickets.

## Ongoing

New works by Trisha Adams will be on display in Gallery 222 **through May 31**. The solo exhibit, "**Fresh Paint**," will include still life and landscape paintings. The gallery is located at 222 South King St., Leesburg. Visit [www.gallery222.com](http://www.gallery222.com) or 703-777-5498.

Photographs by **Aaron Duplissey** will be on display at the Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Sterling,

through **May and June**. Visit [www.lcpl.lib.va.us](http://www.lcpl.lib.va.us).

Pastel art by **Hope Hanes** will be on display at the Ashburn Library, 43316 Hay Road, Ashburn, through **May and June**. Visit [www.lcpl.lib.va.us](http://www.lcpl.lib.va.us).

## Coming Soon

The Museum of Hounds & Hunting North America announces that the Beresford Gallery of Unionville, Pa., will present the 2008 Sporting Art Show and Sale in the historic Coach House at Morven Park over Memorial Day weekend. The sporting art exhibit will be open to the public Friday, **May 23**, from noon-6 p.m.; Saturday, **May 24**, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sunday, May 25, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact the Beresford Gallery, 610-347-1247, [Beresfordgallery.com](http://Beresfordgallery.com) or the office at Morven Park, 703-777-2414.

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

used to help all of the animals under the care of the Montgomery County Humane Society. Register at [www.mchumane.org](http://www.mchumane.org) or call 240-773-5967.

**Carousel Tours.** Carousel tours start at 12 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, and give visitors a closer look at the 1921 Dentzel carousel. Find out how it was made, how it works, and about the rest of the amusement park attractions that were built around it. Visit [www.nps.gov/glec](http://www.nps.gov/glec).

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**Bird Walk.** Half day at the C&O Canal. Songbirds, waterbirds, raptors. Meet at 6:45 a.m. in front of Safeway in Potomac. Contact leaders Tony Futcher, 301-422-3927, or Floyd Murdoch, 301-937-2362.

### MONDAY/MAY 19

**Storytime.** Monday morning storytime at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, 11 a.m. Call 301-986-1761.

**Poetry Reading.** A reading from the "Innisfree Poetry Journal" will be at the Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda, 2 p.m. Call 301-654-8664 or visit [writer.org](http://writer.org).

**Duplicate Bridge.** Enjoy a game at 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville. The fee is \$4 for members or \$6 for the general public. Contact Selma Sweetbaum at 301-348-3860 or [ssweetbaum@jccgw.org](mailto:ssweetbaum@jccgw.org).

### TUESDAY/MAY 20

**Bustles and Beaux:** Letters in America. Join Michael Bevel for a discussion of Sarah Orne Jewett's novel, "The Country Doctor" at

Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, 7 p.m. Visit <http://bustlesandbeaux.wordpress.com> or call 240-777-0970.

**Book Club.** A Science and Technology book club will meet at Barnes and Noble, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. Call 301-986-1761.

### WEDNESDAY/MAY 21

**Potomac Book Club.** Adult book discussion at the Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. This month's book will be "Suite Francaise." Ask for the book at the Circulation Desk. Starts at 1 p.m. Call 301-765-4083.

## BOOKS



### Claudia Gabel

Meet Claudia Gabel author of "In or Out #4: Friends Close, Enemies Closer" and Cheryl Klam author of "The Pretty One" at Barnes and Noble, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, Saturday, May 17, 2 p.m. Call 301-986-1761.

**English Conversation Club.** The English Conversation Club is for people who want to practice speaking English in a friendly setting at the Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, 2 p.m. Call 240-777-0970.

**French Book Club.** Join Madeleine Hage for a discussion of books written in French and discussed in French at the Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. This month the group is reading "L'enfant de sable" by Tahar Ben Jelloun. Call 240-777-0970.

**Lunchtime Concert.** Wednesday lunchtime concerts will take place from 12 - 2 p.m. at the Bethesda Place Plaza located at 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. This weeks performer is Naked Blue (Alternative Rock and Folk). Free. Contact 301-215-6660 or visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).

