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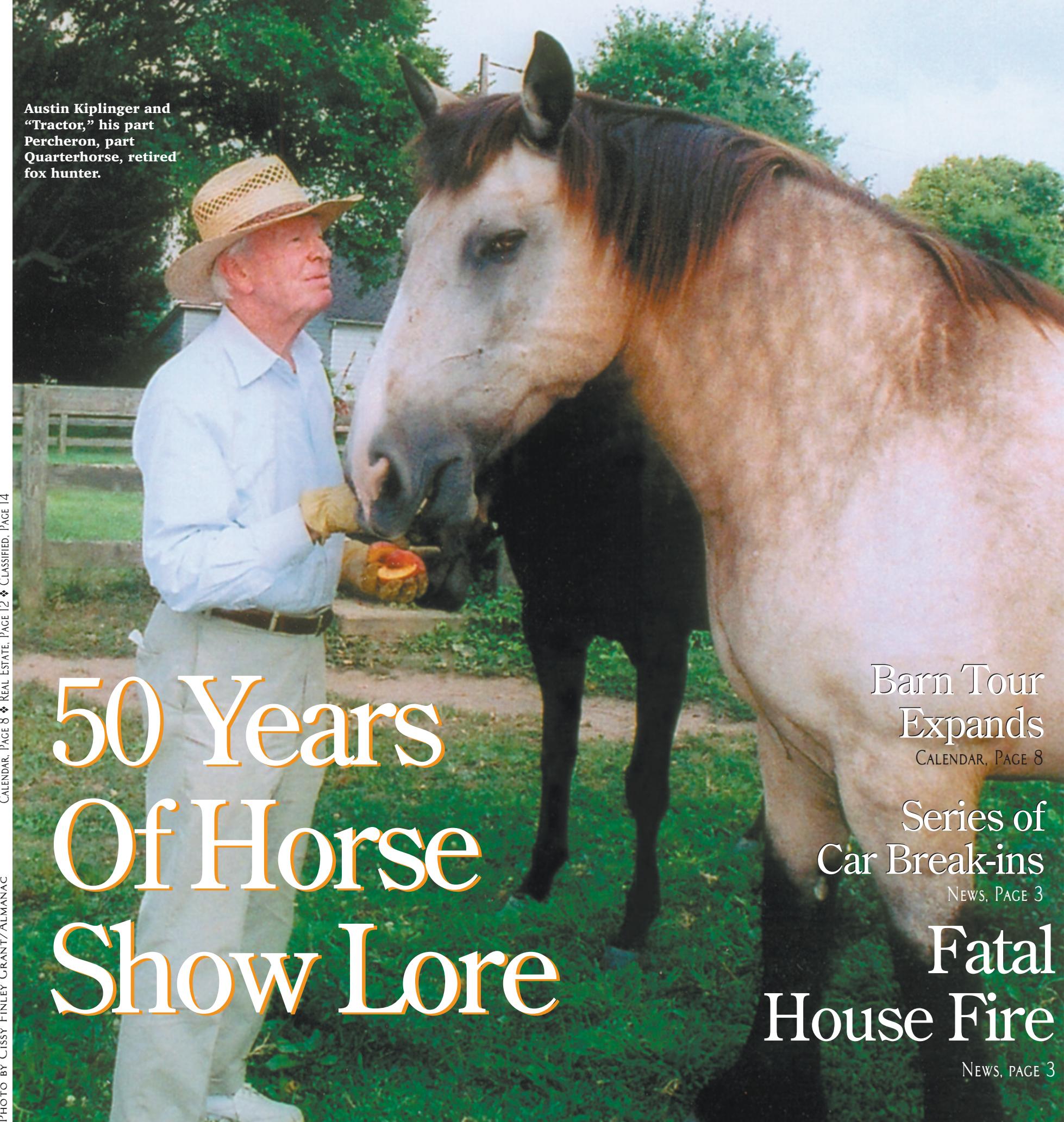
Austin Kiplinger and
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Percheron, part
Quarterhorse, retired
fox hunter.



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CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ REAL ESTATE, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 14

PHOTO BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT/ALMANAC

50 Years Of Horse Show Lore

Barn Tour
Expands
CALENDAR, PAGE 8

Series of
Car Break-ins
NEWS, PAGE 3

Fatal
House Fire
NEWS, PAGE 3

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NEWS

50 Years Of Horse Show Lore

Austin Kiplinger will preside over International Horse Show's 50th anniversary.

BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT
THE ALMANAC

When first asked if he would be president of the Washington International Horse Show (WIHS) Austin Kiplinger, without batting an eye, responded, "Oh no! I don't know anything about running a horse show, I'm a fox hunter!"

That was 1965. Two years later he agreed to the presidency, did a three-year stint, and has been a board member for 45 years, many as chairman.

Those were the days when spectators arrived for their box seat reservations clad in white tie, or, if you were among the bourgeoisie and sat in reserve/general admission, black tie.

Fast forward to 2008. The WIHS is cel-

SEE HORSE SHOW LORE, PAGE 6

Out and About

50th anniversary Washington International Horse Show

Oct. 21-26, Verizon Center
7th and F Streets, NW, Washington, D.C.
An equestrian tradition since 1958, the Washington International Horse Show brings top horses and riders from around the world, including Olympic champions, to the nation's capital to compete for more than \$415,000 in prize money and championship titles. About 500 horses participate in show jumping, hunters, equitation and dressage events during the six-day show. Special exhibitions, shopping in 65 boutiques and a Pony Pavilion with free pony rides on Saturday round out this family-friendly show. The show will benefit the National Capital Area Chapter of Autism Speaks.

Highlights:
\$100,000 President's Cup Grand Prix, Saturday evening
\$25,000 Dressage Invitational: Grand Prix, Thursday evening; Musical Freestyle, Friday evening
\$25,000 Puissance (high-jump), Friday evening
Pony Pavilion with pony rides (free event), Saturday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Celebration of Special Needs Children and Therapeutic Riding (free event), Sunday, 1-3 p.m.
Two performances are held daily except Sunday. Daytime: Tuesday-Saturday: 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 7 a.m.-1 p.m.; Evening: Tuesday-Saturday: 7-10:30 p.m.
More: www.wihs.org

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

POTOMAC ALMANAC EDITOR STEVEN M. MAUREN
703-917-6451 OR ALMANAC@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Dragonflies engage in acrobatics, hitching a ride on a kayak.



The shores of the Potomac were lined with Great Blue Herons, separated by a hundred yards or so from each other.

Labor-Free Day On the Potomac

Water-skiers, kayakers, fishermen, herons, turtles, Ski-Doo riders, canoeists, dragonflies, kingfishers and more turned to the Potomac River for Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1.

— MARY KIMM



These children enjoy a high-speed ride on a tube behind a motorboat on the Potomac River just north of Riley's Lock in Potomac.

