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Hunt Races

GETTING AROUND, PAGE 5

**Steeplechase racing brought about a thousand people
to Austin Kiplinger's Bittersweet Field in Poolesville
for the Potomac Hunt.**



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PHOTO BY CAROLE DELL / THE ALMANAC

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Correction

In the article about Derek Alvey ("Internationally Bound," The Almanac, May 13), the address to send contributions was missing. Alvey is one of four riders to represent the U.S. at the International Pacific Exchange, an international equestrian competition to be held in Hong Kong in July.

Checks may be made payable to: SVPC (Seneca Valley Pony Club) Attn: Nancy Jones, 18800 Lake Placid Lane, Germantown, MD 20874.

Budget Approval Postponed

The Montgomery County Council was scheduled to approve a tentative agreement on the Fiscal Year 2010 operating budget on Tuesday, May 19 but the meeting was postponed to Thursday, May 21 to give final approval to the FY10 operating budget. The meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. at the Council Office Building at 100 Maryland Ave. in Rockville.

The new fiscal year begins on July 1.

LET'S TALK
Real Estate



by
Michael Matese

ULTIMATE HEALTH AND FITNESS FOR THE HOME

Here is a new concept to consider when you are ready to build a home or upgrade your current residence: home fitness. Although a home gym might be included in your overall home design, home fitness goes far beyond the element of exercise to promote healthful living for the homeowner.

The floor plan of an "environmentally fit" home provides an efficient flow of movement within airy, open spaces, supported by the earthy feel of natural materials such as hardwood, tile or marble floors. Healthy homes are painted with low volatile organic compounds in subtle, monochromatic color schemes designed to provide a soothing effect. Indoor and outdoor spaces are integrated with expansive wall of windows treated with "low-e" coating to regulate the sun's heat. The living room, master bedroom or luxury bathroom often overlooks an outdoor garden adorned with fragrant native plants, or a private meditation deck. There is usually a home gym that features a full range of must-have exercise equipment.

For inspiring ideas on how to make your home more healthful, beautiful and environmentally correct, view the FitHouse via 360-degree virtual tour at CookingLight.com/fithouse.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying and selling real estate, call:

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PHOTOS BY CAROLE DELL/THE ALMANAC

Artist, David Lenz, created a portrait of Eunice Shriver that addressed one of her many legacies: the athletes of Special Olympics.

Honoring a Lifetime of Advocacy

National Portrait Gallery unveils Eunice Kennedy Shriver portrait.

BY CAROLE DELL
THE ALMANAC

The light of Mrs. Shriver's work is like a ring of sunlight suspended in a darkened sky." Artist David Lenz, on describing his inspiration for Eunice Kennedy Shriver's portrait.

On May 9, family and friends gathered in the vast courtyard of the National Portrait Gallery to honor Eunice Kennedy Shriver at a ceremony celebrating the unveiling of her portrait, which will be hung in the Gallery as a part of its permanent collection. The occasion marked an historic event



One Special Olympian featured in the portrait, Marty Sheets, is overcome with emotion and receives a hug from his father, David.



Eunice Shriver

in the history of this Smithsonian institution. For the first time, the Gallery has commissioned the portrait of an individual who has not served as President or First Lady.

Artist, David Lenz, of Wisconsin, was chosen the winner of the inaugural 2006 Outwin Boochever Portrait Competition, a program

where artists compete for the privilege of creating a painting for the National Portrait Gallery. Lenz chose Shriver to be the subject of his commission.

In another break from tradition, according to Gallery director Martin E. Sullivan, it is the first portrait that depicts a freedom of movement, a departure from the Gallery's "stiff or staid" paintings.

"This is a portrait for the 21st century," he said. "It is of a strong woman who has changed lives."

Because it is well documented that changing lives is one of Eunice Shriver's legacies, it was not

SEE PORTRAIT GALLERY HONORS. PAGE 11



Family and friends turned out to honor Eunice Shriver, including her daughter Maria, U.S. Rep. Patrick J. Kennedy, son of U.S. Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, and Eunice Shriver's son, Mark.

Home Invasion Suspect Convicted

Jose Garcia-Perlera could face life sentence in prison without parole.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

Shortly before 7 p.m. last Friday Phyllis Koch stood outside of courtroom nine in the Montgomery County Circuit Courthouse with tears in her eyes and waited. Moments earlier a jury had convicted the man accused of killing her stepmother during one of a series of brutal home invasion attacks that ended late last year, and as the jurors left the courtroom she shook each of their hands and thanked them. Some said nothing and continued on, others offered brief condolences.

One woman stopped to tell Koch how sorry she was for her family's loss, and that it had been her honor to convict the accused.

