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SPORTS, PAGE 13

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inside



Members of the Solena Group and Los Tigres polo teams fight for the ball during the Green Cup Pro Challenge.

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Old Hands

Potomac BP: Nearly five decades on.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

In 1975 Rick Hart had a friend who needed him to fill in for two weeks of work at the Potomac Village Exxon gas station. Hart needed the work so he accepted the offer, but he did more than just fill in — he never left.

"It's been a long two weeks," Hart said with a chuckle last week as he replaced the clutch on a Subaru station wagon. Such stories are the norm when it comes to who is who at what is now the Potomac Village BP, where many of the employees have worked for 10-plus years and the newest employee has been there four years. Turn-over isn't exactly a buzzword at the station that opened at the intersection of River and Falls Roads in 1961.

Pape Gaye's parents were Senegalese diplomats and he grew up off of Kentsdale Drive. He first came to work at the Potomac station when he answered a help wanted sign. He worked for two months before his parents finished their work and the family returned to Senegal. In 1987 Gaye applied through the U.S. embassy to come back, got sponsored by Jon Hannam, and was back in the states — and at Potomac BP — in short order and has been there ever since,

"We have a good team here. It's almost like you go to work here with your buddies and get some stuff done."

— Brian Hannam,
Potomac Village BP manager

and has a second job directing airplanes and heavy equipment on the tarmac at Reagan National Airport.

"It's a nice area, the people are nice, that's why I stay around here," Gaye said.

BRIAN HANNAM was working as a repo man for a bank in 1986 when his uncle Jon Hannam asked him to come to work as a night manager at the Potomac Village Exxon station. He didn't know anything about the automobile service industry, but he was more than happy to leave his old job

SEE POTOMAC BP, PAGE 6



PHOTOS BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

At the crossroads of Potomac Village Mitch & Bill's Exxon (foreground) and Potomac BP (background) have sat for and born witness to the changes that the area has seen.

And Mitch & Bill's Exxon ... since 1949

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

Mike Mitchell remembers a time when Potomac used to be a more rural, quiet place. The time was when Tuckerman Road was a dirt road and there were no bridges at the intersection of Glen Road and South Glen Road — cars had to drive through the Kilgore branch stream and doing so wasn't an option during storms.

"This was country," said Mitchell last week in his small office in the back of Mitch & Bill's Exxon at the intersection of Falls and River Roads. "I mean countrified."

Then again, he also remembers when Potomac Village was quite the party scene. Mitch & Bill's used to shut its doors to business and open them up to host gatherings of employees and customers from around the area; the last party Mitchell recalls included boxer Sugar Ray Leonard, who took a night off from training to come by for a beer. Those days are gone.

"Because of that word 'liability' you can't do that anymore," said Mitchell. In the 45 years that Mitchell has worked at Mitch & Bill's — his father Clyde "Mitch" Mitchell opened the station in 1949 with his friend Bill Shoemaker — he has seen a lot change. So too have some of his employees, many of whom have been there for 10 years and some even longer.

"I was here before they cut the hill down in the intersection [of Falls and River]," said technician Harry Waters. Waters isn't sure exactly how long he's been there, but it's been more than 20 years. The intersection was graded down in 1991 and four-way stop lights were put up to enhance driver

safety. Before that, cars could sometimes catch air going over the hill. "It was scary watching dump trucks go over that intersection," Waters recalled.

EVEN 20 OR SO years ago Potomac had a much smaller feel, said Waters.

"It used to be more small townish, you used to know everybody," he said. Back then, Waters said, he used to know the majority of people that came to the station but today that number has dwindled dramatically. "It's a much, much smaller portion. I don't feel like I know hardly anybody anymore."

That said, Waters and Mitchell said that they routinely see second-generation Potomac families at their station and it isn't uncommon to see Mitchell out front of his station talking to people as they pump their gas.

The pattern of repeat customers might have something to do with the expertise and camaraderie of the staff. Manager Sean

Ridge has been on the job for over 20 years and technician Ted Heaton has been there since 1994. Even oil change specialist Dario Mejia has been on board for 13 years.

"I'm like the little Dutch guy that puts his finger in the dam — I do a little bit of everything," said Ridge.

Waters said that Heaton is about the best mechanic he's ever seen.

"A lot of mechanics might be good at one thing or another ... but usually you don't have someone who can diagnose it, fix it, and get it right the first time," said Waters. "There's a very small percentage of guys out there that can do that."

Doing that has gotten harder as cars have become more reliant on computer systems, said Heaton.

"I've been doing this for 30 years and for 20 years you could do everything," he said. "That's kind of fizzled."

SEE MITCH & BILL'S, PAGE 6



From left, Harry Waters, Sean Ridge, Mike Mitchell, Dario Mejia, Curtis Robinson, and Ted Heaton are the heart of Mitch & Bill's.

Hunting for Non-Native Beetles

The C&O Canal National Historical Park is presently participating in an important trapping program to monitor the latest exotic invader to the American Forests, the Emerald ash borer. The trapping and monitoring program is part of a much broader effort being coordinated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Triangular purple traps have been placed in ash trees to alert professionals to any advancement of the emerald ash borer from known areas of infestation, according to a press release from the park service. More information is available at www.aphis.usda.gov.

Since it was first discovered in southeast Michigan in 2002, the Emerald ash borer has spread from to Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, North Carolina as well as parts of Prince Georges County Md., Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and recently Fairfax County Va. The Emerald ash borer can be transported in firewood and nursery stock from quarantined areas of the country into new locations in the park. Neither Emerald ash borer nor Asian longhorn beetle has been found yet in the C&O, but the park's natural resource staff is working with federal and State of Maryland plant protection agencies to educate the public about risks associated with transporting firewood. C&O Canal National Historical Park has banned transporting firewood into park campgrounds.

The green beetle lays eggs in bark crevices on all species of ash. Upon hatching, larvae burrow under the bark, creating feeding tunnels that interfere with the tree's ability to translocate nutrients and fluids. The tree gradually starves and dies. Emerald ash borers kill ash trees within three to five years of infestation. Adults are dark metallic green, 1/2 inch in length and 1/8 inch wide, and fly only from mid-May to September. Larvae spend the rest of the year developing beneath the bark.

For any questions concerning this program, please contact Scott Bell, natural resource program manager at 301-714-2224.

County Photo Contest

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission wants to know what the county's residents think makes Montgomery County such a great place to live. Original photographs depicting the best of their communities is part of the Planning Department's 2008 photo contest. Winning photographers will receive a cash award ranging from \$75 to \$300 and have their images displayed at a number of Montgomery County public events, published in Planning Department publications and posted on its site. The Planning Department will publicize winners through a variety of methods, including press releases. Read all contest rules and complete a photo contest entry form to submit contestants work. The Planning Department is part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

C&O Canal Lowered Near Carderock

Due to a leak in the canal's clay liner above historic Culvert 15 near Carderock, the water level in the C&O Canal has been lowered between Widewater and the American Legion Bridge, according to the National Park Service, which oversees the C&O Canal National Historical Park. Preliminary evaluation of the leak suggests that roots from nearby trees created the breach of the clay liner. Wildlife and aquatic plant and animal species of the canal are being monitored and any impacts will be minimized to the greatest extent possible. Preparations for the repair work are under way.

Severe Blood Shortage, Donors Sought

Low donation rates throughout the summer have caused the community blood supply for all blood types to drop to a crisis level this week. The Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Region (GC&P) of the American Red Cross is reporting just a few hours supply for types O negative, and less than one day supply for

SEE THIS WEEK, PAGE 12

NEWS



County Executive Ike Leggett presents a certificate of appreciation to Ed Jurgau of Shoe Train Shoe Store in Cabin John Mall on Friday, July 18. Jurgau donated 1,000 pairs of new shoes for children who are helped through Montgomery County's Child Welfare Services.

Executive Thoughts

County Executive Leggett addresses Potomac issues.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett sits down with *The Almanac* for some Potomac-focused talk.

Potomac Almanac: Virginia is starting construction on HOT lanes, high occupancy toll lanes that can be used by cars with fewer than three passengers by paying a toll. The lanes are designed to reduce traffic congestion but they are likely to heighten the bottleneck effect that already takes place at the American Legion Bridge. What do you see happening on the Maryland side and would you support HOT lanes in Maryland?

Ike Leggett: I would not be in favor of that. There's a study, a project analysis going on to widen the beltway. The portion of the beltway that is west of Connecticut Avenue creates a real dilemma for us. There are very few opportunities to do it without creating a major disruption, the harm that it would cause to some of the neighborhoods, and then you end up with what we call the Lexus lanes as a result At some point you are going to create a bottleneck the question is where is that bottleneck going to be.