Two House Fires Bring Tragedy

Elderly woman killed in Gainsborough Road house fire.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

An elderly woman was killed in a fire that broke out in her home early Friday morning, Aug. 29, in the 11300 block of Gainsborough Road. Marilyn Ehrlich, 78, was unconscious and not breathing when she was found by Montgomery County Fire and Rescue personnel on the second floor of her home. They were unable to resuscitate her and she was pronounced dead at Shady Grove Hospital after apparently succumbing to smoke inhalation, according to Fire and Rescue officials.

Ehrlich's son Ethan Ehrlich, 48, was also unconscious and not breathing when he was found on the first floor of the home, but he was resuscitated and transported to Washington Hospital Center where he was revived. Once stabilized he was transported to George Washington Hospital, where he remained in critical condition as of Tuesday, Sept. 2. The fire was called in by a ten-

SEE TRAGEDY, PAGE 4

River Falls Smash And Dash

At least three cars were broken into last week in River Falls.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

First Don Libes got a call from his neighbor informing him that he had found some of his business cards — cards that Libes keeps in his car — in his yard. Libes went outside to his car, where he found the front passenger window smashed in and his iPod gone, not to mention the stack of cards.

"It looks like they simply leaned through

SEE BREAK-INS, PAGE 5

Fire Department Plans Auction

On Friday, Sept. 5, there will be a silent auction, bingo and a bake sale to raise money for volunteer EMTs and firefighters. The auction will be held at Glen Echo Park, Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. at 7 p.m. The auction is free but donations are welcomed. For more information call 301-229-3200.

Election Judges Needed

Montgomery County's Board of Elections is seeking individuals to serve as election judges at polling places on General Election Day, Nov. 4.

In accordance with the Election Code, judges must be registered to vote in the State of Maryland. They must also be able to speak, read, and write the English language, and while acting as a judge must not hold, or be a candidate for, public or party office.

Individuals affiliated with the Republican Party or registered as Independent or Unaffiliated are especially needed. The Board of Elections is also seeking individuals to serve as part-time Closer Judges to assist with the closing of the polling place on Election Night. In addition, election judges bilingual in Spanish and election judge alternates are needed throughout the county. Training will be provided and all judges will be compensated for Election Day.

To apply, or for more information, call the Board of Elections at 240-777-8533 or e-mail electionjudge@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Absentee Ballot Information

Voters who are unable to vote in their polling place on Nov. 4, should request an application for an absentee ballot now. Those whose offices are outside of Montgomery County, or whose job routinely takes them outside of the County may be eligible for an absentee ballot as well.

Absentee ballot applications are available online at www.777vote.org. Follow all instructions for transmitting the completed application to the Elections Office by mail or fax. To obtain an absentee ballot application by mail contact the Board of Elections at 240-777-VOTE (8683). Absentee ballots will arrive at the Board of Elections approximately six weeks prior to the election and will begin being mailed out within 24 hours of their delivery.

Applications must be received by the deadline, Tuesday, Oct. 28, by 4:30 p.m. if the application is mailed or by midnight if faxed.

NEWS



Marilyn Ehrlich, 78, died after a fire broke out in her home on Gainsborough Road in the early morning of Friday, Aug. 29. Flowers from mourners lined the sidewalk on Monday, Sept. .



Despite outward appearances, the fire in this home that started around 1:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 1 was contained largely to the home's garage.

Two House Fires Bring Tragedy

FROM PAGE 3

ant living in the basement of the home, who called 911 and was able to escape the home safely.

"They made a valiant attempt, the first crews on the scene ... [to rescue] both victims and were successful to one extent, but following their attempts the entire house was pretty well engulfed and they really were pretty well overwhelmed with the volume of fire at that point because their initial efforts were directed at rescue," said Jim Seavey, chief of the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, whose crews were among the many that responded to the early morning fire.

Neighbors remembered Ehrlich as a friendly, kind woman. Irving Lessin knew Ehrlich since he and his wife moved in next door in 1974, and said that she was a very outgoing woman who liked to laugh a lot.

"She was a fun lady, very much alive, very active. A real loss," Lessin said.

Lessin said that firefighters knocked on his door at 6 a.m. Friday morning and told he and his wife to get out of their house. They were outside an hour before the blaze was sufficiently controlled for them to go back inside.

"The only thing I saw was somebody taking a stretcher out ... but I had no idea about what had happened," Lessin said. Later in the morning he looked out back and saw the extent of the damage to Ehrlich's house, and a short time later got a call from another neighbor telling him that Ehrlich had died.

"She was very nice, always keeping up on neighborly things," said neighbor Michael Smith.

Lessin said that he saw more of Ehrlich before her husband, Frank Ehrlich, died a little more than 10 years ago.

The fire is believed to have started around 5:45 a.m. and to have been started by a cigarette that was discarded on or near a couch in the home's television room, said Pete Piringer, a spokesperson for Montgomery County Fire and Rescue. Discarded cigarettes were found throughout the home, none of which were the new self-extinguishing, fire-safe cigarettes sold by law now in Montgomery County, though no charges would be filed, said Piringer.

None of the home's three smoke detectors is believed to have been in working order. Three firefighters were treated and released after suffering minor injuries while battling the fire. Marilyn Ehrlich's death is the fourth fire fatality in the county this year.

THREE NIGHTS LATER another two-alarm fire broke out in another Potomac home, this time in the 11600 block of Lake Potomac Drive. The blaze started around 1:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 1, and the family was alerted by their dog and able to escape safely, Piringer said.

Seavey said that the garage was fully engulfed in flames by the time the first crews arrived on the scene but because of an extremely aggressive assault by firefighters the blaze made only a slight extension into the

second floor of the house and was otherwise restricted to the garage.

"[We] committed a number of resources to protecting a number of antique items and valuable items during the firefighting effort which resulted in saving those items while they were confining the fire," Seavey said. Still, fire officials said that roughly \$1 million of damage was done to the home. In addition to the local Cabin John Park crews, several stations from Rockville, Bethesda, and as far away as Gaithersburg responded as well.

The first crews on the scene arrived seven to eight minutes after the call was received, said Piringer, and firefighters were able to control the blaze despite the garage being fully involved upon their arrival.

"The crews did a great job," Piringer said. Despite roughly \$1.2 million in combined structure and property damage, Piringer said that things went about as well as possible for the family.

"It was a good situation, or they made the best of it anyway," he said. That is due in large part to the family dog. Smoke detectors in the house were functioning, but as in most homes the family did not have a smoke detector in the garage and the dog alerted the family before the smoke detectors in the home went off and before anyone inside smelled smoke. Time is of the essence in a fire, and the dog gave the residents more time than they might otherwise have had. "Who knows how many more minutes it would have been before the smoke alarm went off?" Piringer said.

Ice Cream Store Remains Hot Topic

Fate of Sprinkles could be decided in days.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

A decision from Zuckerman-Gravely Management officials on the fate of Sprinkles ice cream store in Potomac Village could come as early as this week. Sprinkles owner Tom Orban said that he

was told that by company officials that they intended to visit his store this week and then would meet internally to determine the store's fate, with a decision coming possibly before the weekend. That news is a departure from the company's earlier stance that Orban's lease would not be renewed when it expired next spring, something Orban said he was told in mid-July. Zuckerman-Gravely officials have not responded to any of several calls from The Almanac since then regarding Sprinkles' status.