The jury took less than three hours to convict Jose Garcia-Perlera of Hyattsville of 14 charges including first degree murder stemming from a series of home invasions in Potomac, Bethesda, Chevy Chase that targeted elderly women living alone. Mary Frances Havenstein, Koch's stepmother,

was killed in September 2008 during the last of those attacks. Garcia-Perlera was convicted of one count of first-degree murder, four counts of burglary in the first degree, four counts of false imprisonment, three counts of robbery, one count of robbery with a dangerous weapon, and one count of assault in the first degree. He was acquitted of one count of use of a handgun in commission of a felony. A tentative date for sentencing is scheduled for later this summer, and Montgomery County State's Attorney John McCarthy said he would seek a life sentence with no chance for parole.

FROM SEPTEMBER, 2007 to September, 2008 six home invasions in Potomac, Chevy Chase, Bethesda, and Northwest Washington, D.C. targeted elderly residents and in all but the D.C. incident elderly women roughly between the ages of 70 and 90 were targeted. Havenstein was 63, and the victims of the D.C. break-in were an 84 and 85-year-old

SEE GARCIA-PERLERA. PAGE 8

'A Very Interesting Part of My Life'

After being tied up for two days, Ann Wolfe is ready to move on.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

When Ann Wolfe walked out of her home to get her morning paper on Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2008 she had no way to know that she wouldn't see daylight again for more than two days. She had no way to know that, according to police and Montgomery County State's Attorney John McCarthy, an electrician who had worked previously on her kitchen remodeling had spent the night in a crawl space beneath her home and was waiting for just that moment when Wolfe stepped outside early that morning.

When she did walk out of her home that morning Wolfe, then 78, was immediately attacked by a Hispanic man with long black hair that appeared to be a wig, Wolfe testified last week in the trial of the State of Maryland Vs. Jose Garcia-Perlera, the man accused of orchestrating a series of home invasions that began in September of 2007 and ended one year later that targeted elderly women living alone.

"I said, 'What do you want?'" Wolfe recalled. "He said, 'money.'" She quickly unclasped the gold necklace around her neck and

SEE ONE. PAGE 8

OPINION

Racing for the Cure, a Personal Note

In January, a biopsy of a lump I discovered in my breast revealed that I had an early but aggressive breast cancer. In February, I had surgery to remove the tumor, and in March, I began chemotherapy.

Saturday, May 15, I opened my envelope from the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, pulling out a pink T-shirt that reads, "I believe ... I hope ... I am a survivor." Unfolding that message — about me for the first time — was jolting and emotional.

EDITORIAL I'm now more than halfway through my chemotherapy treatments (and bald). In July, I'll begin radiation for six weeks plus a little.

I have long defined myself as a pathological optimist (note, still in the newspaper business). I've been upbeat through my treatment so far, able to work and walk, if a bit more slowly. It might seem like a lot at once — breast cancer, local recession, downturn in newspaper revenues — but I remain firmly optimistic on all fronts.

Because of the paths of millions of women before me, because of efforts for early detection, because of the research funded by Komen for the Cure and others, because of the efforts of thousands of scientists, by Labor Day my cancer could be behind me for good.

There is no good news when you are diagnosed with cancer. But there are successful, targeted treatments for many kinds of breast



Mary Kimm, pictured here with daughter, Emma Kimm Dixon, 21, and son, Colin Kimm Dixon, 26, at Emma's May 9 graduation from Earlham College.

cancer; if detected early, it is among the most treatable cancers.

It takes more than money to ensure that women are in the best possible position to discover any breast cancer early on — it takes the kind of awareness that comes with 50,000 people coming together to run a 5K race, it takes education, it takes energy, time and effort.

On June 6, I plan, along with friends and family, to walk on the National Mall with 50,000 or so others in the Race for the Cure.

I encourage you to join the Race for the Cure; there is still time to register and take part in the 5K itself. There are many ways to participate, including walking, running, and even a

Get Involved

More than 50,000 people are expected on the National Mall on Saturday, June 6 for the Susan G. Komen Global Race for the Cure. Register at www.globalracefortheCure.org, or call 703-416-7223.

Read previous stories about the Race for the Cure at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.

Survivors Triumph in a Sea of Pink
<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=315752&paper=83&cat=104>

Guest Editorial by Susan Sondley: Why I Race for the Cure

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=315750&paper=83&cat=110>

To contribute to Sondley's top fundraising team:
http://globalrace.info-komen.org/site/TR/GlobalRaceForTheCure/GlobalRace?px=2398911&pg=personal&fr_id=1140

"Sleep in for the Cure" option (you still get a T-shirt).

But most of all, I urge the women reading this to be sure that they are taking care of themselves, for everyone reading this to be sure the women in their lives are as well.

Early detection is the key, and I offer you no excuses. There is no history of breast cancer in my family. My mammogram five months before I found this lump was clear. Breast cancer is detected early by self-exams, by doctor exams and by mammograms. Be sure you show up for all of the above on your own behalf.