PA: The concern for Potomac residents would be that their neighborhoods could become a cut-through and clog up their two-lane roads.

Leggett: I think that they're correct about that. The more traffic you have, the more people try to find what you call neighborhood escapes, places [in] neighborhoods and roads that are not aligned to accommodate that traffic and there are ways to mitigate that ... The only real option in my opinion long term is greater transit. We don't have any transit at all that goes across the [American Legion] bridge, so to me we have to come up with ways of getting cars off the road. There's no way for us to engineer that situation to provide the kind of that people want because it's just simply a huge, huge problem.

Ultimately you have to find ways to provide transit between places like Bethesda and Tysons Corner.

PA: Is that something that is actively being explored right now?

Leggett: Yeah, but it's probably secondary to some of the other projects we have on the counter such as the Purple Line, the Corridor Cities Transit Way.

PA: When you were on the County Council you worked to increase pedestrian safety in Potomac and throughout the county by promoting sidewalks, is that something that continues to be a priority for you?

Leggett: That's part of our pedestrian safety initiative. One of the things that we have to do is significantly increase the number of sidewalks in order to [address] the kinds of safety challenges we have. I had one sidewalk initiative in the budget that the Council decided not to pursue [the Falls Road hiker/biker path]. In my recommendation we had four or five million dollars, it was quite a large project, for a hike-bike kind of sidewalk ... they decided to delay it for the time being but hopefully they'll come back to it because as you know going down Falls Road it's [unsafe].

PA: The construction of a sidewalk on Falls Chapel Way in the Fox Hills West neighborhood was sharply debated by residents in the neighborhood. What drove your final decision to build it?

Leggett: What at least to me was the most prevailing argument was that we had large numbers of parents and kids walking and I've had a strong initiative for ped safety and not to put the sidewalks in would have been inconsistent with the objectives that I have pursued, that is public safety and to reduce the number of traffic collisions and we had a good example here, even despite the opposition, where we have clear evidence that young kids are walking in the middle of the road, families are jogging up and down the road. The prevailing thought for me was pedestrian safety and the children of the community.

PA: The Tiger Woods golf tournament has been great for the local economy but its future is in up in the air. What is the county doing to keep it or another high-level PGA tournament in the county for the future?

Leggett: There will be a two-year hiatus at Con

SEE LEGGETT, PAGE 11

Unfinished House Faces Stop-Work Order

Eight years after building permits were issued, a Brent Road home remains incomplete.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC



PHOTO BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

This house on Brent Road began construction in 2000 and has yet to be completed, one of several such homes in the area.

Halfway down the winding path of Brent Road a new house is being built. The site bustles with the activity of contractors coming to and from and each day progress on the future residence can be seen.

If the constant activity there is a model for how the construction process should go, then a short ways down the same block is an example of the same process gone wrong. At 10904 Brent Road a rough gravel drive leads up a slight slope through a ragged, weed-choked lot, at the top of which sits a home that was started almost a decade ago and still is unfinished. The home is under roof and has brick siding, but shredded plastic wafts from the unframed windows to reveal the unfinished interior of the home.

A sign recently placed on a post in the driveway indicates that the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services last month issued a stop-work order, but work on the home appears to have stopped well before that order was made. Inspections on new home construction continues as long as the builders and owners keep up correspondence with county officials, but when that stream of dialogue stops coming from the owners, the inspections stop too.

"They have to provide us with receipts, documentation of some sort that shows us that they're actually working on it," to continue the inspection process, said Susan

Scala-Demby, the zoning manager of the county's Department of Permitting Services. "We inspect based on telling us that they're ready for an inspection."

"A lot of times you see these houses pile up right before the market goes south," said Guy Semmes, a Potomac resident and the co-owner of Hopkins & Porter construction.

Once the building process and subsequent county inspections stop, neighbor complaints are about the only way to get inspectors back out to the property. That may have been the case here — Scala-Demby said that a neighbor filed a complaint with her office on June 19 of last month, the

same day the stop-work order was posted due to a problem with the site's sediment control permit compliance, though she could not confirm any correlation.

The home is registered to Yu-Dee Chang of North Potomac, who could not be reached for comment for this story.

Building permits were first issued in for the home in November of 2000 for a 13,556 square-foot structure and follow-up inspections were done in 2000 and 2001. Scala-Demby said that Chang switched building contractors earlier this year after the house failed an architectural inspection, but no work appears to have taken place inside anytime recently.

"They're going to have to make changes, probably in the house," said Scala-Demby. "That may have been the issue with the contractor."

Semmes said that owner-built homes that stall in mid-construction tend to do so either because the owners overextended themselves financially or because they could not line up potential buyers if their intention was to sell the home upon completion.

"Typically it's someone getting into it and then something goes wrong with their finances," he said. "There's a bunch around right now that are just sitting there and of course they're a real eyesore for the neighbors."

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From left, Rick Hart, Brian Hannam, Jon Hannam, Terry Dunham and Pape Gaye share a laugh ...



PHOTOS BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

... before posing for a formal picture. The five men have a roughly 150 years of combined service experience at the Potomac Village BP service station.

Potomac BP: Nearly Five Decades on

FROM PAGE 3

behind and begin anew. Twenty-two years later and now the station manager, he's still glad about his decision. To him, running the service station is about helping people, and working with people who love the area they work in as much as they love their work is a big part of that.

"We have a good team here," said Brian Hannam. "It's almost like you go to work here with your buddies and get some stuff done."

"By accident," said Jon Hannam, with a laugh.

The way Terry Dunham explains it, the station is one part automobile service, one part neighborhood bar.

"People like to come to a place ... that you like to see the same faces," said Dunham. "If they ever want to talk to somebody, we're here."

Dunham is about as close to a Potomac Village icon as one can be. His father opened Dunham's Garage just across the road back in 1951, and Dunham started pumping gas in the afternoons after his mother picked him up from school when he was eight-years-old.

"Basically I was around the automobile

environment forever," Dunham said. After his family's garage closed down in the late 1990s Dunham came across the street to work for the Hannams.

A lot has changed in the two decades that Brian Hannam came to work at the station, and even more since Jon Hannam took it over from his father-in-law William Luhrs. The intersection of Falls and River is physically lower, graded down in 1991 to make the crossroads safer for drivers.

"Cars used to come over that hill and leave the pavement," Jon Hannam said.

Jon Hannam has born witness to subdivisions that have sprung up in place of the old farms and horse pastures that once defined Potomac. The number of people and traffic has increased dramatically.

"After four o'clock, everything was quiet around here," Gaye said.

THE CHANGE that the Hannams have seen on an everyday basis, however, has been less to do with the people and the community than with the technology of the cars themselves.

"That's gone out the roof," Dunham said. Between all manner of onboard computers, specialized parts and tools and, most recently, the rising popularity of gas-electric

hybrid engines, gone are the days of going to work with little more than a wrench and a rag. The switch in job titles from mechanic to technician is evidence of that.

"The technology changes every day," Dunham said. "We're steadily learning every day we come to work."

Gone, too, are the days when the biggest traffic jams occurred when cars would line up out of the station after the first big snow of the season to have their warm weather tires replaced with snow tires. Nearly all of today's drivers use all-season tires, Brian Hannam said, and the traffic today seems to require special occasions to take a day off.

The cost of business has risen dramatically as well. When Jon Hannam came to work sparkplugs ran about 85 cents each; last week he sold a top-of-the-line plug for \$23.

"Twenty years ago people would bring their car in every fall for tuneups," he said. "Now cars go a 100,000 miles without needing tuneups."

"The guys have had to become really acclimated with the computer equipment that we use now," said Brian Hannam.

The constant at the station has been the employees and, in a way, their customers.

"It's grown — certainly there are more people, but Potomac's always been able to keep that small-town [feeling] of it there," Dunham said.

MANY OF THEIR original customers are gone now, but in their stead are often times their children or grandchildren, as well as customers who may have been new 10 years ago but now are regular faces.

"We've seen them get their driver's licenses, get married, and have kids," said Dunham.

As he got out of his car to pump gas last week, Bob Murphy traded friendly barbs with Hart. Murphy has been coming to the station for 20 years.

"They can fix anything on a car," Murphy said. "[They're] the best — it's a great place."

As he reflected on his time at Potomac's main crossroads, Hart — whose coworkers describe him as the office jokester — offered an anecdote that he said he's given out before, and it is one that could be applied to all of the Potomac BP employees.

"I've been here a long time, don't plan on leaving," Hart said. "People ask me how long I've been here, I say, 'since seven this morning.'"