The response from the community, on the other hand, has been swift and definite. When word of Sprinkles' potential demise got out, a Save Our Sprinkles petition drive was launched that garnered hundreds of signatures; three Facebook support groups totaling nearly 800 members have been started, and for much of August the Sprinkles storefront was plastered with colorful posters voicing support for the ice cream store and urging Zuckerman-Gravely

SEE SPRINKLES, PAGE 11

NEWS

Several Car Break-ins

FROM PAGE 3

the window and took what they liked," said Libes. At least two other River Falls residents had their cars broken into last week as well, according to chatter on the River Falls email listserve. Libes reported his incident to Montgomery County Police, but because of the holiday weekend the case had not yet been assigned to a detective as of Tuesday, Sept. 2, according to a spokesperson for the department, so no details were available on the investigation.

River Falls resident Tom Swanson had an iPod, iPod charger and sunglasses stolen out of his car the same night. Untouched, however, were his golf clubs, which might be a clue to whom the thieves were.

"See, golfers don't steal," said Swanson, who did not report the crime to police because he didn't think it was a very big deal. "These things kind of happen," he said. "Not all the time, but you'll see a little burst of activity from time to time."

"Frustrating is a good word for it," said Libes.

Leaving items in plain sight is a good way to increase the odds of

it happening, though, said both Swanson and Libes — four other cars were parked on the street near Swanson's, and those were left untouched. With an iPod sitting in plain sight, the thieves likely chose his car for a reason, he said.

The trail of cards left behind from his car — scattered as if they had been discarded in the search of credit cards — led Libes to think the thieves live nearby.

"It's our theory that its local kids, because the idea that kids were just walking from house to house, it seems likely," he said. They clearly weren't professionals, said Libes, because his other car sitting nearby had a GPS navigation system on the dashboard and was left untouched. He said he isn't sure what to do to prevent it from happening again, but he's even considered leaving the doors unlocked and the windows rolled down — with nothing valuable left inside — so that at least next time someone comes looking for something to steal they won't smash any windows.

"Leaving items in plain sight is a good way to increase the odds of

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POTOMAC ALMANAC ♦ SEPTEMBER 3-9, 2008 ♦ 5

50 Years of Horse Show Lore

FROM PAGE 3

ebrating its 50th anniversary, blue jeans for most spectators are de rigueur and formal evening attire is relegated to (fox) hunt ball evenings. About the only thing unchanged: Kiplinger is still board chairman.

The mode of dress is one of only many changes seen in the past 50 years since the opening night of the first WIHS. For the first 20 years the show was held annually at the District of Columbia National Guard Armory. They were the years Jackie Kennedy sent horses to compete, Ethel Kennedy rode (and fell off), and Olympic teams would have spectators standing and cheering. If the crowd got too excited and started jumping up and down, the Armory's temporary grandstands would sway.

Kiplinger, known as "Kip" to his legion of friends, recalls enough anecdotes of show lore to fill a book, many of them from the old Armory days, prior to the show moving to Maryland's Capital Centre in 1980, and then back to Washington to the MCI Center in 2000, where it remains today.

Certainly numbering among the most sobering recollections was an occasion in 1968, during the riots in

"Oh no! I don't know anything about running a horse show, I'm a fox hunter!"

— Austin Kiplinger

Washington. "At the opening ceremony a policeman came to my box and quietly told me I was wanted in the office," he recalled. When Kiplinger arrived at the Armory office he was met by what he called, "a whole contingent of a bomb squad."

There was a telephone call advising a bomb was set to go off at 10 p.m., in about 15 minutes. Kiplinger asked the authorities what they advised. They shot back, "It's your call." As president of the organization he was faced with a horrendous decision.

He weighed the risk of evacuating 6,000 people and 400 horses through the Armory's narrow entryways, causing a possible stampede. Or was it a hoax, he pondered. He instructed the bomb squad to continue their search.

Returning to his box seat, after deciding to wait it out, he had to sweat the consequences of his decision. "Gogo [his wife] thought I was being rather rude checking my watch every minute and not talking to our guests," he remembered. It was probably the



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED, CIRCA 1970, DEL ANKERS

During the early years of the Washington International Horse Show it was a white-tie evening for guests if they were box seat patrons. Above, (from left, first row to camera) Luvie Pearson, John Fort, Gogo Kiplinger, Todd Kiplinger, (second row) Venezuelan Amb. Julio Sosa-Rodriguez, Flossie Fort, Austin Kiplinger.

longest 15 minutes of his life, but not until 10 p.m. passed did he continue to be the congenial host. The editor of the Kiplinger Letter and co-founder of the Kiplinger Magazine had made the right decision.

Many of Kiplinger's remembrances spanning the show's 50 years are filled with human interest stories. He doesn't dwell on the untold hours of volunteerism or the near crisis situations, such as the time, just a few days prior to opening night, it was discovered someone had "used" the dirt needed to cover the Armory floor.

Indeed, the horse show business can get down right dirty. "After each show, we would move the dirt from the armory and pile it up in a park over near the Anacostia River. One year, just a week prior to the show opening we sent trucks over to get the dirt. It was missing," he said.

In an Oct. 12, 1969, "Out Maryland Way" column in the old Washington Star, it was noted, Alfred H. Smith Sr., (owner of a sand and gravel company) donated men and trucks to haul 1,600 tons of dirt and 20, 20-ton truck loads of weathered sawdust to the D.C. Armory, to replace the missing ingredients needed for the horses' footing on the armory floor. The dirt mixture is now a science, Kiplinger said. The footing comes ready made. "Back then it was a crisis, just a last minute emergency," he concluded.

FOR THE ENTIRE HISTORY of the 50-year-old show, it has been customary to have the country's first ladies as honorary chairmen. Kiplinger remembers riding in a horse-drawn carriage, up the White House driveway, to greet First Lady Pat Nixon. She was taken for a spin around the White House grounds.

Opening night ceremonies are colorful. It was during the bi-centennial year

Kiplinger humorously recalled a most embarrassing moment. The decision was made that he would portray George Washington in complete federal regalia, white wig and all in the opening ceremony parade.

"When the time came, I was dressed and ready to go in the ring, but my own horse was nowhere in sight," he related. An exhibitor, Randy Rouse, saw Kiplinger's dilemma and volunteered to go to his own stable and get a horse. "He brought out his horse, I mounted and by that time I had to go right in. I was behind the band," he lamented.

Rouse, shorter than Kiplinger rides in short stirrups, whereas Kiplinger prefers long stirrups ... well, one can just imagine the presentation.

"As we started into the ring the guy in the band hit the bass drum and my horse stood on his hind legs. When I finally got him back on all fours, with my legs in those short stirrups, my knees were up to my chin," he laughingly related. "I must have been the funniest looking George Washington ever,"

he admitted.