— MARY KIMM.

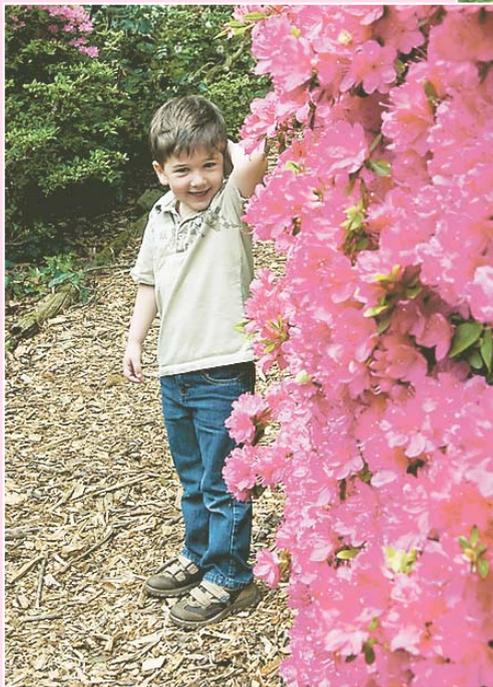
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Landon Azaleas Shine

The Landon School's annual Azalea Festival came through the intermittent rain earlier this month with bright, shining colors as residents came from throughout the region to see the azaleas in the school's 2.5-acre Perkins Garden.

Admission proceeds from the festival support student financial assistance and faculty enrichment. General admission and parking is free though an admission fee is required.

The festival dates back to the mid-1950s when Landon's founders, Paul and Mary Lee Banfield, opened the newly acquired azalea garden to the public. Over the years, a small one-day event has grown to the weekend-long festival that raises thousands of dollars for financial aid that benefits one in every six boys attending Landon.



Four-year-old James Cohen of Potomac took in the azaleas last weekend at the Landon School's Azalea Festival.

The Landon School's 2.5-acre Perkins Garden was awash in color last weekend at the annual Azalea Festival.



PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

POTOMAC ALMANAC

www.PotomacAlmanac.com

Newspaper of Potomac
A Connection Newspaper

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.
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GETTING AROUND

Foul Weather Doesn't Deter Race Fans

BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT
THE ALMANAC

Enough already! For two consecutive years wiser ones attending the Potomac Hunt races have left their spit and polish attire in their closets, pulled out their mudders, rolled up the pant legs and packed an umbrella. In addition, the 2009 version required a heavy jacket and well-secured hat.

While the American flag waved perpendicular on its pole, more than one tent blew over, and most tailgaters opted to wing it without cover with hopes the persistent darkening sky would be just that, and not rain anymore.

However, adverse weather conditions played no part in dissuading about a thousand avid enthusiasts of steeplechase racing to pack up and head for Austin Kiplinger's Bittersweet Field, Poolesville, for the May 17, 56th running of this event.

Some things never change. For those who have followed the sport for decades, and there were numerous in the crowd, they were

delighted to see former Fairfax Hunt MFH Randy Rouse's "One Sea" do a repeat performance of last year's thrilling finish in the featured Preakness Open Hurdle and once again share the winners portion of the \$7,500 purse. Rouse, 92, who repeatedly rode his own 'chasers for umpteen years, is now often seen in an official capacity on racing programs throughout the area. He was on the judges' stand at Potomac serving as race steward this year as were Dr. Roger Scullen and Norman Fraley.

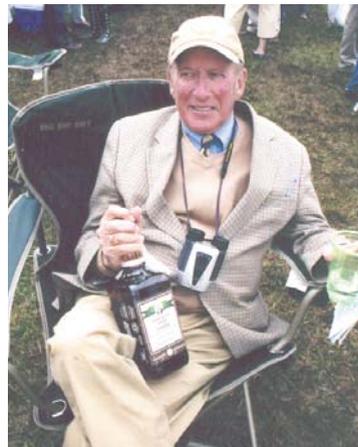
It may take a village to raise a child but it also takes a village of horse people to put on hunt races. Volunteers all, they put in months of preparation for the day, and it isn't over until post-race day, when the fields are restored, trash cleared and everything is put back in tiptop shape.

To single out one volunteer, Beverley Bosselmann, jtMFH, serves as race co-chair-



Bob Hanson, a member of Potomac Hunt since 1931, displays the banner his daughter-in-law, Alicia Hanson, presented him for the Hanson family tailgate at the Potomac Hunt races.

Hanson, 87, who still rides, was nine when he first hunted with Potomac and his family lived on Round The Bend Farm, Travilah Road.