... And Mitch & Bill's Exxon Since 1949

FROM PAGE 3

GAS IN POTOMAC typically costs significantly more than in other areas of the county, a result of the high prices the oil companies charge their franchises to distribute gasoline, said Mitchell. Today's cars are increasingly designed to rely on parts and service that only dealerships can provide, and while technicians at service stations still can do a large amount of ser-

vice on any and all types of cars, going the extra mile helps separate Mitch & Bill's and helps them to continue to be successful.

"We still have full-service here, we still help people check under the hood, check their oil ... check their tires," said Mitchell.

For Curtis Robinson, full-service attendant and roadside assistance specialist — and the rookie of the crew with only five years on staff — it's simple not only why Mitch &

Bill's has been around so long, but why he likes it there.

"I have my regular customers, and I like my crew, the crew I'm with," he said.

Time has flown for Mitchell, who started working at his father's station when he was 13, cleaning the bathroom and pumping gas.

Heaton joked that Mitchell's automotive and business knowledge still hasn't progressed much from those early years.

"Somewhere in this article I want you to mention that every day is his first day," Heaton said.

"We love playing with our owner," said Waters.

The station is his now, 45 years later, having taken over from Mitch & Bill in the 1980s, but Mitchell's operation still has a family atmosphere.

"We feel like family up here we've been here for so long," said Mitchell.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Bounce

Bounce and Pounce are two two-month-old kittens looking for "purrfect" homes. Bounce is a male, black DSH and his sister Pounce is a gray table DSH. Both are happy, active kittens looking for a nice place to live for their next 15-20 years. They are currently in the Montgomery County Humane Society's Foster Care Program. If you have the love and care to give, call 240-483-2846 or email mchs@mchumane.org to meet them.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN SHALOWITZ/MCHS

Both of these pets are currently residing at the Montgomery County Humane Society county shelter at 14645 Rothgeb Drive, Rockville. Call 301-279-9677 or e-mail mchs@mchumane.org.



Pounce



Pooka

Dina is a female, 6-year-old, to be spayed Lab mix. Dina is a sweet girl that was rescued from starvation and a tough life by PAW. She thrived in foster care and is now an obedient, happy and healthy girl. Dina is good with kids and other dogs but not cats and will be a sweet girl for her adopters.

Pooka is a male, 3 1/2-month-old, neutered, DSH kitten. A Pooka is a type of mischievous spirit and PAW's kitten fits his name. He enjoys romps and exploring with two siblings but also loves cuddles and human attention. Pooka would be a great kitten for a lucky cat lover.

Partnership for Animal Welfare (PAW) is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit group. To adopt an animal, volunteer or make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.paw-rescue.org, call 301-572-4PAW or write to PAW, P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768.



Dina

CIVIC CALENDAR

To submit an item for the Civic Calendar, e-mail 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.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 23

Montgomery Hospice Workshop:

"When Bad Things Happen to Good People," discussion of ways to support those who are facing struggles and challenges, 7 - 8:30 p.m., Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 100, Rockville. Free. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

CLASSES

Wootton High School Football is holding Basic Training, a football mini-camp for youth entering grades 3-8. The camp will be held **July 28-31**, 6-8 p.m. Registration fee is \$65. Discount is available for families with multiple participants. Visit www.woottonfootball.com.

Joy of Dance Class. Fall semester begins new dance classes at Joy of Motion Dance Center, 7315 Wisconsin Ave., Suite 180 E, Bethesda. Call for more information 301-986-0016.

Children's Movement Classes. Creative Movement fall session starts at Kids Moving Company, 7475 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Classes held on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Times vary by ages. 9 months-9 years. \$25/class or \$375/session. 301-656-1543.

www.connectionnewspapers.com

SUNDAY/JULY 27

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.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 30

Montgomery Hospice drop-in discussion about grief and healing, for anyone grieving the death of a loved one. 1 - 2:30 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 100, Rockville. Free. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

VOLUNTEER

Capital Hospice needs volunteers for its weekend **Point of Hope Camp, Aug. 1-3**, to work alongside professionals assisting children, teens and adults grieving a recent loss. No experience is necessary — mandatory training is free. Point of Hope Camp combines recreational and therapeutic activities in the beautiful, rustic setting of Camp Ramblewood, north of Baltimore. It is offered at no charge to anyone in Northern Virginia, Washington D.C. or Suburban Maryland. Call 703-538-2030, or visit online www.capitalhospice.org.



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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@connectionnewsletters.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/JULY 23

Focus Music. Amy Speace and the Tearjerkers will perform at O'Brien's BBQ, 387 East Gude Drive, Rockville, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 general and \$12 for Focus Music members. Visit www.focusmusic.org.

Wild Birds. Raptor expert Lois Auer introduces her special bird friends at the Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, 7 p.m. Pre-register at 240-777-0690.

THURSDAY/JULY 24

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 Junkyard Saints (Latin, Swing, Rock and Cajun). Contact 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

Brown Bag Book Discussion. New to Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda. A lunchtime non-fiction book club at 12 p.m. Bring the book and lunch every fourth Thursday of the month. July's book is "Devil in the White City." Call 240-777-0970.

FRIDAY/JULY 25

Baseball. Watch the Bethesda Big Trains take on the Express at Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive in Cabin John Regional Park, Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 adults and \$3 for children. Call 301-983-1006 or visit www.bigtrain.org.

Contra Dance. Contra dances are held every Friday night at Glen Echo Park, 7400 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, in the Spanish Ballroom, with a lesson at 7:30 p.m. and the dance from 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners are always welcome. Admission: \$9. Contact Email: info@fridaynightdance.org.

SATURDAY/JULY 26

Baseball. Watch the Bethesda Big Trains take on the A's at Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive in Cabin John Regional Park, Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 adults and \$3 for children. Call 301-983-1006 or visit www.bigtrain.org.

Butterflies, Bees and Buds. 10-11 a.m., Ages 3-5, with an adult. Enjoy the beauty of summer as the Audubon Society reads a nature book under one of our large Tulip trees. Then take a nature walk through the meadow and forest. Fees: Members: \$12 per child; nonmembers \$14 per child. \$8 for each additional member sibling; \$10 for each nonmember sibling. Adults are free. Registration required. Call 301-652-9188 x26.

Summer Sounds Evening Hike. 6:30-8 p.m., Ages 6 and up, with an adult. Bring the family out for a relaxing summer night walk at

Woodend. As the Audubon Society meanders through Woodend Sanctuary, look and listen for the season's best - bats, owls, frogs, and insects. Fees: Members: \$12 per child; nonmembers \$14 per child. \$8 for each additional member sibling; \$10 for each nonmember sibling. Adults are free. Registration required. Call 301-652-9188 x26.

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

Swing Dance. The Tom Cunningham Orchestra will perform in the Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The dance class from 3 to 3:30 p.m. is followed by dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission: \$15. Contact Phone: 703-533-8864.

Cajun/Zydeco Dance. Dancing by the Bayou presents a Zydeco dance featuring Geno Delafosse in the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Admission includes an introductory Zydeco dance lesson at 8 p.m. with Michael and Sharon,

www.discoverycreek.org.

SUNDAY/JULY 27

Baseball. Watch the Bethesda Big Trains take on the Redbirds at Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive in Cabin John Regional Park, Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 adults and \$3 for children. Call 301-983-1006 or visit www.bigtrain.org.

Ballroom Tea Dance. Join New HOTS Jazz Orchestra for an afternoon featuring the music of the 1920s Hot Dance and 1930s-40s Swing eras in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The dance class from 3 to 3:30 p.m. will feature Fox trot, taught by Renee Camus. The lesson is for all levels and is included in the cost of admission. Admission: \$10. Contact Phone: 703-860-4142.

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 at Glen Echo Park, 7300

MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo in the Bumper Car Pavilion. All dances are taught, and no partner is necessary. The newcomers' welcome lesson is at 7 p.m., followed by dances with caller Perry Shafirin calling to Miss Marty & SGB from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Admission: \$12 nonmembers/\$9 FSGW members. Web site: www.fsgw.org.

MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo in the Bumper Car Pavilion. All dances are taught, and no partner is necessary. The newcomers' welcome lesson is at 7 p.m., followed by dances with caller Perry Shafirin calling to Miss Marty & SGB from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Admission: \$12 nonmembers/\$9 FSGW members. Web site: www.fsgw.org.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 30

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 David Bach Consort (Smooth Jazz). Free. Contact 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

Agricultural Fair. The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair visits the Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, with live animals, 2 p.m. Call 240-777-0970.