Henry Kissinger, a Kiplinger guest that evening, told his host, "You just made a mockery of the greatest American patriot in history."

"I knew he was joking when I asked him if he would like to try it and he [the former Secretary of State] promptly replied, 'No thank you."

Throughout the horse show's history, no one would doubt the most exciting moment of all occurred in 1983, at Capital Centre, during the International Open Jumper Puissance when a horse named "Sweet N' Low," ridden by Tony d'Ambrosio, in a jump-off for first place, cleared a seven-and-a-half foot obstacle, establishing the indoor world jumping record. It stands today.

OVER THE YEARS, Kiplinger, who will celebrate his 90th birthday this month, has seen it all. Well, most of it.

One of the most humorous incidents he missed. It was during a WIHS horse show meeting at Joan and Tom Braden's Chevy Chase home. Mrs. Nicholas (nee Alice Roosevelt) Longworth was chairman of the opening night committee. It was reported, Oct. 10, 1971, again in the "Out Maryland Way" column of the Washington Star, that Mrs. Longworth announced on her arrival, "I am not going to do any work, and, there is a boa constrictor loose in this house." She was right on both accounts. Bedlam ensued. She loved it.

Recently asked about the future of the Washington International Horse Show, Kiplinger hesitated, prior to replying, "It's an open question. I just don't know. We don't get the European riders like we used to. Europe is offering the greatest shows with big sponsors. They (Europeans) are more supportive with equestrian competition," he said.

Still, there will be so much to see including spectacular exhibitions, thrilling hunters and jumpers, dressage, carriages and Jack Russell terrier races. The Washington show is the last of the big city shows in this country. Since its inception the non-profit organization has donated heavily to charities, this year being no exception. The 2008 show, Oct. 21-26, at MCI Center, will benefit "Autism Speaks."



First Lady Mrs. Richard Nixon, (left) accepted an invitation from Washington International Horse Show president, Austin Kiplinger, (in top hat) to enjoy a ride around the White House grounds in a horse and carriage. Circa 1970.

PETS



Nutmeg

Nutmeg is a male, 3-month-old, to be neutered. Orange Tabby DSH kitten. Nutmeg was born to a mom living in the streets that was rescued by PAW. He's one of seven kittens in the litter and is learning the ways of the world in a shy but playful way. Nutmeg would be a great addition to any cat lover's home.



Luke

Luke is a male, 4-year-old, 60 lb., neutered Shepherd (or Malinois) mix. Luke is like his Skywalker namesake, intelligent, active and affectionate. He's an active boy that loves to learn and is seeking his Obi Wan teacher. Luke would do best within an adult home with a person dog-savvy in handling a herding breed like a Shepherd.

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 301-572-4729 or write to PAW, P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768.

WORKSHOPS

Your Dog's Friend, a non-profit organization that educates and supports dog owners, has set its schedule for this fall. Free workshops will be held at Potomac and Wheaton community centers from Sept. 7 through Nov. 16.

Dog training classes, using positive, rewards-based methods, will be run, for a fee, at the National Lutheran Home in Rockville. These include Puppy Kindergarten, Basic Manners, and Dog Training for Kids. The fee for these classes helps support Your Dog's Friend's other free services. Dog owners can find more information and register for the workshops and dog training classes by going to www.yourdogsfriend.info or calling 301-983-5913.

This fall's workshops will include:

- ❖ Three Lessons That Every Dog Should Know, Sunday, Sept. 7, 2-4 p.m., at the Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road.

❖ Could My Dog Be a Therapy Dog? Sunday, Sept. 21, 3-5 p.m. at the Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road.

❖ The Emotional Life of Dogs, Saturday, Oct. 4; 2-4 p.m. at the Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road.

❖ What if My Dog Bites Santa?, Saturday, Nov. 15; 2-4 p.m. at the Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road.

❖ Bring on the Doggy Police (when neighbors just can't seem to get along), Saturday, Oct. 18, 2-4 p.m. at the Wheaton Community Center, 11711 Georgia Ave.

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by

Michael Matese

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features a pony barn and pony-sized jumps and rings. Ponies will be on display for the children.

Eminence Farm in Poolesville
features a cross-country course visible from the barn. Eminence will host a cross-country exhibition at 3 p.m.

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CALENDAR



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New Features Added to Potomac Barn Tour

Event offers glimpse of horse-riding culture.

By DANIEL LIN
THE ALMANAC

Here grass once stretched long and unbroken, paved streets cut and wind through the green, gray veins lined by rows of houses and branching off to clumps of manors. Cars, SUVs, and trucks fill the same lanes, thousand-pound behemoths rolling all within a 10-minute drive of one another."

In addition to showcasing local barns, the Barn Tour will incorporate some new features to offer a more interactive experience than the last Barn Tour provided. "We've expanded it a little bit," said Naomi Manders, treasurer of the PBHTA.

"Last time it was just looking at barns," said Elaine Jones, publicity director of the PBHTA. "Now we have

ingrained in local history. Five years ago the PBHTA held the first Potomac Barn Tour. "It was really successful," said Rex Reed, who made bringing back the event a top priority once he became president of the PBHTA Board of Directors. Reed has incorporated some new additions to what he calls "a great event."

The Barn Tour takes patrons to barn establishments throughout Potomac and beyond. In an effort to highlight the great diversity of barns in the area, Reed has organized his program to lead viewers from smaller, older facilities to large, state-of-the-art facilities. Of course, "people can go in any order they'd like" and still appreciate the variety, said Reed. "They're all within a 10-minute drive of one another."

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Barn Tour

The Barn Tour will take place on Saturday, Sept. 13, from noon to 5 p.m. For more information call Rex Reed at 301-762-7214 or visit www.PBHTA.org. Tickets are \$20 per car.

little extra things for the people." There will be various equestrian demonstrations at each site, such as cross country exhibitions and dressage introductions.

The event planners want to stress that this event is not just for horse-enthusiasts. "You don't have to be a horse-rider to enjoy this event," said Manders. "This is a great opportunity to drive around the country and relax a bit." Jones agreed. "The community really enjoyed

riders and hikers, roammers just looking for a road to

wander.

or visit www.yourdogsfriend.info.

Waltz Dance in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park begins at 3 p.m. with a half hour introductory Waltz workshop followed by 2/12 hours of social dancing. Admission is \$8 per person. For more information, call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

Blues and Swing Dancing in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, from 8:30 to 11 p.m. featuring Jamie Lynch Band. The 1-1/2 hour workshop, taught by Donna Barker and Mike Marcotte, begins at 7 p.m. No partner required. Admission for the workshop and dance is \$17 (7 - 11 p.m.); or \$12 for the dance only (8:30 - 11 p.m.). For more information, call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, send email to dbarker@glenecopark.org or visit www.DancedDC.com.

Contra and Square Dancing. The Folklore Society of Greater Washington presents traditional American dancing with a focus on New England style contra dances at the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park. All dances are taught, no partner is necessary. The newcomers' welcome lesson is at 7 p.m., followed by called dances to live music from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Visit www.fsgw.org. \$12/nonmembers, \$9/FSGW members.