**Jazz.** 8 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville, with John Eaton. To purchase tickets, call 301-348-3872.

### THURSDAY/MAY 22

**Evening Concert.** Thursday Night concerts will take place from 6-8 p.m. in Veterans Park located at the corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues

in Bethesda. This week's performer will be Terry Terrific and the Judge Smith (Original Rock). Contact 301-215-6660 or visit [www.bethesda.org](http://www.bethesda.org).

### FRIDAY/MAY 23

**Contra Dance.** The Friday Night Dancers presents contra dancing as well as some square dances and waltzes in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. There is a Contra dance lesson from 7:30-8:15 p.m. followed by the called dance from 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners are always welcome. This week Avant Gardeners performs. Admission: \$9. Contact email:

[info@fridaynightdance.org](mailto:info@fridaynightdance.org).

**Swing Dance.** The Glen Echo Park Partnership presents a Swing Dance with the Boilermaker Jazz Band in the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. An introductory Swing lesson with Donna Barker and Mike Marcotte from 8 - 9 p.m. is followed by dancing until Midnight. No partner necessary; admission includes the lesson at 8 p.m.

Admission: \$13. Contact Email: [dbarker@glenechopark.org](mailto:dbarker@glenechopark.org).

**Wine Tasting.** Enjoy Italian wines at Bella Italia, 4844 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, 6-8 p.m. Ages 21 and up. Call 301-654-2667.

### SATURDAY/MAY 24

**Laugh Riot.** Enjoy five local comics and have a chance to tell jokes yourself at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, 7400 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda, 8-10 p.m. Cost \$10. Call 301-657-1234.

**Carousel Tours.** Carousel tours start at 12 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, and give visitors a closer look at the 1921 Dentzel carousel. Find out how it was made, how it works, and about the rest of the amusement park attractions that were built around it. Visit [www.nps.gov/glec](http://www.nps.gov/glec) for more information.

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**Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras at Strathmore**

**Spring Concert**  
**Wednesday, May 21, 7:30 pm**

Young Artists, Symphony, and Philharmonic Orchestras  
 Featuring music from Lord of the Rings, Pirates of the Caribbean, and Stravinsky's "The Firebird"

Plus Special Performance—MCYO Percussion Ensemble  
 6:30 in Orchestra Lobby

TICKETS: Adults \$18, Children and Seniors \$8  
**STRATHMORE\*** Strathmore Ticket Office: 301-581-5100 • [www.strathmore.org](http://www.strathmore.org)

The Music Center at Strathmore  
 5301 Tuckerman Lane, N. Bethesda, MD  
 Parking is complimentary with event ticket.  
 Metro Red Line to Grosvenor-Strathmore

Information:  
 301-581-5208  
 or [www.mcyo.org](http://www.mcyo.org)

**mCyO**  
 MARYLAND CLASSIC YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

**PHOTO GALLERY!**

**"Me and My Dad"**

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Potomac Almanac will publish them in our Father's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

[PhotoP@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:PhotoP@connectionnewspapers.com)

Or to mail photo prints, send to:  
 The Almanac, "Me & My Dad Photo Gallery,"  
 10220 River Road, Suite 303, Potomac, MD 20854

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

**27th ANNUAL ALEXANDRIA RED CROSS WATERFRONT FESTIVAL**  
**JUNE 14-15, 2008**

**Volunteers Needed!**

**Come serve the Alexandria Red Cross and enjoy the Festival for free!**

**Positions include:**  
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Amusements » Festival Store » Gates and more!

To sign up, go to  
[www.waterfrontfestival.org](http://www.waterfrontfestival.org)  
 click on **Get Involved** or call 703.299.2523  
 for more information!

# SPORTS

## Welcome Aboard

Churchill's soccer coach Dave Kelley is taking the reins as Churchill's new athletic director.