Bethesda Outdoor Movies. Catch "An Inconvenient Truth" for free at Woodmont Triangle, corner of Norfolk and Auburn Avenue in downtown Bethesda, 9 p.m. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

THURSDAY/JULY 31

Hot Squares. Join Hot Squares in the Olde Towne Tonight for an evening of traditional American square dancing and general all around merrymaking to live music in the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, 8-10:30 p.m. No dance experience, lessons, or partner required. Admission: \$8. Contact Phone: 301-651-8971 or 410-268-0231.

Bethesda Outdoor Movies. Catch "Annie Hall" for free at Woodmont Triangle, corner of Norfolk and Auburn Avenue in downtown Bethesda, 9 p.m. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

FRIDAY/AUG. 1

Baseball. Watch the CRSL Playoffs if necessary at Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive in Cabin John Regional Park, Bethesda, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 adults and \$3 for children. Call 301-983-1006 or visit www.bigtrain.org.

Fun in the Sun. Color a beach ball, create magic noodles and enjoy story time with finger puppets with Perfect Parties by Terrye at Cabin John Mall Atrium, 11325 Seven Locks Road, Potomac, 9:30 a.m.

Breaking Dawn Event. A party celebrating the release of "Breaking Dawn" will be held at Barnes and Noble, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, 10 p.m. Call 301-986-1761.

Bethesda Outdoor Movies. Catch "Hairspray" for free at Woodmont Triangle, in downtown Bethesda, 9 p.m. Call 301-215-6660.

FARM TOUR

Montgomery County's

2008 Annual Farm Tour and Harvest Sale, is scheduled for Saturday, July 26, with some farms participating on Sunday July 27 as well. The tour and sale will be held both days from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. The Farm Tour provides an opportunity to purchase fresh fruits, flowers, plants, and much more. Several farms have hayrides, pony rides, music, demonstrations and other fun activities planned for people of all ages. Spend a day or two in the country petting farm animals or having lunch by a scenic pond. It's an educational experience and a family day outing. The Farm Tour and Harvest Sale brochure can be found at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/farmtour. Call 301-590-2823.



THEATER



"The Neverending Story"

"Little Red Riding Hood & The Three Little Pigs" will be presented by The Puppet Co., Glen Echo Park, Playhouse, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo from July 23 - Aug. 31. Show times are Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Ages 3-15. Cost is \$8. Call 301-320-6668.

FRIDAY/AUG. 1

This summer, Montgomery College will bring "Disney's Beauty and the Beast" to the stage for its Summer Dinner Theatre performances, July 25-27 and Aug. 1-3. Tickets for Summer Dinner Theatre are \$37 for adults and \$27 for children ages 12 and under. Prices include the performance and a full dinner buffet. At Friday and Saturday night performances, the doors will open at 6:30 p.m., with a show time of 8:15 p.m. On Sunday, the buffet will open at 12:30 p.m., with a 2:15 p.m. show time. All performances are held in the Theatre Arts Arena on the College's Rockville Campus, located at 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville.

To purchase tickets, visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/sdt or call 240-567-7676.

"Big River" will be presented by

Getting To Know ...

Ron Shalom

Ron Shalom, a Potomac resident and graduate of Winston Churchill High School, recently finished his first year of study at the University of Southern California. A double bass performance major, Shalom has had the opportunity to work on several film projects. The most prominent of these has been recording for "The Soloist" a movie starring Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey Jr. due out in the United States in November 2008.

(The full text of this Q&A can be found at www.connectionnewsletters.com.)

Who are you currently studying under?

David Moore, professor of double bass at the University of Southern California (where I study) and the Colburn School, and a member of the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Who did you study under while studying in Potomac?

Jeffrey Weisner (who I'm studying with over the summer too), who is a professor at Peabody Conservatory and a bassist in the National Symphony Orchestra.

Who would you say are your greatest influences?

People who are giving an honest go at something strange inspire me. On one hand, music is limited by what humans can all relate to: we all immediately appreciate a 4/4 beat, and that will never change. But on the other hand, music is about exploring our personalities: what appeals to us, what makes us feel a certain way, how we dance to a piece of music, and what the musicians them-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE JENG

Ron Shalom

selves are expressing; and it's about pushing those things to the limit, finding out what it really means to be human, looking for the edge itself. Most often in art, it's a combination of those things that takes us to another level. Some of the most influential musicians for me have been J.S. Bach, The Beatles, Aphex Twin, Animal Collective, Beethoven, Charles Mingus, Schoenberg, and Mercedes Sosa. But my greatest influences are the people I play music with, other young musicians trying something different and exciting. My parents, of course, also took a huge role in supporting music in my life.

What are your favorite genres of music?

My passion right now is electronic music. The sound, feel, energy, originality, and craftsmanship of the whole genre just blows my mind. And did I mention

777-0170.

"Flight Fantasy" will be at The Dennis and Philip Ratner Museum, 10001 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, through July 30. Gallery hours are Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Monday-Thursday, 12-4:30 p.m. Call 301-897-1518.

"Revolution of Love" A Collection of new works by Sarah Bieda. Artist Sarah Bieda, will introduce her most recent paintings of expressive psychological figures and intimate landscapes, at the Yellow Barn Gallery, at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, Aug. 1-3. The Gallery is open Friday through Sunday, 12 - 5 p.m. An opening reception will be held on August 1, from 5-7 p.m. in the Yellow Barn Gallery. Call 301-371-5593 or visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com.

Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda, welcomes experimental fiber artist Deb Jansen from through Aug. 2. Gallery hours are Tuesday - Saturday, 12-6 p.m. Call 301-951-9441.

The Metropolitan Center for the Visual Arts (VisArts at Rockville), 155 Gibbs St., Rockville, presents "From Farm to Market", through Aug. 17. This exhibit explores the impact food has on people's lives, revealing ways in which it influences relationships in how it is produced and how it is portrayed through a variety of art mediums. This summer-time exhibition features work by local area artists who look to food as their sources and inspirations for their work.

the sound? Every piece of noise in electronic music is special, created by the musician himself. What could be more personal? And the limitlessness of the genre prompts every artist to be a kind of groundbreaker. There are some real geniuses out there. Bluegrass and folk are also some of my favorite music. Bluegrass is just so heartfelt, and that crooning just gets me. The sound of a banjo, bass, and fiddle is so sweet and soulful. I also connect very much with South American folk music. I really dig anything with a great beat, so I'm also into a lot of hip-hop and even a little dance. And I have my guilty pleasures . . . some pop music is awesome. And we all love a little punk and alternative — it totally surrounds us in the music world.

How has studying in Los Angeles helped you as a musician?

Living in a place as different from Potomac as L.A. was obviously a shock. Being exposed to very strange (to me) people and kinds of music that I had no previous experience with helped push my musical limits, but really the most beneficial musical experiences were the ones that were downright awful. I listened to a lot of bad music in L.A. — and a lot of great stuff, too! — but it was the music that seemed inappropriate, poor, or lacking that best helped me define what I wanted to pursue in music, because it put into perspective everything that I did not want to do. Idealism is a big factor in music, in all art.

Los Angeles helped me call those qualities of music that were beautiful and important to me from a huge range of genres and musicality, and that way helped me redefine my musical goals. For me, L.A. presented a wider range of musical possibility along with a clearer idea of what music means to me.

What other Potomac area musicians would you recommend

listening to?

There's a street drummer who plays outside the Barnes & Noble in Bethesda sometimes. I've seen him in Dupont Circle too. He rocks.

Are you excited to hear your music in a professional movie soundtrack?

Is it possible to be blasé about something like that? Unless you're used to millions of people hearing your music. Does this count as my first major exposure to the music industry?

I guess I'm in the big leagues now. If you can pick out the sound of my bass in the orchestra I'll personally sign the DVD for you.

What are your musical goals for the next year?

My biggest goal is to find a few like-minded musicians to work with. I think the best way to push myself is to start collaborating with other people in a more personal way. I also have goals that I've set for myself on bass and piano, because it's important to me that I'm always improving that way. And another priority is definitely to continue exploring and making electronic music. I think that's the best way to get exposed to great new stuff!

What are your other hobbies and interests outside of music?

I like going places I've never been before in D.C. and Baltimore. I think places in Potomac like the C & O Canal are beautiful, and I really like walking or riding there. I spend a lot of time going to shows, art exhibits, theater, and museums. It's also really important to me to see and hear local artists — music shows, galleries, anything. I wish there were more venues for artists in Potomac! I also recently learned I like running, biking, swimming, and playing basketball and soccer if the other players are as bad as I am.

Visit www.VisArtsCenter.org.