Potomac Hunt member Steve Paley brought his privately labeled sustenance, "The Original Blended Whiskey with an Attitude," marked, "Old Geezer" and complete with his portrait.

man with Skip Crawford, jtMFH, and Peter Hitchen, jtMFH, in addition to doing program, advertising and fund-raising duties. This translates into a full-time endeavor for about four months out of the year and she is just one of many volunteers.

The elbow grease effort doesn't stop with race preparation. Can you imagine the untold hours spent in the kitchens for all of the tailgate productions? "We have about a hundred guests invited today to our tailgate," Kaja Farnsworth advised as she surveyed the buffet table spread where everything from crab cakes to watermelon were offered. Dr. Liz Reese and Dr. Wendy Walker co-host this setup that requires two parking areas to accommodate their guests and food.

Ditto for Audrey and Walt Pritchard; the Hanson family, Alicia and Tim, and JoAnne and Bob; Denise and Rex Reed and numer-



Among the elaborate tailgate parties, was the setup Dr. Wendy Walker, Dr. Liz Reese and Kaja and Bubba Farnsworth created, complete with a pair of foxes overseeing the buffet table where Bubba is about to dig in (left) and Kaja is entering through the swinging barroom doors. The group won the tailgate competition so often, the practice was discontinued.

Results

Potomac Hunt Featured Races

- ❖ Maiden Hurdle-1. What A Warrior 2. Ouagadougou 3. Evil's Preacher
- ❖ Open Timber: 1. Won Wild Bird, 2. Endless Mountain, 3. Shady Valley
- ❖ Ladies Flat: 1. Green Velvet, 2. Class Century, 3. Lonesome Nun
- ❖ Open Hurdle: 1. One Sea, 2. Church Ghost, 3. Swimming River
- ❖ Novice Timber: 1. Cool Fellow, 2. Bon Caddo, 3. Dreaming Of Glory

ous others. Then, there are three and four space parties such as the Kiplinger family, including Knight and Ann, Dana, and of course Austin, all of whom have dozens of guests as do Ineke and Peter Kreeger with a three space spread. No matter how you slice it, from kitchen toil to race course labor, hunt race preparation takes endurance.

You won't find many who say it isn't worth it, to be out in the country with your friends to watch the horses run and jump over a magnificent course.

Next year we are due for a wee bit of sunshine.



PHOTOS BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT/THE ALMANAC



Outriders who patrol the race course and are on hand for emergencies are a necessity for any hunt race program. Above, Alan Forney, one of six outriders at Potomac is offered a bit of refreshment by jtMFH Vicki Crawford.



Sometimes a horse just doesn't want to do what his rider wishes. Then it becomes a battle of wills. A little scuffle ensues and then the rider is left to contemplate the consequences.



Free of his jockey, the horse looks rather triumphant, but not for long. Rider is up and off they go



PHOTOS BY CAROLE DELL/THE ALMANAC

CALENDAR

To have community events listed free in *The Potomac Almanac*, send e-mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and artwork encouraged. Unless otherwise noted, all events are in Potomac. For more information, call 703-917-6407.

ONGOING

The Bethesda Farmers Market will be open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Veterans Park, corner of Norfolk and Woodmont Avenues, through Oct. 31. Visit www.bethesda.org or 301-215-6660.

GlasScene, An Exhibition of Fine Art Glass, June 6 to July 5. Popcorn Gallery at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, Maryland. Opening Reception: June 6 from 4 to 6 p.m. Gallery Hours: 12 to 6 PM Saturdays and Sundays and by appointment - 301-634-2273.

THURSDAY/MAY 21

Blues Dance. 8:30-11:30 p.m. at Ballroom Annex, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$8/person Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Networking Event. 4-6:30 p.m. The Potomac Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Normandie Farm Restaurant. Cost is \$10/chamber members; \$15/non-members. At 10710 Falls Road, Potomac. Call 301-299-2170.

Walk With Us. 10 a.m. First event of the new Clara Barton Walking Club. Meet at the Clara Barton Community Recreation Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John, MD. Walkers of all levels welcome. Call the Center Director, Modestine Snead at 301-229-0010.

Dance Fund-Raiser. 6:30 p.m. American Dance Institute is hosting a fund-raiser to help raise money for its yearly programming. \$50/person. Call 301-984-3003 or email Jen Michaels at jmichaels@americandance.org. Visit www.americandance.org.

FRIDAY/MAY 22

Contra Dance. 7:30 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$9/person. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Swing Dance. 8 p.m.-midnight at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$14/person. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

"Muse of Fire," 7 p.m. The Writer's Center will screen the documentary film on the National Endowment for the Arts' project Operation Homecoming. Following the screening will be a roundtable discussion featuring Jon Peede of the NEA, poet-activist E. Ethelbert Miller, instructor James Mathews, and two participants of The Writer's Center's Operation Homecoming workshop. The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda. Free. Call 301-654-8664 for details or www.writer.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 23

Art Exhibit. Noon-5 p.m. at Yellow Barn Gallery in Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See paintings by Edith Sievers. Free. Visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com for more.