**Dave Kelley is leaving his post as Churchill's boy's soccer coach to replace the departing Pat Fisher as the school's athletic director.**

PHOTO BY CYNTHIA ISELIN/  
THE ALMANAC

BY CYNTHIA ISELIN  
THE ALMANAC

**D**ave Kelley will be ending his 10-year run as head coach of Churchill boy's soccer team next year. Not because he's tired of the team or sick of the long afternoon practices but because he will be taking over the position of the Churchill athletic director next school year.

Per county regulations, athletic directors are prohibited to coach but are instead given the responsibility of overseeing all athletics. Thus, Kelley will be handing over the clipboard and adopting the main reins.

"Coaching soccer is something I'm very passionate about," Kelley said. "It took a lot of thought but it was time for me to try something new."

Kelley is replacing Pat Fisher who will be retiring after three years as the current AD and 15 years involved with Churchill physical education and athletics.

"I will miss being able to see all the teams play," Fisher said. "However, Kelley has a lot of athletic experience, knows how the athletic department works and I think he'll

do a great job."

The position demands a good deal of organization to coordinate all 22 athletic teams. However, Kelley has plans to tackle to the challenge head on with a positive mindset for success.

"I am going to be meeting with Mrs. Fisher often to prepare to take over the position," Kelley said. "There are a lot of good things about Churchill Athletics and I look forward to improving them even more within my first year."

Nonetheless, Kelley remains a memorable and influential coach to his players.

"The team is really going to miss Coach Kelley," junior soccer player Socrates Boutsikaris said. "Even though he worked us very hard, at the end of the day, he was an excellent coach."

Though he will miss the daily interaction with his soccer players, Kelley is excited to get to know everyone involved with athletics on a different level.

"I'm looking forward to getting to know coaches and athletes better," Kelley said. "During soccer season, we're caught up in our own world. It will be nice being able to see the other teams play."



PHOTO BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

**Churchill senior attack Kyle Cissel weaves his way towards the goal on Saturday, May 10 as the Bulldogs held on to beat Sherwood to advance to the regional semifinals.**

## Stick Check/Gut Check

**Bulldogs fend off Sherwood to reach regional semifinals.**

BY AARON STERN  
THE ALMANAC

**C**hurchill senior Kyle Cissel wove his way from behind the net to the front of the crease, dropped his stick down and rolled an underhanded shot

past the goalie. The score put the Bulldogs up by four with just over four minutes to play in their second-round game against Sherwood, but then the referee asked to see Cissel's stick.

An illegal stick — too short, too deep a pocket — would have meant an unreleasable three-minute penalty against a Warriors team that had been on the war-path in the second half, cutting a seven-goal halftime margin down to three before Cissel's score. Still, Cissel wasn't nervous.

"I get my stick checked every game," Cissel said. Illegal sticks mean running laps in practice at Churchill, not something Cissel is fond of. "That's not even an option."

The referee gave Cissel back his stick, and the Bulldogs went on to beat Sherwood 15-11 on a sloppy home field in a game that got physical and contentious in the final minutes.

"It's the playoffs, things get heated," said Cissel.

After trailing 9-2 at the half, it was Sherwood that got hot in the second half, cutting their deficit to 13-10 early in the fourth quarter before the Bulldogs regained control.

"They did a great job coming back," Churchill coach Jeff Fritz said of the Warriors. Cissel thought it had less to do with the opponent than with his own team.

"I think it's more a fact that we just lost intensity. At the end we kind of realized that this is our season and we don't want to go home," he said.

Either way, Fritz was pleased with the outcome, and playing a close game isn't always a bad thing come playoff time.

"This game is making us better, it's a good playoff contest," said Fritz.

Next up for the Bulldogs was a regional semifinal match against B-CC that was played after The Almanac's deadline on Tuesday, May 13, postponed from Monday because of the recent rains.

## Call It a Comeback

**Churchill avenges regular season loss against Sherwood with Plotnick's last-second goal.**

BY CYNTHIA ISELIN  
THE ALMANAC

**T**he score's tied, 10 seconds left, playoffs, never beaten the opposing team before.

These thoughts and more raced through senior Lauren Plotnick's mind right before scoring the game winner against Sherwood Saturday.