Osuna Art, 7200 Wisconsin Ave., Artery Plaza Lobby, Bethesda, will present "James Hilleary, Painting from the '60s" and pieces from the Washington Color School through Aug. 20. Gallery hours are Wednesday to Saturday, 12-5 p.m. Call 301-654-4500 or visit www.osunaart.com.

The exhibit "Breakfast" is a vignette-style exhibit, on display throughout the Beall-Dawson House, 103 W. Montgomery Ave., Rockville, in conjunction with the exhibit "Good Advice." The vignettes include a family breakfast, formal breakfast, breakfast in bed, breakfast preparation, and even George Washington's breakfast and will be on display through Sept. 21. Included with museum admission (\$3 adults/\$2 seniors & students). Call 301-762-1492 or www.montgomeryhistory.org.

An exhibition by members of the Advanced Master Printing class taught by Frank "Tico" Herrera will be at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, through Aug. 29. Look for images covering a variety of approaches to photography. In the Photoworks Studio. Wednesdays and Sundays, 1-8 p.m., and at all times during day and evening classes. Admission is free. Call 301-229-7930 or visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

The exhibit "Good Advice" will survey almost 200 years of American advice books, aimed at helping people to improve their lives from top to bottom. The exhibit will be on display through Sept. 21, at the Beall-Dawson House,

103 W. Montgomery Ave., Rockville. Museum hours are 12-4 p.m., Tuesday to Sunday. Included with museum admission (\$3 adults/\$2 seniors & students).

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Bethesda					
4801 Hampden Ln. #103	\$899,900	Sun 2-4	Allan Chaudhuri	WC & AN Miller Realtors	301-765-6110
4507 Chestnut St.	\$1,292,500	Sun 1-4	Mynor Herrera	Weichert	301-656-2500
6211 Crathie Ln.	\$725,000	Sun 1-4	Jane Fairweather	Coldwell Banker	240-223-4663
9004 Ewing Dr.	\$1,299,000	Sun 1-4	Jane Fairweather	Coldwell Banker	240-223-4663
7803 Fox Gate Ct.	\$1,225,000	Sun 1:30-4	Beverly Piccone	Coldwell Banker	301-718-0010
5808 Greentree Rd.	\$805,000	Sat 1-4	Gisela Goldberg	Long & Foster	240-497-1700
5826 Ipswich Rd.	\$659,000	Sun 1-4	Howard Lerner	Long & Foster	240-497-1700
6106 Kirby Rd.	\$1,650,000	Sun 1-4	Jane Fairweather	Coldwell Banker	240-223-4663
8623 Rayburn Rd.	\$1,695,000	Sun 1-4	Ashton Vessali	Weichert	703-760-8880
5101 River Rd. #706	\$424,000	Sun 1-4	Bonnie Roberts-Burke	Randall H. Hagner	202-857-4362
4974 Sentinel Dr. #13-403	\$775,000	Sun 1-4	Constance Parker	Long & Foster	202-364-5200
6708 Tulip Hill Ter.	\$995,000	Sun 2-5	Alan Bruzee	Long & Foster	301-519-8066
5301 Westbard Cir. #340	\$370,000	Sun 1-4	Patricia McKenna	Keller Williams	301-384-9494
8308 Whitman Dr.	\$865,000	Sun 1-4	Leslie Friedson	Long & Foster	301-455-4506
Potomac					
6804 Canal Bridge Ct.	\$1,149,000	Sun 1-4	Angie Hashempour	Keller Williams	240-514-1500
12105 Drews Ct.	\$1,198,500	Sun 1-4	Jackie Lawrence	Century 21	301-977-4663
11208 Fall River Ct.	\$949,900	Sat 1-3/Sun 1-4	Dale Gold	Weichert	301-718-4080
9608 Hall Rd.	\$984,500	Sun 1-4	Sylvia McLamara-Biggar	WC & AN Miller	301-299-2345
4703 Monaco Cir.	\$1,075,000	Sun 1-4	Jane Fairweather	Coldwell Banker	240-223-4663
9800 Tibron Ct.	\$1,675,000	Sun 1-4	Leslie Friedson	Long & Foster	301-455-4506
North Potomac					
11924 Bayswater Rd.	\$419,900	Sun 1-4	Karen Howes	Coldwell Banker	301-921-1040
13537 Hunting Hill Way	\$1,399,000	Sun 1-4	Barbara Nalls	Long & Foster	240-497-1700
14004 Parsippany Pl.	\$699,900	Sun 1-4	Leslie Friedson	Long & Foster	301-45-5-4506
13825 Ranch Pl.	\$445,000	Sun 1-4	Christine Chamberlin	Weichert	301-681-0555

To add your Realtor-represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Kenneth Lourie
703-917-6475 or E-Mail the info to
Klourie@connectionnewspapers.com
 All listings due by Tues at 10 am.