Park Movie. 4 p.m. at Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Watch a movie documenting the park's 115-year history. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Carousel Tours. 10:30 a.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See how it was made, how it works and more. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Nature Programs. Enjoy activities,



FRIDAY/MAY 29

Bobbe Shore and First Call. Duo with Robert Redd, Old Angler's Inn Restaurant, 10801 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac, 301-299-9097. Go to www.anglersinn.com. No cover. Free parking.

stories, animals, hikes and more from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free for members and children under 2, \$5/non member. Visit www.discoverycreek.org or 202-488-0627.

Swing Dance. 8 p.m.-midnight at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$14/person. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 24

Art Exhibit. Noon-5 p.m. at Yellow Barn Gallery in Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See paintings by Edith Sievers. Free. Visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com for more.

Park Movie. 4 p.m. at Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Watch a movie documenting the park's 115-year history. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

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Nature Programs. Enjoy activities, stories, animals, hikes and more from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free for members and children under 2, \$5/non member. Visit www.discoverycreek.org or 202-488-0627.

Ballroom Tea Dance. 3 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$12/person. Live music. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Contra and Square Dance. 7-10:30 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Enjoy live music to dance. \$12/nonmember; \$9 to member. Visit www.fsgw.org for more.

Sunday Blues. 7-11 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$12/dance; \$17/lesson and dance. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

MONDAY/MAY 25

Art Exhibit. Noon-5 p.m. at Yellow Barn Gallery in Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See paintings by Edith Sievers. Free. Visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com for more.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 27TH

Children Fitness Center Open House. 7 p.m. at 11140 Rockville Pike, 1st Floor, Gym, Rockville. Fun-filled activities in the glow room, "exergaming" on the virtual reality cardio systems, sports wall games and more. Register on line at www.fitnessforhealth.org or call 301-231-7138.

FRIDAY/MAY 29

Contra Dance. 7:30 p.m. at Bumper Car Pavillion, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$9/person. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 30

Music Performance. Soovin Kim will perform on the violin at 8 p.m. at Music Center at Strathmore. \$29-\$79/adult; children free. Visit www.nationalphilharmonic.org or 301-581-5100.

Washington Folk Festival. Noon-7 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Enjoy performers, dance, stories and more. Free. Visit www.fsgw.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Noon-5 p.m. at Yellow Barn Studio, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See paintings by Ann Schaefer & Barb Mandel. Free. Visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com or 301-371-5593.

Park Movie. 4 p.m. at Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Watch a movie documenting the park's 115-year history. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

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Swing Dance. 8 p.m. at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$15/person. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Concert. 1 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. NIH Chamber Singers perform. Free. 240-777-0960.

Yard Sale. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Rockville Elks Lodge, 5 Taft Court, Rockville. Benefits victims of crime in Montgomery County. 240-773-5626.

Book Signing. 1 p.m. at Border's, 11301 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Authors of "School Success for Kids with ADHD" will sign copies. Free. 703-816-1067.

Rachmaninoff Vespers. 8 p.m. Sergei Rachmaninoff's All-Night Vigil stands as the crowning achievement of the "Golden Age" of Russian Orthodox sacred choral music. Robert Baker, tenor. At Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, 10620 River Road, Potomac. Tickets: \$25 (General admission).

Big Train vs. Mid-Atlantic Rookies. 7:30 p.m. Fan Appreciation Night! Povich Field, Cabin John Park, Bethesda. Gates open at 6 p.m. First pitch is at 7:30 p.m. This game is a free pre-season scrimmage against a high school showcase team. The high-schoolers will be using metal bats. Ticket Prices: Adults, \$7, Kids 6-12 \$3, Kids 5 and under or in baseball uniforms, free.

The Washington Chorus. 8 p.m. Performs Rachmaninoff's All-Night

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 7

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CALENDAR



FROM PAGE 6

Vigil (Vespers), under the direction of Julian Wachner at Saint Peter and Paul Orthodox Church. Tickets for the concert at the Potomac church, located at 10620 River Road, are \$25. Admission: \$25-\$40. Call 202-342-6221.

SUNDAY/MAY 31

Music Performance. Soovin Kim will perform on the violin at 3 p.m. at Music Center at Strathmore. \$29-\$79/adult; children free. Visit www.nationalphilharmonic.org or 301-581-5100.

Washington Folk Festival. Noon-7 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Enjoy performers, dance, stories and more. Free. Visit www.fsgw.org for more.

Art Exhibit. Noon-5 p.m. at Yellow Barn Studio, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See paintings by Ann Schaefer & Barb Mandel. Free. Visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com or 301-371-5593.