The Churchill girl's lacrosse team pulled off a big win Saturday against



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

**Whitman's Karin Floyd tracks Whitman's Lindsey Gould. After beating the Vikings by two, Churchill edged Sherwood 12-11 to advance to the regional semifinals.**

Sherwood 12-11, beating the odds and extending their post-season longer than anticipated.

The Bulldogs fell to Sherwood earlier in the season, 20-8 and were awaiting the rematch.

"We were expecting a win," coach Louisa Feve said. "We knew that our regular season loss to them was out of character and that we were capable of

SEE AVENGING, PAGE 17

## SPORTS

# Playoffs' Round 1 Goes to the Rain

**F**ive days of nearly constant rain bogged down the opening rounds of the regional playoffs. Most games in the opening rounds of the baseball playoffs were postponed from Friday afternoon to Tuesday, after The Almanac's deadline. Most softball games were pushed back as well — except for Churchill's game against Blake, which was played at Magruder's elevated field during Saturday afternoon's respite from the weather. The Bulldogs were unable to get on track, however, and their up-and-down season came to an end with a 9-1 loss.

While the final round of the County boys tennis championships were delayed from Thursday, May 8 to Tuesday, May 13, the first two rounds of the lacrosse playoffs were played, with Wootton's girls pulling

away from Walter Johnson after a first-round bye to advance to the regional semifinals — which were pushed back from Monday, May 12 to Tuesday, May 13. Churchill's girls edged Whitman in the opening round, then edged Sherwood 12-11 in the second round to advance to their regional semifinal against Blake that was also rescheduled to Tuesday.

Wootton and Churchill's boys lacrosse teams each put away their second-round opponents after first-round byes, setting up a possible showdown in the regional finals — if both teams were able to overcome strong challengers in the semifinals that were played on Tuesday. Meanwhile Whitman's boys knocked off Paint Branch before falling to B-CC in the second round.



Patriot sophomore Molly Berman scored Wootton's first two goals of the second half to help her team overcome a slow start and pull away from the Wildcats.

## Back to Basics

**Wootton girls overcome slow start to put away Walter Johnson.**

BY AARON STERN  
THE ALMANAC

**T**he Wootton girls lacrosse team finished the regular season undefeated, never encountering an opponent that they couldn't beat. But in their first-round playoff game they ran into an opponent that they couldn't control — the weather.