HOME SALES

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Date Sold
11500 SKIPWITH LN	6	7	2	POTOMAC		\$4,500,000	Detached	5.410009	06/03/08
11618 HIGHLAND FARM RD	8	7	3	POTOMAC		\$3,375,000	Detached	2.0	06/30/08
9301 HARRINGTON DR	3	4	1	POTOMAC		\$3,200,000	Detached	3.480005	06/02/08
11118 CRIPPLEGATE RD	6	7	2	POTOMAC		\$2,945,000	Detached	7.240014	06/25/08
8539 RAPLEY PRESERVE CIR	6	6	3	POTOMAC		\$2,700,000	Detached		06/30/08
12604 TRIBUNAL LN	6	7	2	POTOMAC		\$2,400,000	Detached	2.0	06/13/08
7505 MARBURY RD	6	5	1	BETHESDA		\$2,359,000	Detached	0.303237	06/25/08
9220 VENDOME DR	5	6	3	BETHESDA		\$2,310,000	Detached	1.137994	06/17/08
6612 MICHAELS DR	7	6	1	BETHESDA		\$2,200,000	Detached	0.467172	06/17/08
8904 IRON GATE CT	5	5	1	POTOMAC		\$2,000,000	Detached	2.039991	06/13/08
9517 NEWBRIDGE DR	5	6	1	POTOMAC		\$1,999,999	Detached	2.0	06/23/08
11601 LUVIE CT	6	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,850,000	Detached	0.810078	06/27/08
6715 LORING CT	5	5	1	BETHESDA		\$1,818,000	Detached	0.233655	06/30/08
8203 MOORLAND LN	5	4	1	BETHESDA		\$1,600,000	Detached	0.225689	06/16/08
12531 LINDA VIEW LN	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,546,000	Townhouse	0.6	06/23/08
6024 WILSON LN	6	5	1	BETHESDA		\$1,525,000	Detached	0.225689	06/18/08
9219 SHELTON ST	5	4	1	BETHESDA		\$1,500,000	Detached	0.236823	06/26/08
7804 LONESOME PINE LN	5	4	1	BETHESDA		\$1,355,250	Detached	0.685193	06/12/08
11314 RIDGE MIST TER	6	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,350,000	Detached	0.233494	06/09/08
12200 DREWS CT	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,350,000	Detached	2.869949	06/20/08
8917 BRADMOOR DR	5	5	1	BETHESDA		\$1,345,000	Detached	0.181382	06/04/08
7305 BARRA DR	4	4	2	BETHESDA		\$1,332,500	Detached	0.527732	06/28/08
10412 MASTERS TER	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,325,000	Detached	0.404385	06/02/08
13141 BRUSHWOOD WAY	5	4	2	POTOMAC		\$1,320,000	Detached	2.019995	06/26/08
13300 BEALL CREEK CT	6	4	2	POTOMAC		\$1,310,000	Detached	2.630005	06/26/08
12223 DREWS CT	4	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,300,000	Detached	4.769995	06/20/08
6736 NEWBOLD DR	7	4	1	BETHESDA		\$1,285,000	Detached	0.421832	06/02/08
8004 COBBLE CREEK CIR	3	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,275,000	Detached	0.182415	06/16/08
10017 SORREL AVE	5	5	1	POTOMAC		\$1,257,000	Detached	0.545569	06/12/08
12501 BRACKEN HILL LN	5	3	1	POTOMAC		\$1,256,500	Detached	2.0	06/30/08
1 MASTERS CT	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,250,000	Detached	0.410009	06/27/08
9316 RENSCHAW DR	6	4	0	BETHESDA		\$1,250,000	Detached	0.391804	06/30/08
11711 ROBERTS GLEN CT	6	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,250,000	Detached	0.534527	06/30/08
7705 LAUREL LEAF DR	6	5	0	POTOMAC		\$1,225,000	Detached	0.367952	06/05/08
9608 BEMAN WOODS WAY	4	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,215,000	Townhouse	0.088705	06/26/08
9804 CLYDESDALE ST	4	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,150,000	Detached	0.397727	06/25/08
7501 RADNOR RD	6	4	0	BETHESDA		\$1,149,000	Detached	0.30303	06/30/08
8104 COACH ST	4	2	2	POTOMAC		\$1,125,000	Detached	0.344353	06/12/08
2 REACH CT	4	3	2	POTOMAC		\$1,125,000	Detached	0.358953	06/16/08
8800 SLEEPY HOLLOW LN	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,100,000	Detached	0.261708	06/16/08
10717 TULIP LN	4	3	0	POTOMAC		\$1,091,000	Detached	2.030005	06/24/08
12304 COPENHAVER TER	6	3	1	POTOMAC		\$1,060,000	Detached	0.289486	06/09/08
9443 ROSEHILL DR	6	4	2	BETHESDA		\$1,060,000	Detached	0.692126	06/23/08
8309 TOMLINSON AVE	5	4	1	BETHESDA		\$1,050,000	Detached	0.470707	06/15/08
12516 STONEY CREEK RD	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,050,000	Detached	0.639991	06/23/08
8556 HORSESHOE LN	7	6	0	POTOMAC		\$1,050,000	Detached	2.139991	06/27/08
6 SPRINGER CT	5	5	1	BETHESDA		\$1,000,000	Detached	0.491139	06/16/08
5853 MARBURY RD	4	3	0	BETHESDA		\$1,000,000	Detached	0.2118	06/30/08
12204 HICKORY WOOD CT	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$985,000	Detached	0.202938	06/30/08
7720 OLDCHESTER RD	4	2	1	BETHESDA		\$977,000	Detached	0.285996	06/18/08
7012 MARBURY RD	4	3	1	BETHESDA		\$975,000	Detached	0.294697	06/25/08
9200 SPRINKLEWOOD LN	4	3	2	POTOMAC		\$975,000	Detached	0.314807	06/30/08
81119 THOREAU DR	5	4	0	BETHESDA		\$955,000	Detached	0.216253	06/03/08
8608 CARLYNN DR	5	3	0	BETHESDA		\$952,500	Detached	0.278076	06/30/08
9800 RIVER RD	6	2	1	POTOMAC		\$950,000	Detached	0.684596	06/10/08
10414 CROSSING CREEK RD	5	3	0	POTOMAC		\$932,000	Detached	0.438636	06/20/08
5518 MCKINLEY ST	4	4	1	BETHESDA		\$900,000	Detached	0.312994	06/17/08
8720 FALLS CHAPEL WAY	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$869,000	Detached	0.289096	06/10/08
8313 LORING DR	5	3	0	BETHESDA		\$853,000	Detached	0.246304	06/16/08
7609 HONESTY WAY	5	3	0	BETHESDA		\$850,000	Detached	0.221488	06/16/08
9221 COPENHAVER DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$850,000	Detached	0.274793	06/20/08
8905 SEVEN LOCKS RD	5	3	0	BETHESDA		\$843,000	Detached	0.946465	06/03/08
6402 ORCHID DR	5	3	0	BETHESDA		\$837,000	Detached	0.212121	06/13/08
11709 ADMIRALS CT	4	3	0	POTOMAC		\$820,000	Detached	1.666437	06/18/08
11400 CEDAR RIDGE DR	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$820,000	Townhouse	0.08742	06/30/08
8104 WHITTIER BLVD	4	2	1	BETHESDA		\$805,000	Detached	0.239096	06/06/08
10817 OLD COACH RD	4	3	0	POTOMAC		\$800,000	Detached	0.335445	06/25/08
5604 ROOSEVELT ST	3	2	1	BETHESDA		\$799,900	Detached	0.174197	06/19/08
7616 EDENWOOD CT	4	2	1	BETHESDA		\$799,500	Detached	0.298278	06/23/08
11911 COLDSTREAM DR	5	3	1	POTOMAC		\$785,000	Detached	0.223255	06/30/08
11313 ROUEN DR	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$780,000	Detached	0.353237	06/27/08
1123 BETTSTRAIL WAY	5	3	1	POTOMAC		\$776,200	Detached	0.227273	06/20/08
8900 MAXWELL DR	5	2	2	POTOMAC		\$775,000	Detached	0.346028	06/27/08
11212 ANGUS PL	3	3	1	POTOMAC		\$770,000	Detached	0.188981	06/17/08
6007 BEECH AVE	3	3	1	BETHESDA		\$766,000	Detached	0.195937	06/30/08
7810 FULBRIGHT CT	3	2	1	BETHESDA		\$760,000	Detached	0.228076	06/23/08
6605 LONE OAK DR	4	3	1	BETHESDA		\$751,900	Detached	0.480969	06/26/08
8811 LOWELL ST	3	2	0	BETHESDA		\$750,000	Detached	0.161593	06/16/08
12213 DEVILWOOD DR	4	2	2	POTOMAC		\$746,250	Detached	0.213017	06/26/08
6707 RANNOCH RD	4	3	1	BETHESDA		\$740,000	Detached	0.219146	06/25/08
5901 MADISON ST	4	2	1	BETHESDA		\$735,000	Detached	0.195478	06/26/08
9724 ELDWICK WAY	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$728,000	Detached	0.288636	06/17/08
9025 FALLS CHAPEL WAY	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$722,500	Detached	0.244628	06/30/08
5714 WILSON LN	4	3	0	BETHESDA		\$719,000	Detached	0.193526	06/17/08
1508 WEST KERSEY LN	4	2	2	POTOMAC		\$709,000	Detached	0.283884	06/20/08
9009 SENECA LN	3	2	1	BETHESDA		\$700,000	Detached	0.216368	06/23/08
12721 HUNTING HORN CT	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$695,000	Detached	0.241322	06/10/08
8629 RED COAT LN	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$695,000	Detached	0.253122	06/30/08
10420 OVERGATE PL	4	3	1	POTOMAC		\$690,000	Townhouse	0.051653	06/17/08
11702 KAREN DR	4	3	0	POTOMAC		\$689,000	Detached	0.351079	06/18/08
5902 GREENTREE RD	3	2	1	BETHESDA		\$675,000	Detached	0.146373	06/03/08
6301 HALBERT RD	3	2	0	BETHESDA		\$669,000	Detached	0.27888	06/06/08
2420 CHILHAM	5	3	0	POTOMAC		\$668,000	Detached	0.206612	06/27/08
1709 SUNRISE DR	5	3	1	POTOMAC		\$657,000	Detached	0.195133	06/30/08
1748 CRESTVIEW DR	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$650,000	Detached	0.364486	06/27/08
1392 STRATTON DR	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$649,997	Detached	0.220386	06/27/08
7820 ORACLE PL	3	3	1	POTOMAC		\$630,000	Townhouse	0.056589	06/30/08
7836 ORACLE PL	3	2	2	POTOMAC		\$619,000	Townhouse	0.046832	06/26/08
8611 BUNNELL DR	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$575,000	Detached	0.221534	06/02/08
7541 HEATHERTON LN	3	2	2	POTOMAC		\$563,000	Townhouse	0.04596	06/30/08
11818 COLDSTREAM DR	3	2	1	POTOMAC		\$558,000	Detached	0.218388	06/24/08
1495 SELWORTHY RD	4	2	1	POTOMAC		\$550,000	Detached	0.210629	06/30/08
7525 CODDLE HARBOR LN	3	3	1	POTOMAC		\$547,500	Attach/Row Hse	0.04596	06/10/08
926 INVERNESS RIDGE RD	3	2	2	POTOMAC		\$453,000	Townhouse</		

Leggett Discusses Potomac Issues

FROM PAGE 4

gressional [Country Club], but after that, Congressional has signed a preliminary agreement [subject to membership approval] to bring it back for three years with a potential extension for three more years, potentially six years going all the way to 2017... Now in that time frame, one year, Congressional will also have the U.S. Open. So for us, in terms of a major draw golf tournament, it's only a one-year hiatus. Now what we've done is to work aggressively with Avenel ... to help them make the case for the tournament.

We've also indicated very clearly to the Tiger Woods Foundation that we have another venue in Montgomery County, but ultimately that decision is left up to them. If it was left up to us it would never leave Montgomery County. If it was left up to me I would have the U.S. Open and the Tiger Woods [tournament] all in the same year back to back, but I can't wave a magic wand and make that happen. So we're fighting to try to make sure that the tournament stays here but that's a decision that they have to make.

PA: Have you endorsed a presidential candidate?
Leggett: Oh yeah, the Democratic nominee Barack Obama ... I'll probably — with the Maryland Democratic delegation and others go up to Pennsylvania and help out [with campaign efforts] up there. But first we need to make sure that we secure Maryland.