Park Movie. 4 p.m. at Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Watch a movie documenting the park's 115-year history. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Carousel Tours. 10:30 a.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See how it was made, how it works and more. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Nature Programs. Enjoy activities, stories, animals, hikes and more from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free for members and children under 2, \$5/non member. Visit www.discoverycreek.org or 202-488-0627.

Contra and Square Dance. 7-10:30

p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Enjoy live music to dance. \$12/nonmember; \$9 to member. Visit www.fsgw.org for more.

Poetry Reading. 2 p.m. Poet Ann Knox reads from "Reading the Tao at 80" and poet Greg McBride reads from "Back of the Envelope," at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda. This is a free event. Call 301-654-8664 or www.writer.org.

"The Symphony of the Potomac." 3 p.m. Concert directed by Joel Lazar at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, 4301 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Soloists from the orchestra will be featured in works by Leopold Mozart, Krommer, Koussevitsky, Sibelius, and Elgar. Tickets are \$10 (age 18 and under free). To purchase tickets, call 800-494-TIXS or visit the Web site at symphypotomac.org. Call 301-984-6390.

Symphony of the Potomac. 3 p.m. Final concert of inaugural season, conducted by Music Director Joel Lazar. At Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, 4301 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Tickets are \$10 (ages 18 and under free) and may be purchased at the door, online at symphypotomac.org, or by phone at 800-494-TIXS (8497).

Four Skills That Every Dog Should Know. 2-4 p.m. Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Rd., Potomac. Speaker: Michelle Mange, Right Start Maryland (www.rightstartmaryland.com) Free, but register at www.yourdogsfriend.info or 301-983-5913.

Big Train vs. Youse's Orioles. 7:30 p.m. Povich Field, Cabin John Park, Bethesda. Gates open at 6 p.m. First pitch is at 7:30 p.m. This game is a free pre-season scrimmage. Ticket Prices: Adults, \$7, Kids 6-12 \$3, Kids 5 and under or in baseball uniforms.

THURSDAY/JUNE 4

Love Songs. 8 p.m. Zemer Chai, Washington's Premier Jewish Choir, presents Love Songs. Features songs of love in Hebrew, Yiddish, and Ladino. At Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase. Tickets: \$40 preferred seating; \$20 general seating in advance (\$25 at the door). Tickets can be purchased at www.zemerchai.org or by calling 301-963-3462.

MONDAY, JUNE 1

Big Train vs. Rockville Express. 5 p.m. Povich Field, Cabin John Park, Bethesda. Gates open at 4 p.m. First pitch is at 5 p.m. This game is a free pre-season scrimmage. Ticket Prices: Adults, \$7, Children 6-12 \$3, Kids 5 and under or in baseball uniforms, free.

TUESDAY, JUNE 2

Big Train vs. Alexandria Aces. 5 p.m. Povich Field, Cabin John Park, Bethesda. Gates open at 4 p.m. First pitch is at 5 p.m. This game is a free pre-season scrimmage. Ticket Prices: Adults, \$7, Children 6-12 \$3, Kids 5 and under or in baseball uniforms, free.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

Big Train vs. TBA. 5 p.m. Povich Field, Cabin John Park, Bethesda. Gates open at 4 p.m. First pitch is at 5 p.m. This game is a free pre-season scrimmage. Ticket Prices: Adults, \$7, Kids 6-12 \$3, Children 5 and under or in baseball uniforms, free.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

Big Train vs. Youse's Orioles. 7:30 p.m. Povich Field, Cabin John Park, Bethesda. Gates open at 6 p.m. First pitch is at 7:30 p.m. Opening Night! Ticket Prices: Adults, \$7, Kids 6-12 \$3, Children 5 and under or in baseball uniforms, free.

SATURDAY/JUNE 6

Six Things Parents Need to Know . . . That Only You Can Teach. 2-4 p.m. Potomac Community Center. Free, but register at www.yourdogsfriend.info or 301-983-5913.

SCHOOL NOTES

Summit Educational Group, is offering **free practice tests** this spring for the SAT and ACT at Winston Churchill High School in Potomac. For a complete listing of dates, visit www.mytutor.com.

Holton's Advanced Placement Art History class was among 21 programs recognized in a new booklet, Stories of Excellence: Case Studies of Exemplary Teaching and Learning with Technology, produced by the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).

In addition to producing their own podcasts, Holton's students mentor fifth-grade students from Seaton Elementary, an inner-city public school in Washington, D.C. Together the students research artwork at the museum and then Holton's students help their mentees create podcasts of their own. Visit www.nais.org/go/storiesofexcellence.