Contra Dance. The Friday Night Dancers presents traditional American dancing including contra dances, square dances, and waltzes at the Bumper Car Pavilion at Glen Echo Park. Contra dance lesson from 7:30-8:15 p.m., dance from 8:30-11:30 p.m. to live music. \$9/person. E-mail fndcontra@yahoo.com.

Swing Dance. The Washington Swing Dance Committee presents a swing dance with Robert Redd and Friends and introductory dance lesson at the

MONDAY/SEPT. 8
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Swing Dance. Jim Cellar presents a

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Concert. DC Motors (Oldies) will perform at Bethesda Lane from 6-8 p.m. Located where Bethesda Avenue, Woodmont Avenue and Elm Street meet in Bethesda. Visit www.bethesdarow.com.

Swing Dance. Join The Jive Aces, UK's top swing band for a night on the dance floor at the Bumper Car Pavilion in Glen Echo Park. Beginner swing lesson from 7:30-8 p.m., dance from 8-10:30 p.m. All ages welcome, \$15/person. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 11

Anxious Children: Getting to Confidence. Learn how to help your child conquer his or her fears, from 7-9 p.m. at the Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 12
Contra Dance. The Friday Night Dancers presents traditional American dancing including contra dances, square dances, and waltzes at the Bumper Car Pavilion in Glen Echo Park. Contra dance lesson from 7:30-8:15 p.m., dance from 8:30-11:30 p.m. to live music. \$9/person. E-mail fndcontra@yahoo.com.

Swing Dance. Jim Cellar presents a

development that's going on, they like seeing something different. People like to get out and enjoy nature."

The proceeds will go towards maintaining trails that benefit the entire community. "They're open not just to horse, but walkers and nature-lovers in general. It's a valuable resource he has here," said Manders. "And we are intent on keeping that alive."

"You used to be able to ride for hours in Potomac before even seeing a street," said Jones. Those days are gone, but Jones hopes that events like the Barn Tour will bring exposure to the trails and help in their upkeep.

"Imagine you're given a bike and not being allowed to ride outside the neighborhood," she said.

These trails open up the neighborhood for people like Jones, for horse-

riders and hikers, roammers just looking for a road to

wander.



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Tree Identification Walk. Join Potomac Conservancy's Bryan Seipp on a walk around the C&O Canal to help identify some common tree species found in the Potomac River watershed from 10-11 a.m. at the River Center at Lockhouse 8, C&O Canal National Historical Park, 7906 Riverside Ave. Cabin John. Visit www.potomac.org.

Swing Dance. Join the George Gee Swing Orchestra with Lindy Hop legend Frankie Manning for a night on the dance floor at the Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo Park. Beginner swing lesson from 8-9 p.m., dance from 9 p.m.-12 a.m. \$18/person. Visit www.gottaswing.com.

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SCHOOLS

Public School Fees Raise Questions

Parents say fees are unconstitutional, school officials say otherwise.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

Parents upset about fees being charged in relation to courses in Montgomery County Public Schools say that the fees are illegal. School officials say that they are nec-

essary to provide adequate services during tough economic times. Who is right may not be determined unless the matter goes to court.

School principals in Montgomery County are permitted by the board of education to charge up to a given amount for fees associated with different courses at their

schools. The list of fees that county high schools charge students is 48 pages long, but course-related fees such as workbooks, gym clothes and notebook dividers exist at the county's middle schools as well.

"I think it's much ado about nothing," said school board member Steve Abrams (D-2). The school system received less money than

it had requested from the county and the county got less than it wanted for its school system from the state, said Abrams, meaning that fees like Wootton's \$15 Honors Biology A charge for class expenses, or Whitman's \$20 fee for equipment and maintenance in piano class are necessary to provide adequate services to students. The choice is a harsh reality, Abrams said: cutbacks or the current fees.

"I think the whole policy is illegal," said Janis Sartucci, whose son graduated from Winston Churchill High School last year and who remains active on local school listserves. She is a member of local school parent activist group Parents Coalition of Montgomery County, which has led an effort in recent weeks to have the fee practice abolished. "You read what the [Maryland state] constitution says... we are operating in this county with a policy that flies in the face of the law."

Sartucci and Parents Coalition cite the state constitution that mandates the availability of a free public education for all students, as well as a letter to a county parent from Maryland Assistant Attorney General and Principal Counsel to the Maryland State Department of Education Elizabeth Kameen. In her letter Kameen cites a 1987 opinion from then-Attorney General J. Joseph Curran, Jr. that stated "... we are safe in saying that anything directly related to a school's curriculum must be available to all without charge."

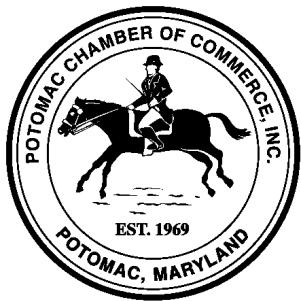
What exactly is "directly related" to the curriculum is what makes the ongoing issue murky, Abrams said.

"I don't believe that the state constitution is as clear when you're looking in terms of add-ons in public education," he said. "I believe the constitution will be properly construed that there is a base level of service that is to be provided for free to all taxpayers. And I believe when you get beyond that you get into some very interesting terms of interpretation."

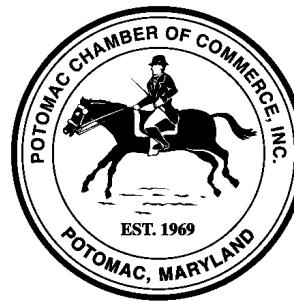
BETWEEN WORKBOOKS and gym clothes, Kit Lunceford spent nearly \$100 on course-related fees last week for her daughter, a Herbert Hoover Middle School eighth-grader. She said that she thinks the county should supply basic services, but that she doesn't mind paying these fees, particularly for things like workbooks that will be written in and subsequently could not be reused. She said she can understand both sides

SEE SCHOOL FEES, PAGE 12

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NEWS

Fate of Sprinkles?

FROM PAGE 4

officials to reconsider.

"It just happened like spontaneous combustion," said Orban of the support, which he said was heartwarming.

MANY OF THE SPRINKLES

supporters have also decried the changing nature of Potomac Village, which in recent years has seen a shift from a shopping center stocked with locally-owned and operated businesses, to an increasing number of national bank chains and pharmacies.

"If you go into Potomac Village and you don't live here you may not realize what's been happening over the last few years," said Potomac resident Marcy Markowitz. "You might say there's a restaurant, there's a pizza place, but it's kind of lacking in the services that a community needs to stay a community ... and it's just getting worse."

Potomac's County Councilman Roger Berliner (D-1) said that he has been approached by residents and asked to intervene in the situation, but that beyond facilitating dialogue between the two sides —

which he said he would try to do if needed — there isn't a clear role for local government to play in such a situation. What is clear to Berliner is that in a small shopping center like Potomac Village, in an area devoid of many shopping options, Zuckerman-Gravely has the upper hand.