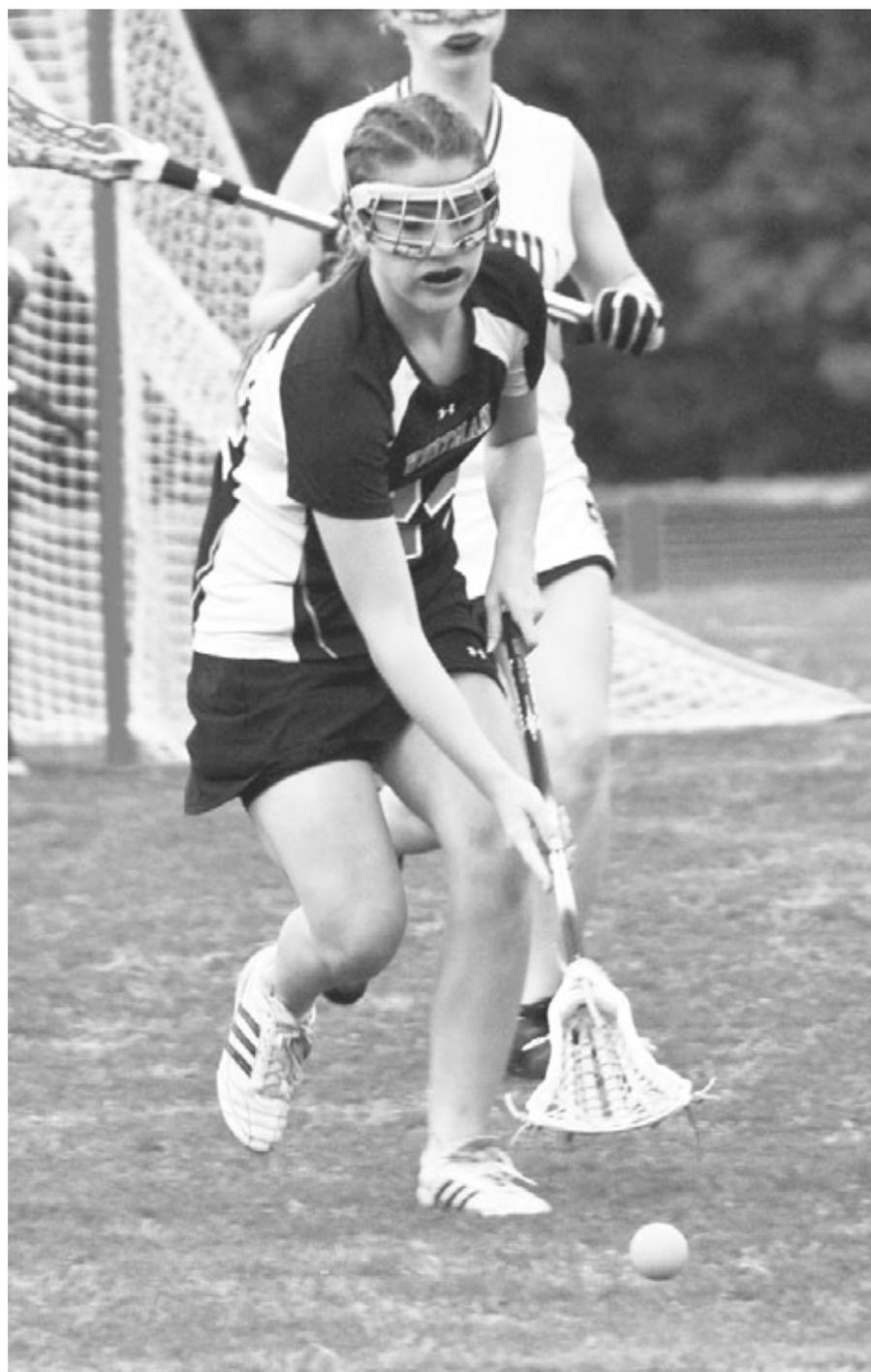
By Saturday, May 10, two straight days of rain had left their home field soggy, slippery and muddy.

"I didn't think we were even going to play," said senior Liza Kaplan. When they did, Wootton took some time to wake up. Walter Johnson did not.

"They were definitely fired up," said Wootton senior Julie Klatzkin.

The Patriots held a slim 5-2 lead over Walter Johnson at the half, which quickly disappeared after two quick Wildcat goals to start the second half, at which point Patriot coach Anne Marie Ritzell called a

SEE BASICS, PAGE 19



Whitman's Stephanie Dorman scoops up a ground ball during Churchill's 10-8 victory in the opening round of the playoffs.

## Avenging a Loss

FROM PAGE 16  
coming out on top."

Down early 4-0, the Bulldogs knew they had to make a move to stay in the game. Biciocchi netted the first two goals, eventually leading the Bulldogs with a team-high of five. Plotnick, however, was right on her heels scoring three including the game winner.

"Being the underdog and coming through with a great performance is something that I will always remember about high school," Plotnick said.

Contributions to the victory did not come from just one or two players however, but from every athlete on the team.

"Everyone stepped up including the bench," Feve said.

Both the coach and the captains note,

however, that the game's outcome might have turned out differently if it weren't for junior Lizzy Naegeli's big game in goal.

"Lizzy had a huge game in the net with 13 saves," Feve said.

Feve is content with the hard work that was put in to result in the outcome.

"I would guess that we won 80-90 percent of the draws which coupled with a disciplined defense and the attack was crucial in securing the victory," Feve said.