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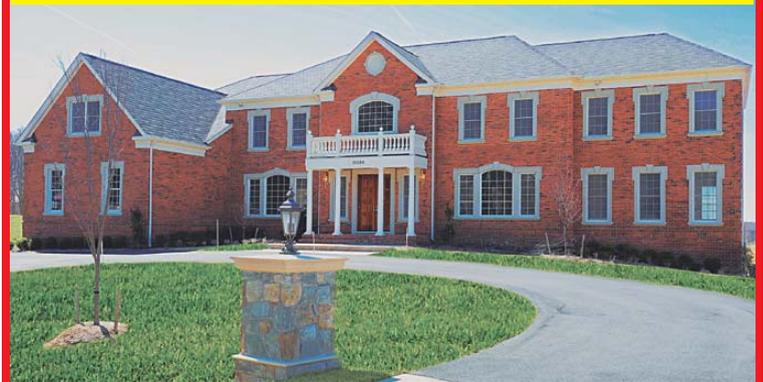
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One of the Home Invasion Victims Tells Her Story

FROM PAGE 3

gave it to him, hoping that would make him leave. Then he grabbed her by the collar of her house coat and began dragging her back toward her home. She yelled for help, knowing that no one in her thickly wooded neighborhood on Picasso Lane was likely to hear her.

As she yelled the man struck Wolfe three times over the head with what she described as a 10-inch revolver. Only later did she learn that those blows caused her to track blood behind her as her assailant dragged her through her home and to her basement, where he hogtied her, gagged her and taped her mouth shut with duct tape, put a sheet over her head and tied her to a support beam.

Her attacker went upstairs only to return moments later to demand in Spanish, which she gathered loosely from her knowledge of Italian that he wanted to know the combination to the safe in her bedroom closet. Her mouth gagged, she couldn't answer. He left and went back upstairs, then came down again several minutes later, kicked the ropes that bound her and ran quickly back upstairs.

"That was it," Wolfe testified. "I think maybe he was in the house only about 20 minutes."

THE FIRST THING she realized was that with her mouth taped shut she would likely

suffocate.

"I chewed away and chewed away and chewed away" at her duct tape gag until she broke through it. For the next two and a half days Wolfe lived by the on/off cycle of her home's furnace. When it turned off she would yell for help, even though she acknowledged to herself there was little chance anyone would hear her. When the furnace turned back on and the noise of its mechanics eliminated what slim chances there were of people hearing her cries she spent her time trying to prop herself up on various boxes and furniture in her basement and worked against her bindings.

She knew that her daughter was coming over to pick her up for lunch on Friday. That morning she heard her daughter arrive at her home, but after her daughter got no answer at the front door Wolfe thought she heard her leaving.

"I really despaired then that no one was ever going to find me," Wolfe said.

Tracy Bays came to her mother's home a half hour early for lunch on Friday. She didn't see her mother's car in the driveway. She rang the doorbell and there was no response. Something didn't feel right. She called her sister. Bays wondered if perhaps her mother had gone up to Potomac Village to do some last minute food shopping, but she knew that her mother wasn't the type to leave things to the last minute, particularly on such an important day.

Bays had come with her daughter to eat at Wolfe's house that day, Feb. 29, to celebrate the birthday of her late father and Wolfe's late husband who was born on Leap Year Day. It was a tradition they maintained every four years.

She felt it in her gut that something was not right with her mother, Bays told *The Almanac*. She used the key to her mother's home that she keeps with her and opened the door.

"The minute I turned the key we heard her," said Bays. She raced to basement and saw her mother laying bound on the floor, a sheet over her upper body.

"I didn't know what I was going to find" when she pulled the sheet off, Bays recalled. What she found was her mother, whom McCarthy described as half-delirious upon being rescued in his opening statement.

"Absolutely horrifying," was Bays' assessment of the scene.

Bays tried to remove her mother's bindings but they were too tight. Wolfe's hands had turned black from the lack of circulation. With the help of a neighbor and her young daughter Bays called 911 and waited for help to arrive.

Wolfe spent the next five days in the hospital. The ropes her attacker had bound her in had severely limited blood circulation to her hands, and an operation was required to keep her right hand from having to be amputated. Doctors feared that the de-

creased circulation could result in life-threatening blood clots, McCarthy told jurors in his opening statement. Another operation was required to remove scar tissue from her right hand, and Wolfe testified that she lost about 50 percent of the hand's ability. Her left hand operates now at 80 percent of the ability it had prior to the attack, she said.

Wolfe has no doubt that Garcia-Perlera was her attacker. Of the three living victims for which Garcia-Perlera was convicted of attacking, only Wolfe got a look at his face. That she has macular degeneration kept prosecutors from having her testify to that fact, she said, but Wolfe told *The Almanac* that Garcia-Perlera was the man in the wig with the revolver that morning.

"It was broad daylight," she said. "I recognized him."

As the months progressed and the investigation continued, Wolfe said she was comforted by the support of the legal system and the police. Detective Brian Stafford came to her home every week to update her and was always accessible by phone.