"If you want to be there, there aren't many options other than if you want to be in Bethesda [and] have a lot of landlords," said Berliner. "These folks have a pretty strong monopoly in the only game in town as far as Potomac is concerned."

"A little thing like an ice cream store is at the heart of a community," said Lillian Argilagos, who said she goes to the Village nearly every day for one thing or another. She has seen the change in Potomac Village in the 12 years that she has lived in Potomac and for her the news of Sprinkles' potentially forced closing was the last straw in the community's steady homogenization.

"It just loses some individuality, some character. Rockville Pike is the same as Bethesda, the same as Potomac, and places lose what makes them special," she said.



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BACK TO SCHOOL

What's New?

At Cabin John Middle School

Dr. Paulette L. Smith, principal of Cabin John Middle School, responds to questions from The Almanac.

Q. What do you consider the single most important news for your school community in anticipation of the new school year?

Smith: In anticipation for the new school year and for our school community, the most important news I wish to share is the high level of excitement of our competent and caring Cabin John Middle School (CJMS) staff members and how they work in a positive way with our great students. Our entire staff is energized and motivated to do the best we can to promote rigorous instruction, increase student achievement, and promote social growth.

Q. Any new academic programs, initiatives?

Smith: This summer, CJMS received new computers throughout the school as a part of the Montgomery County Public Schools' "Tech Mod" rotational program for technology upgrade. We are also thrilled to have received Promethean Boards (Interactive White Boards) to assist teachers with the delivery of the instructional program. This year we will use "Performance Matters," a program that provides and displays student assessment data to assist us with planning appropriate student instruction and monitoring

student progress. We will also develop "Academic Intervention Plans" for students who demonstrate a need additional support to increase their achievement. Our new teachers will have the opportunity to participate in CJMS seminars to receive training and support for increasing their success in the profession of education. And last but not least, we look forward to a wonderful partnership with our PTSA, which supports and advocates for CJMS. Our 2008-2009 PTSA president is Sara Beth Watson.

To find out the latest information on our school, curriculum, and instruction, we invite our community to visit our school's Web site at: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cabinjohnms/

Q. Changes in personnel?

Smith: Twelve highly qualified CJMS staff members were hired to fill vacancies created by promotional opportunities, transfers and retirements.

Q. Number of students?

Smith: Our current student enrollment is 902 students.

Q. Important days in the fall school calendar?

Smith: We are looking forward to the following CJMS Fall events:

- ❖ Back-to-School Night - Thursday, Sept. 4 - 6:45 p.m.
- ❖ CJMS PTSA Meeting - Tuesday, Sept. 9 - 7:15 p.m.
- ❖ CJMS New Family Picnic - Friday, Oct. 31



Dr. Paulette L. Smith, Cabin John Middle School

day, Sept. 12 - 6 p.m.

- ❖ Rosh Hashanah - Tuesday, Sept. 30 - No School
 - ❖ Early Release Day for Students - Monday, Sept. 9
 - ❖ CJMS Chesapeake Bay Field Trip - Wednesday, Oct. 1 - Friday, Oct. 3
 - ❖ Yom Kippur - Thursday, Oct. 9 - No School
 - ❖ CJMS PTSA Meeting - Tuesday, Oct. 14 - 7:15 p.m.
 - ❖ MSTA Teachers Convention - Friday, Oct. 17 - No School
 - ❖ MCPS Parent Open House - Monday, Oct. 13
 - ❖ End of First Marking Period - Friday, Oct. 31
 - ❖ CJMS PTSA Fundraiser - TBD
- We also invite you to visit the MCPS calendar for dates that affect all schools in the district. This calendar includes dates when schools are closed for students, early dismissal days, and November parent/teacher conferences. The Web site is: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/calendars/

School Fees Raise Questions

FROM PAGE 10

of the issue, but that "I do think we're being asked to supply a lot of extras." What concerns her is that some parents elsewhere in the county, particularly in less affluent areas than Potomac, may not be able to afford them.

An Aug. 19 memo to school principals from Stephen Bedford, chief school performance officer for Montgomery County Public Schools, to all county school principals affirmed the school system's right to charge the fees but advises that no students should be penalized or excluded from any classes based on an inability to pay such fees. It leaves no doubt on the school system's position on the fees.

"There may be individuals or organizations that attempt to tell you that no fees may be charged. This is their interpretation of the law," the letter reads.

Yet not all areas are charged equally. In a post to the Parents Coalition listserve last week, one parent said that her daughter, an Eastern Middle School student whose home school would be Cabin John Middle School, pays \$10 less for her gym outfit at Eastern than she would at Cabin John.

County Councilman Roger Berliner (D-1) said that

he expects the Council's Education Committee to discuss the fees in the near future, including their lack of uniformity.

"[The committee] needs to look at uniformity, at how this is [law] is interpreted so that families that go to one school aren't paying significantly more out of pocket than families that go to another," Berliner said. "I do have a concern that District One [Potomac, Chevy Chase, Bethesda] residents could be perceived as a deeper pocket and that that would be discriminatory."

CHURCHILL CLUSTER co-coordinator Laurie Halverson said that she has yet to be approached by concerned parents on the matter and that it hasn't come up at any recent monthly meetings with cluster PTA presidents.

"It hasn't been an issue but I guess if parents are concerned about it they should bring it up at their PTA meetings," she said. Last week she paid a \$2 science fee, a \$5 gym towel fee, and \$15 for notebook dividers for her son, a seventh-grader at Cabin John.

SEE PARENTS, PAGE 13

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SPORTS

Reviewing Strategies, Depth of Talent

Churchill, Whitman and Wootton football head out of the gates with one goal in mind: playoffs.

Gaining Ground

Last season Greg Neuendorf felt like his players were consistently two and three steps behind the competition. As a first-year head coach, Neuendorf was trying to install a new offense — the triple option — and get a team that hasn't excelled in recent years back into the playoffs. After starting the season 3-2, the Bulldogs dropped four straight before a heartening 15-0 win over rival Wootton.

"Last year we were physically outmatched," said Neuendorf.

The key to reversing that trend, said Neuendorf, will be the dedication of his players and how much they are willing to buy into the program. If this summer is any indication, the outlook is good.

As many as 60 players showed up throughout the summer for voluntary lifting and conditioning sessions beginning in June and leading up to the start of formal practices two weeks ago. At the head of that pack was Curran Chabra. The senior quarterback and third-year varsity starter was a fixture at the summer workouts and thinks that this year's team is ready to take the next step towards competing with teams like Quince Orchard, Magruder, Gaithersburg and Northwest.

"I think we're real capable, we've just got to put it all together," Chabra said.

Helping Chabra lead the Bulldog revival on offense will be senior wide-out Danny Holzman, junior running back Ryan Quinn, and junior free safety and slot receiver Alex Kantor. The defense lost quality starters in the linebacking corps but the defensive line and backfield is strong, said Neuendorf, and will be led by Kantor and senior tackle Arasp Biparva.