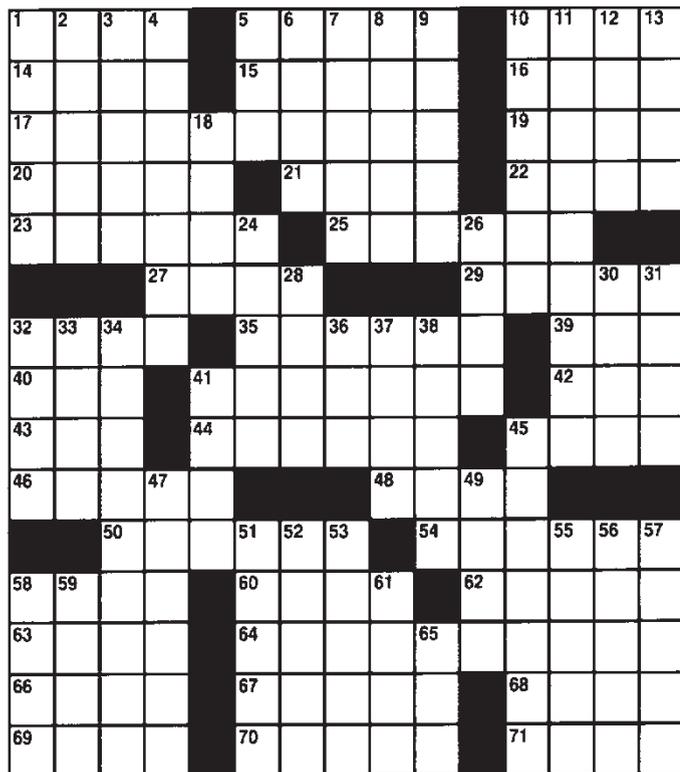
The Bulldogs beat Whitman in the first round of the playoffs, 10-8, before beating Sherwood to advance to the regional semifinals against Blake on Tuesday, May 13 after The Almanac's deadline.

PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

# NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0308-5



Puzzle by Gregory E. Paul

- ACROSS**
- 1 German river to the North Sea
  - 5 Houston N.L. er
  - 10 Fictional captain with an ivory leg
  - 14 Fishing rod attachment
  - 15 Oarsman
  - 16 Malcolm X, for Denzel Washington
  - 17 Where the President works
  - 19 Minute amount
  - 20 Jeans material
  - 21 Regarding
  - 22 Dick and Jane's dog
  - 23 Skipped the wedding
  - 25 Coin flips
  - 27 High-hatter
  - 29 Cockeyed
  - 32 Seldom seen
  - 35 Zoo inhabitants
  - 39 Ill temper
  - 40 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
  - 41 Sewing groups
  - 42 L.B.J.'s successor
  - 43 Bed-and-breakfast
- DOWN**
- 1 Wear away, as earth
  - 2 Carpenter's tool
  - 3 Community gambling game
  - 4 Area south of the White House, with "the"
  - 5 Poodle's bark
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**
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- 28 Lahr of "The Wizard of Oz"
- 30 Humorous Bombeck
- 31 "What \_\_\_\_\_ wrong?"
- 32 Narc's bust
- 33 Cartoonist Peter
- 34 Wagner work
- 36 Have work in Hollywood
- 37 Lot
- 38 \_\_\_\_\_ Haute, Ind.
- 41 Falcon feature
- 45 Popeye's muscle builder
- 47 May honoree
- 49 Came down to earth
- 51 Be in harmony
- 52 Motel units
- 53 Harbor suspicions
- 55 Snake charmer's snake
- 56 Dental filling
- 57 Abounds
- 58 Aluminum sheet
- 59 River in England
- 61 Where gramps jounces junior
- 65 A.M.A. members

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The winner of puzzle #0306-5 is:

# Frank Weinstein



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

**Wootton senior Liza Kaplan looks to pass during the Patriots' opening-round playoff victory against Walter Johnson.**

# Back to Basics

FROM PAGE 16

timeout. It was time for her team to wake up.