PA: You came into office facing a huge budget

deficit. Having been on the County Council previously, what was it like tackling the budget from the other side of the plate during such a critical time for the county?

Leggett: It's a challenge, not so much a challenge of being on this side, but the timing. When I came into office two years ago we were faced with a \$211 million shortfall. Then we have the downturn of the economy that has impacted Montgomery County as well, especially on the real estate side. Between those two years we're looking at a \$400 million shortfall, so it's a difficult and challenging time in which to assume leadership ... [T]here are lots of things you'd like to do that you simply have to put on hold and wait, delay or maybe not even do at all because of the challenges of the economy. That's tough, but I think that in terms of the long-term stability of the county, how we position ourselves, it's more of a leadership challenge, and more of a real call to provide the kind of leadership that is needed than you do in good times. Certainly you would love to govern in good times but it's an easier task to do it in good times when you're passed down money and you don't have a recession, you don't have these kinds of challenges. If you look at the greater successes of leaders it has been when people governed under the tough times than the good times.

PA: During the process to finalize the county's budget for the current fiscal year the County Council slated funds for the renovation of the Scotland

SEE LEGGETT, PAGE 12

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Leggett: Governing During Economic Downturn

FROM PAGE 11

Community Center earlier than your proposed budget did; now that that is on track what can be done to address larger socio-economic challenges — graduation, higher education, job opportunities — that Scotland faces?

Leggett: Well [there are] a number of things that we are do-

ing ... we are going to come up with a number of programs — sports academies and other kinds of things, mentoring services, counseling, some help with assistance with jobs, how to stabilize and help the youth in the area ... those are the things that are going to help the community. Making certain that we keep the kids in school, there are a number of

programs that [County Schools superintendent] Jerry Weast has developed to help students maintain their academic performance. Beyond that, stabilizing the community in terms of health and human services programs — if you look at the budget there's a great deal that is there for the more vulnerable citizens of our community, we have to make certain that we

deliver and have accountability for those, that's the approach that we have to take.

... There's been too much of what I call the transition, people moving back and forth — not just relating to Scotland as such. You find someone who had lived in Silver Spring and then they're in Wheaton and other places ... they move a great deal and we have to find ways to stabilize the families in housing that is acceptable with health and human services and with other programs that would help to have some level of stability.

PA: The Maryland General Assembly voted earlier this year to raise taxes for those in the highest tax brackets, something that has a disproportionate effect on Montgomery County and Potomac residents and something that you lobbied against. You have voiced frustration in the past at the Assembly's view that the county is a bit of a cash cow for the state, how do you combat that?

Leggett: We have to fight this notion that the rest of the state treats Montgomery County like we're the ATM machine for the rest of the state. Certainly we're in a better position than most jurisdictions in terms of the tax base, but there are limitations to that and you can't continue to dig so deep into the well that you start to have adverse effects. We are fortunate

that we have people of means moving into the county, staying here and adding to our tax base, but we are a competitive market and we have to keep in mind that just as businesses have the opportunity to move around, so do people. When they find that there are significant economic advantages to living other places, they will. And what they take with them are not just necessarily their dollars but the dollars that they would contribute to help all the programs that we just talked about ... because that segment of the population — the top three or four percent of the county — provides a huge, disproportionate amount of the local income taxes that we see and our property taxes. It is not as much that you are protecting them but that you are protecting the things that they do not only for themselves but for others throughout the county, and that's what I'm trying to protect ... if you start to erode the tax base, the people who are going to be hurt most by it are not the ones at the top of the economic ladder but those that are below them.

PA: What kind of music do you listen to?

Leggett: I'm a big fan of people like Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton ... and blues, B.B. King and I love the oldies stations that play the oldie classics.



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THIS WEEK IN POTOMAC

FROM PAGE 4

type A, B, and O positive. The current blood supply is inadequate to meet the needs of hospitals in the area, and in some cases procedures may be delayed until the blood supply is replenished. All eligible donors are encouraged to call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) to schedule a blood donation appointment immediately. Platelet donors may call 1-800-272-2123. In response to the appeal, the American Red Cross is expanding hours at local donor centers. Visit www.my-redcross.org for the current hours and blood drive schedule.

Low appointment schedules and no shows, most likely due to sunny weather and family vacations has resulted in declined blood collection throughout the Region. Eligible donors are asked to call 1-800-GIVE LIFE (1-800-448-3543) to schedule a donation appointment.

Donors must be in generally good health; be at least 17 years of age, or, in the state of Maryland only, 16 years of age with parental consent; weigh no less than 110 pounds; have not received a tattoo within the past year; have not donated whole blood within the past 56 days.

In addition to asking individual members of the community to donate blood, the American Red Cross encourages businesses and community groups to schedule and organize blood drives. Any groups interested in scheduling a drive or obtaining more information are asked to call 1-800-787-9282, ext. 4925.

SPORTS



Greg Helm of the Great Falls Horse Vaulters demonstrates the sport during the Green Cup Pro Challenge Polo event at the Capitol Polo Club on July 19.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE POTOMAC ALMANAC

Polo players race for the ball during the First Chukker Exhibition match at the Capitol Polo Club. The exhibition was just one event held during the day in the build-up to the highlight event, the Green Cup Pro Challenge match between the Solena Group and Los Tigres.

At the Green Cup

The second Green Cup of Polo was held Saturday, July 19 at the Capitol Polo Club in Poolesville. The annual event benefits four local and international environmental organizations: the American Council On Renewable Energy; Eques-

trian Partners in Conservation; Live Green; and EarthEcho International. The Green Cup brings together polo enthusiasts, D.C.-environmentalists, business leaders, elected representatives, diplomats, horse lovers, fashionistas, and socialites.



Ellen Levin of Potomac watches the Green Cup Pro Challenge polo match.



Bob and Lori McCarthy of Chevy Chase participate in the traditional divot stomping at halftime of the Green Cup Pro Challenge polo match.



David Pollin of the Solena Group Polo team hits the ball during their match against Los Tigres.

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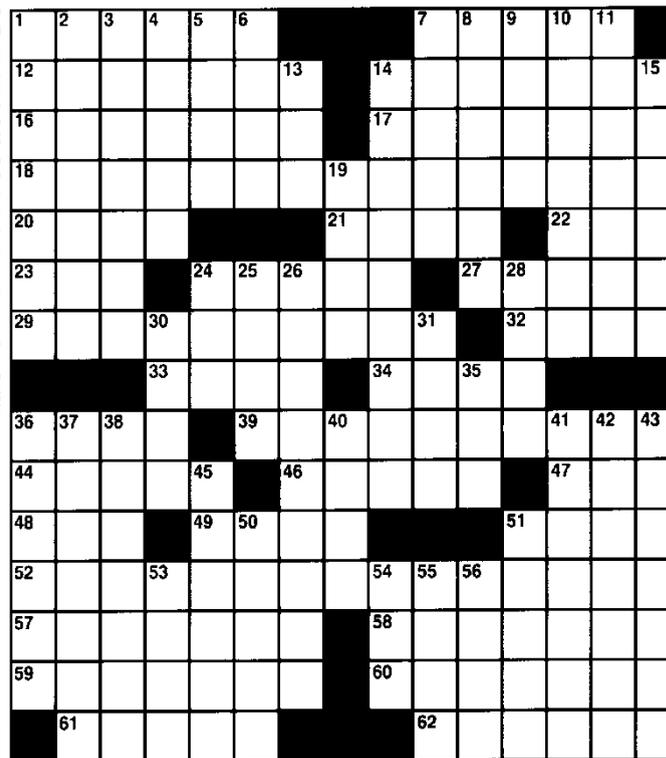
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Puzzle by Mark Diehl

ACROSS

- Middle name of 7-Across
- "The Second Coming" poet
- Like plain paper
- Monopoly game marker
- An essential amino acid
- Sophocles tragedy
- Place to find keys
- Scraps
- One of three pieces
- Back muscle, familiarly
- Sport —
- Son of Indira
- Kind of pen
- Place to find keys
- Hot
- Buffet
- Charge too much
- Riffraff
- Place to find keys
- Skater Harding

DOWN

- "All That Jazz" director
- "— Had It" (1959 hit)
- Priestly garb
- Slammer
- Pianist Gilels
- Place to find keys
- Destroyed
- Take again
- Keystone Kops producer Mack
- Distinguishing mark
- Overhead lighting?
- Bikini tryouts
- Chevron competitor
- Like some heads
- Notched
- Center of a ball?
- Sends by air
- Sang
- Pioneer company, since 1972, in computer reservations
- A.A.A. suggestion
- Latin conjugation word