Neuendorf thinks his group is ready to improve on last year's record and to keep



PHOTO BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

Churchill players square off at practice on Monday, August 25. The Bulldogs will look to improve on last year's 4-6 record under second-year head coach Greg Neuendorf.

Churchill Bulldogs At a Glance

Coach: Greg Neuendorf, second year
2007 Record: 4-6

Last Season Ended: short of the playoffs

Key Players: Curran Chabra, senior quarterback; Danny Holzman, senior wide receiver; Ryan Quinn, junior running back; Alex Kantor, junior free safety/slot receiver

Whitman Vikings At a Glance

Coach: Jim Kuhn, 2nd year
2007 Record: 6-5

Last Season Ended: with a first-round loss to Quince Orchard

Key Players: Anthony Young-Wiseman, senior quarterback/defensive back; Larry Klein, junior slot receiver/defensive back.

Wootton Patriots At a Glance

Coach: Greg Malling

2007 Record: 5-5

Last Season Ended: short of the playoffs

Key Players: Mike Cresham, senior linebacker/wide receiver; Justin Dhyani, senior linebacker/running back; Stephane Nguomo, senior wide receiver; Aaron Fagan, senior defensive end/tight end; Sam Holloman, senior offensive tackle/defensive tackle.

in closer step with the competition this year — no more should they be two and three steps behind. The first step should be covered by the team's weight and conditioning work, the second by having a full year of his system under their belts. And the third step? That's the step that might just get them to the playoffs, and the one most out of his team's control.

"This year you're going to have to go 7-3 or 8-2 [to make the postseason]," said Neuendorf. "For us that means we're going to have to beat some teams that we shouldn't beat."

Clean Slate

Last year's Vikings got off on the right foot, beating perennial contender Northwest in the team's season opener and the

team kept rolling from there all the way into the playoffs before losing in the first round to Quince Orchard. Repeating that success may be difficult for a team that graduated over 25 seniors from last year's squad.

"We've got a bunch of question marks to answer," said head coach Jim Kuhn.

One question that need not be asked is who will make the plays and provide leadership. Senior quarterback/defensive back Anthony Young-Wiseman has an unbeatable combination of size, speed and athleticism and recently committed verbally to play football at Duke University next fall, said Kuhn.

"He's really a special talent for us and will lead us in many ways," said Kuhn. Young-Wiseman will direct Kuhn's spread offense that operates largely out of the shotgun and that Kuhn said tends to run about 60 percent of the time. That will suit Kuhn's plan

to get Young-Wiseman the ball in space as much as possible.

The offense and defense return four starters each from last year's squad, and junior defensive back and slot receiver Larry Klein will pull double duty along with Young-Wiseman to help lead the Vikings back toward the playoffs. Whether or not that happens will be up to a relatively young team that right now has more questions surrounding it than answers.

"I think it's the big question mark that's very difficult for a coach to answer, it's 'how well do you come together as a team, how well does it all gel for you,'" Kuhn said. Playoffs are a realistic goal, Kuhn said, but "it depends on how things break out. We're going to need some breaks, create some breaks for ourselves and steal some games along the way."

Parents Say School Fees Are Unconstitutional

FROM PAGE 12

Middle School. She remembers paying gym fees when she went to school and said that she doesn't personally object to the fees, and she thinks the majority of county parents don't share the view of the Parents Coalition.

"The parents that are raising the issue

aren't representing a lot of people, I think, when they're speaking," she said.

The policy isn't likely to change unless or until someone challenges it in court, said Abrams. As to whether or not the fees violate the state constitution, Abrams said that too is a matter for the courts to decide if it gets that far.

"We're not there now because no one has filed suit," he said. "I don't think they're going to do that and if they did do that I think they'd lose."

SARTUCCI SAID that she doesn't believe parents should have to fight for basic rights in court, and that neither she nor the Par-

ents Coalition have plans to challenge the fees in the legal system "at this time."

For now, she said there's only one thing that she and parents who share her concerns can do.

"Watch people get ripped off, just sit back and watch people get ripped off," she said.

No Hard Feelings

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Though I've been out of college for more years than I care to remember, I still have feelings for the university. Unfortunately for the university, feelings are just about all I have. Money, in the form of contributions made — or solicitations e-mailed, phoned or snail mailed, to which I have not responded positively — I don't have. And not that the university seems to have any real cash shortage, anecdotally speaking, since so far as this outsider can see, life goes on at the university; nevertheless, I can appreciate the need, financial and otherwise, to reach out to the alumni; past, present and possibly even future. Higher education costs money, as does college athletics, especially the non-revenue generating sports, and research dollars and miscellaneous sponsorships and commercial applications can only fund so many projects. Moreover, given the ever-increasing demands on the state's tax revenue and the imbalance of the present budget, increases from the state to fund the university's evolving requirements, shall we say, are probably unrealistic. So what's a university to do?

Exactly what many of you and I are doing: make do with less; combine trips, consolidate, coordinate and commiserate, and of course, think positively. "Rome wasn't built in a day." ("Neither was Milwaukee.") So neither will it be destroyed in a day. Sure there's pain at the pump, but there's more than enough collateral and residual pain to go around, and around and around until it bites you in the rear.

Paying attention now — to life — is a lot more than looking both ways before you cross: simple, yes, but not that effective anymore. And not following down this path of least resistance may in fact lead you down another path, the garden path, metaphorically speaking, and lead you directly to the world of unintended consequences. And unintended consequences are all they're cracked up to be. Doing the things you normally do, in the fashion in which you're familiar doing them may suffice when the sun is shining but when the weather becomes stormy and the intermittent showers suddenly become downpours, with flood warnings to boot, it behooves one, heck, it behooves us all to buckle up, hunker down and act like you've been there before.

Life is very much like Forest Gump's mother said it was: "... a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get." And as a long-time eater of chocolate as well as a long-time selector of chocolate from many boxes of assorted chocolates, I have on many occasions ended up with an English toffee when what I wanted was a caramel or a soft center. At that point, my choice was either to finish what I started (after all, I had taken a bite), not eat what I had already partially eaten or find someone else who wanted to finish my half-eaten toffee.

Realistically speaking, it's rather difficult to change horses mid stream (and even more difficult to trade half eaten chocolates mid bite), so the remaining choice was to simply finish what I had started and chalk it up as experience. Because thinking there wouldn't be similar-type challenges and/or disappointments ahead would be unrealistic.

Granted, it's only chocolate, but not getting what you want or not getting what you anticipate, can have long term consequences. The trick is to shorten that interval and expect the unexpected, like the university attempting to solicit money from me. Talk about a fool's errand. Crazier things have happened, though. If you don't ask, I'll never be able to tell. However, since I'm unable to contribute right now, could I take a rain check?

I'm afraid the university will have to fend for itself this go-round, unless they're offering chocolate as an added inducement.