"We came out very slow, extremely slow, 90-year-old slow," Ritzell said afterward. "We've done our best to avoid playing in conditions like this ... [and] I think they were a little timid." Ritzell told the girls to get over the field, stop thinking and to start playing full-speed.

Sophomore Molly Berman broke the Patriots out of their slump with an unassisted goal less than two minutes after Ritzell's timeout, and three minutes later took a feed from jun-

ior Caroline Stapleton for another goal. Klatzkin and Kaplan added a goal apiece down the stretch to put Walter Johnson away, 9-4, to advance to the regional semifinals against B-CC on Tuesday, May 13, after The Almanac's deadline.

Getting over the field conditions on Saturday was one thing. Forgetting about the hype that surrounded their undefeated regular season is a whole other matter, and will be the key to determining how far the Patriots go in the playoffs.

"We just have to get it out of our heads that we're undefeated [and] just do the basics," said Kaplan.

## CLASSES

To have an item listed free in The Potomac Almanac, send mail to 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean VA 22102, e-mail to [almanac@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:almanac@connectionnewspapers.com), or fax to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos encouraged. If you have any questions, call Matthew Razak at 703-917-6457.

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## Write On!

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



I have never been a knight in shining armor. Nor have I ever been a man in uniform (Cub Scouts and organized team sports notwithstanding). Certainly I have been a fish out of water and on occasion, I will admit to having been a bit of a wallflower. I may not be the most memorable character you'll ever meet, but nor am I totally forgettable, either. I try not to take up too much space (figuratively speaking) and require very little attention as well. Left alone, I will not wither and die.

Basically, I need to be fed and watered daily, just like our mini rex rabbit, Chester; he seems fairly content to nibble his kibble, crinkle his nose, drink his water, inhale his kale, and toss his toys from side to side and seems not bitter at all when he uses his litter. When out and about (about 30 minutes a day), he hops and hops and chews everything in sight, and a few things we can't see so he needs to be monitored at all times (not unlike some people I know).

Left well enough alone, he will cause goat-like carnage in the house (he's an indoor bunny). He's already chewed Comcast cable wires, "Monster" brand stereo cables, newspapers and magazines, the fringe on Oriental rugs, upholstery and anything and everything he can get his buck teeth on. As simple and mundane as his routine/life appears to be, he seems content, so far as we know. I mean, we haven't received any complaints as yet, and he's been a member of the family going on five years.

It seems like the responsibilities I have — and fulfill — with respect to care-giving our animals (four at present; two cats, one dog and of course, Chester), are the closest I'll get to wearing shining armor. And yet, I'll likely never know if that's how my actions are perceived. Will a cat rubbing his hind quarters against my leg or curling his tail under my nose mean love, gratitude and appreciation? Or will he merely be scratching an itch and I'm the closest thing around? Does my dog Bailey's close proximity to my body indicate his love for me or am I simply protection from a nearby draft or is it a non-verbal queue to "treat" him as soon as I get up? Is Chester's licking of my hand yet another sign of love and affection or is it, as my wife, Dina, has suggested, merely his need for salt and moisture (a salt lick is a recommended in-cage necessity for rabbits)?

Obviously the animals can't talk to me (unless this was a Disney movie), but their actions speak volumes, right? I am their hero, their universe, their savior. Without me (and Dina, too) their life would be difficult, incomplete you might say. Their eyes, their focused glares, tell me all I need to know. And though they are not blood relatives, they are family nonetheless and providing their cradle to grave needs gives me a certain stature — and pride — that I don't think I would otherwise have, nor have ever had not having been in uniform — or armor — in my life (not counting Halloween, either).

Granted, there's more to life than animal magnetism, but given my modest demands and familial associations, I'm fairly content to walk quietly — and write weekly — as to my comings and goings, misgivings, faults and foibles and stick it to the man; that man most often being me. It's easy to take shots at others, anybody can do that. I'd rather stick to the subject matter I know best; me, myself and I. It may not be much but it beats the alternative.

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



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