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	H	E	D	D	A	R	A	T	T	I	R	E	D	
G	E	N	O	E	S	E	F	U	R	N	A	C	E	
S	W	A	G	M	A	N	E	C	U	A	D	O	R	
			O	M	B		R	A	K	E		A	L	E
P	R	E	F	E	C	T	U	R	E		T	R	E	K
L	A	D				A	N	D	R	E	I			
O	B	I	S		B	R	A		B	A	M	B	I	S
W	A	L	T	Z	I	N	G	M	A	T	I	L	D	A
S	T	E	R	O	L		A	U	G		D	E	L	L
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T	A	X			R	B	I	S		A	D	O		
A	L	I	Q	U	O	T		J	U	M	B	U	C	K
G	E	N	U	I	N	E		A	D	E	L	P	H	I
E	D	G	I	N	G	S		W	I	N	E	S	A	P

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-Arthur Wing Pinero

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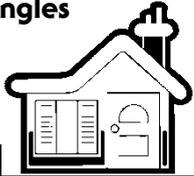
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Hood-winked



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As a long-standing member of the "Mechanically declined," as originally drawn by cartoonist Gary Larson, in one of his "Far Side" panels, (a tee-shirt of which I have as an extremely prized possession), so too must I now confess a similar cluelessness concerning automobile repair/maintenance. As an example, when broken down by the side of the road, I have never understood what popping open the front hood of your automobile was supposed to do (let the engine breathe?).

Often you'll see, when motorists and/or their vehicles are in some sort of distress, emotional or otherwise, their vehicle's front hood open and angled at its familiar 60 degrees (approximately — how would I know, really?) with the driver, maybe even the passenger, too, staring at the engine underneath. (I don't know much, but, I know, generally speaking, that the engine is located under the front hood, in almost all cars, right?) What happens next, other than the inevitable swearing, is way beyond the knowledge of this mortal man.

Presumably, these stragglers are looking for some indication, some sign, some clue, some piece of evidence that will unlock the mystery of why their car is sitting, not even idly by, and not running; by the side of the road, in a parking lot, in the middle of traffic, etc. In all honesty, I really do know what to do under such circumstances: make a phone call. And, thanks to cell phones, so long as your bars are battery-charged, help, or a tow to help, is just a phone call away, and not, as it used to be, a walk to a phone booth or to some unsuspecting home/business, whichever appears first, to request use of their telephone to make that call. Thanks to wireless technology, now when your car stops and you have no place to go, after you pop the hood, you simply make your distress-type call and then, weather permitting or safety circumstances allowing, either remain with/in your vehicle or seek shelter and comfort nearby. Regardless of which you choose (or rather, which I choose), I need not know one thing about

fixing/assessing/evaluating/understanding my car's engine's failure/future. I only need to know who to call when such a mechanical failure occurs and on what number. Not knowing anything (or knowing next to nothing) is no longer a problem. Not having a cell phone, or a person to call who can identify the problem, is the problem. Indirectly, I suppose popping the hood is still a means to an end then. It's just that the end is not as near as if the driver and/or passenger had some engine repair-related knowledge. Apparently, popping the hood is merely an interim step, a warning to other drivers if you will, like putting on your emergency/flashing lights or if you're properly prepared, placing emergency flares at 10-yard intervals behind your vehicle to warn other drivers of your immobility.

If that is indeed the case, then I really don't need to know anything other than how to pop my car's front hood. I don't need to know what to look for, what tools and/or fluids to have in-trunk (or on hand), nor do I need any diagnostic instincts or training. All I need to know, and be honest enough to admit it is, that I know nothing, absolutely nothing, but there are other people who do and calling them will resolve the problem, eventually. And so long as I have a credit card in my wallet to solve the what-if-I-don't-have-enough-cash problem, then I'm good to go, or rather not go. Ergo, I have now eliminated both the mechanical and emotional distress often associated with having to repair one's vehicle, unexpectedly.

Actually paying the bill is another problem, but that's a problem I can handle or at least one I'm used to, whether stranded or not.

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

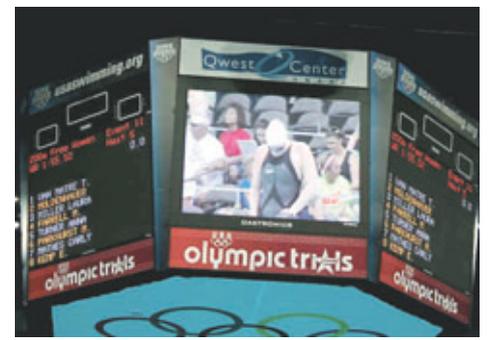
SPORTS

Trial by Water

Potomac swimmer adds to family's athletic achievements.

By JAMES GISCHE

THE ALMANAC



Liz Kemp on the big screen just before her 200 meter freestyle race.

Potomac resident Liz Kemp, a rising junior at the University of Florida, recently added two more accomplishments to her swim career. On July 1, she placed 71st out of 103 swimmers in the 200 meter freestyle competition at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials in Omaha, Neb. Two days later, she came in 62nd of 99 in the 100 -meter freestyle event.

Although her performance was not sufficient to advance past the first round of heats, Kemp was still pleased. "I went into trials wanting to do my best," she said, and did just that by posting a personal-best time in the 100 meter competition and matching her previous best time in the 200 meter event. She also set a new personal-best time in a 100-meter butterfly time-trial, though it did not count toward the actual Olympic qualifying.

Kemp had known she would be swimming at the Olympic trials since she made the cut for the 100-meter competition in summer 2006, after graduating from Our Lady of Good Counsel High School in Olney. However, it would take her another two years to earn a spot in the 200-meter event. At a University of Florida meet just three weeks before the Olympic trials, she shaved about two seconds off her normal time, enough to make the cut for the second competition.

Kemp's parents, Cheryl and Robert, enjoyed going to Omaha to watch her at the Olympic trials. Cheryl Kemp described the event as a "special experience in life that [Liz] will always remember." Liz's older brother, Joey, agreed that it was "definitely a cool experience for her and the family" and added that even though he was unable to make it to Omaha, he had fun following his sister's performance over the internet.

Kemp hopes that swimming at the Olympic trials will help her collegiate career. She said that performing so well despite the immense pressure of the event gives her confidence in her plans. "My personal goal is to make NAAs as an individual event" instead of as part of a relay team, she said, referring to the annual national college swimming competition. Kemp also wants to see her squad at the University of Florida win its first national championship since 1982 by the time she graduates in 2010.

KEMP'S ATHLETIC SUCCESS, which includes being a four-time All-American and a three-time Washington Post All-Metropolitan Area honoree, is just about status quo for her family. Her father, Robert, began the tradition by playing football at William & Mary under legendary head coach Lou Holtz.

Liz's two older sisters were also accom-

plished swimmers. Julie, the eldest, was voted team MVP for the 1998-99 season at the University of Miami. Erin, the middle daughter, was named the Most Valuable Swimmer during her time at the Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac and later swam at Towson University near Baltimore.

The Kemp sons have had no trouble matching the girls' achievements. Three of the four boys are talented lacrosse goalies, while the oldest, Rob, played baseball for Georgetown Prep in North Bethesda.

C.J. Kemp, the second-oldest son, was one of the "all-time best players" at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Conn., according to the school's Web site. His awards back up this claim: in 2002, he was named the Great Western Lacrosse League Player of the Year as well as an All-American Honorable Mention. C.J. went on to a short career with the Rochester Rattlers of Major League Lacrosse.

C.J.'s younger brother, Joey, excelled as a netminder for the fifth-ranked University of Notre Dame lacrosse team. As a senior this year, Joey was a first-team All-American and earned the Division I Kelly Award for Outstanding Goalie. Furthermore, in May the Los Angeles Riptide drafted Joey 29th overall in the Major League Lacrosse Collegiate Draft. He has already appeared in two games for the team, traveling on the weekends for matches but maintaining a day job with Xerox.

The youngest in the family, John, is a rising senior at Georgetown Prep and has played goalie on the school's varsity lacrosse team all three years. Being the youngest has proved to be a boon to John: "he learned a lot from both of his brothers," said Cheryl Kemp, while Joey noted that John's playing style and skills combine those of Joey and C.J. John has already verbally committed to play at Notre Dame after he graduates.

IS THERE sibling rivalry in the Kemp family? According to Liz, the "competition is between the boys more than the girls." She noted that she and her sisters all swam different strokes and distances, reducing the likelihood of sororal vying.

As for the boys, Joey agreed that there was more competition than with the girls. However, he said it is beneficial because "if anything, it motivates you more" to perform well.



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