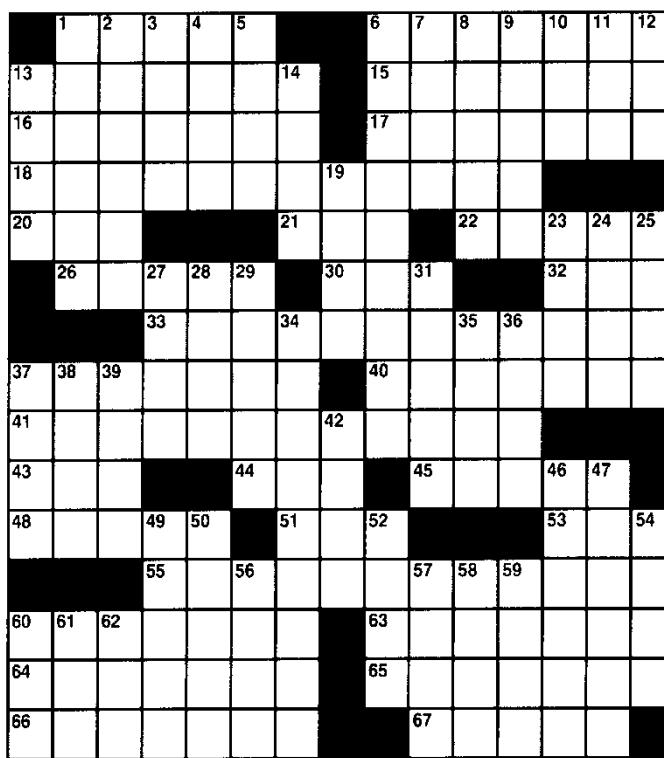
Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.



NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0326-5



Puzzle by Brendan Emmett Quigley

ACROSS

- 1 Sat tight
- 6 Boaters' relatives
- 13 Excites
- 15 Gymnast's need
- 16 Matthew, for one
- 17 Disarmed
- 18 Nintendo arcade game of the 80's
- 20 Cold war proj.
- 21 Medevac destinations, briefly
- 22 Yoga posture
- 26 Token of victory
- 30 When doubled, a dance
- 32 Pro —
- 33 Places where customs are important
- 37 Roosevelt Island's locale
- 40 Pennsylvania resort area
- 41 Photographic technique
- 43 Helm heading
- 44 Bow wood
- 45 Robust
- 48 Depicts unfairly
- 51 The Eagle, e.g.
- 53 Like a Burnsian mouse

DOWN

- 55 Poor Yorick was a fellow of this, said Hamlet
- 56 "The Thorn Birds" novelist McCullough
- 63 Flippant response to a rebuke
- 64 Not dead
- 65 Ballade's trio
- 66 New shoots
- 67 1967 Chemistry Nobelist
- 1 Rifle supports
- 2 Like some of Chekhov's writings
- 3 Study furniture
- 4 Tasso's patron
- 5 As is fitting
- 6 Loan sources
- 7 Enthralled
- 8 Kind of warrior
- 9 Then: Fr.
- 10 Year in Basil II's rule
- 11 Had a little lamb
- 12 Neighbor of Turk.
- 13 Passing things
- 14 Chow alternative
- 19 Tolkien creatures

23 Abbr. that often precedes a colon

24 Agrippina's slayer

25 Tan and others

27 Vaulted room

28 Word before face or heart

29 Head honcho

31 In conflict with, with "of"

34 Relatives of rulers

35 Almond

36 Denials

37 Triptik abbrs.

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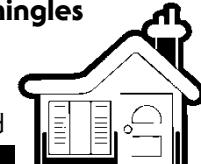
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-William Van Horne

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REAL ESTATE

Don't Park That Here

Bill aims to restrict parking of RVs, commercial vehicles, and buses.

By CHANDOS CULLEEN
THE ALMANAC

The Montgomery County Council will soon have to confront a bill that has already begun to stir controversy. On Sept. 11, the Public Safety Committee will review Bill 27-08, proposed by County Council President Mike Knapp.

Specifically written to deal with the parking of commercial vehicles, recreational vehicles, and buses, Bill 27-08 would make it illegal for these vehicles to be parked "on any public roadway if either side of the street abuts a block containing a private residence, apartment house, church, school, hospital, or playground."

A press release from Council President Mike Knapp's office states that the bill is designed to address "the proliferation of these vehicles on many neighborhood streets, and in some circumstances, affecting safety on the streets because they overwhelm sightlines."

Potomac representative Roger Berliner does not believe that this new bill will be much of a cause for concern in Potomac. "There have been complaints in isolated incidents" said Berliner, speaking about Bill 27-08, "but I don't believe it is as prevalent in down county areas than up county." Berliner also agrees with Knapp, "there is a problem" with the parking of large vehicles on residential streets, "but people do need to park someplace."



Critics and neighbors would like to see RVs parked in rustic settings, not on their neighborhood streets.

gancy," and "a recreational vehicle parked not more than 12 hours."

The Maryland Motor Truck Association, a non-profit, member-driven trade organization that represents more than 1,000 member companies which own and operate commercial trucks in Maryland, understands that "residents have an interest in not having trucks" in their neighborhoods, said Louis Campion, senior vice-president.

Further, the relationship between commercial vehicles and residential areas is "a very unique challenge," according to Campion. "Residential communities and commercial areas proximities often go unnoticed until problems arise."

"There is a problem, but people do need to park someplace."

— Montgomery County Council Representative Roger Berliner

The information available from Knapp's office stresses that "we understand the issue has several sides and we are not looking to ban these vehicles from our County. We are just looking for better parking options that work for everyone."

THE BILL DOES ALLOW for a commercial vehicle, RV, or bus to be parked on residential streets when it is "actually engaged in loading or unloading passengers, merchandise, or materials," "engaged in work on the premises," "a bus that stops for a period of time not to exceed 30 minutes to maintain a schedule at an authorized terminal stand for a bus route operating under a permit from the State Public Service Commission," "involuntarily parked because of mechanical failure or other emergency."

SCHOOL NOTES

A scholarship fund has been established at Montgomery College In memory of County Councilmember Marilyn Praisner. Each year a scholarship will be awarded to a woman attending Montgomery College as a returning adult student, under guidelines that have been established for the fund. The first scholarship will be awarded this fall.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the Marilyn J. Praisner Scholarship fund or to donate,

growth, making it such an enviable place to live, according to Campion. Also, unfortunately, "studies have clearly demonstrated that there is inadequate parking for commercial vehicles" in Montgomery County.

A July 22 public hearing on this issue attracted community comment. "We had lots of folks from lots of neighborhoods and it gave the Council a lot of things to look at," Knapp said, adding that there are two major phases going forward. "First, it is important to get large vehicles out of people's neighborhoods," said Knapp, "and second, we do need to find places for them to park."

"The biggest thing for us right now is to find large lots," he said. The Council is considering several options including privately owned lots or county run lots, according to Knapp.

in general, to the Montgomery College Foundation may call the Foundation Office at 240-567-7900.

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