"You felt the system was working and it was," she said.

Wolfe said that the arrest and the conviction have been a relief, that she feels lucky, and that she is moving on with her life.

"It was a very interesting part of my life, but if you live long enough you have interesting things happen," she said.

Garcia-Perlera Could Face Sentence of Life in Prison

FROM PAGE 3

couple.

The violent nature of the home invasions — the victims were gagged, hogtied, and, in some instances, beaten before their homes were ransacked and robbed — got the public's attention and that of McCarthy. At a community meeting at Seven Locks Elementary School last fall following Havenstein's death, McCarthy promised the more than 700 in attendance that he would prosecute the case himself once an arrest was made, and last week he did just that with the help of Deputy State's Attorney John Maloney. The four cases tried were the Montgomery County cases that prosecutors felt had the strongest evidence and whether Garcia-Perlera is tried for the D.C. attack will be up to D.C. officials, McCarthy said.

McCarthy focused on the eyewitness testimony of the three living victims of the four cases. Margaret Arnold of Bethesda was the first victim in the series of invasions, and was 92-years-old on Sept. 27, 2007 when the lights in her home went out. She testified that when she went downstairs to check the circuit breaker she was attacked by an assailant, hogtied and gagged and left on her basement floor. Similarly, McLean Tubbs of Chevy Chase was 78-years-old when she was attacked in her basement and restrained the same way that Arnold was. Then on Feb. 27, 2008, Ann Wolfe of Potomac was attacked at about 8:15 a.m.

as she went out to get her morning newspaper.

"IN THIS CASE the violence is beginning to escalate because [the attacker has] now brought a gun with him," McCarthy said in his opening statement. Wolfe testified that her attacker struck her in the head three times with a revolver approximately 10 inches long, causing her to track blood through her home as he dragged her to her basement, where he gagged, hogtied and covered her from the head to torso with an old sheet, which he then tied to a support beam. When her granddaughter found her two and a half days later the circulation to her hands had been so constrained by her bindings that she required surgery to avoid amputating one of her hands, which now has only 50 percent of its original function, Wolfe testified.

Her other hand lost about 20 percent of its function, she said. Wolfe's attack is believed to be the only attack that did not occur late at night, though investigators still do not know exactly when Havenstein was attacked. She was last seen Sept. 2 and her body was found Sept. 4 by her niece. Bound and restrained as the other three victims, she died of multiple injuries to her head and torso, most notably blunt force trauma to the head of a nature that precluded that it was the result of a mere fall, according to the testimony of the state medical examiner. When her body was found her hands

were swollen to the size of boxing gloves, said McCarthy.

McCarthy's prosecution focused on DNA evidence, the fact that Garcia-Perlera was in possession of items stolen from the homes of each of the four victims when he was arrested, and the manner of the break-ins. DNA evidence found on the gag used on Tubbs, in the brim of a hat left at Wolfe's home, and near the bindings on Havenstein's ankles matched, and forensic experts that the chances of the DNA profile from Havenstein's body matching a member of the Hispanic population other than Garcia-Perlera was one in 23 quintillion. A former employer testified that Garcia-Perlera worked for him as an electrician and was in Wolfe's home nine times when she remodeled her kitchen using his company. Police detectives searched 10 years back in their records and found no other open cases with the same modus operandi of attack than those in which Garcia-Perlera was suspected.

THE DEFENSE CALLED no witnesses of their own and cross examined few of the prosecution's witnesses. They questioned the validity of the DNA samples used to link Garcia-Perlera to the attacks and referred to DNA evidence in opening statements as a relatively new scientific technique. In explaining why Garcia-Perlera was in possession of several stolen items of each of the four victims in the case, defense counsel

Samuel Delgado said in his closing argument that Garcia-Perlera was someone who bought stolen goods, but was not a murderer. Most importantly, Delgado said, none of the three living victims in the case could testify to having seen their assailant's face, none of the crime scenes had the defendants fingerprints or footprints. In explaining Garcia-Perlera's fitting the police's description of a Hispanic male of medium build between 5'5" and 5'8", Delgado said that finding such a person was not a difficult task.

"How about looking in the lobby of this courthouse and finding five to 10 men who meet this description," Delgado said.

In his rebuttal, Maloney reemphasized the DNA links and dismissed Delgado's supposition that Garcia-Perlera was merely a thief. In doing so he referred to a watch stolen from Tubbs that was found in Garcia-Perlera's apartment. The watch was found in the envelope in which Tubbs kept it, on which was scrawled in pen "Topsy's Watch," referring to her lifelong nickname of Topsy. Anyone who would sell stolen jewelry would discard such an envelope before doing so, and anyone buying stolen jewelry would do the same, said Maloney.

With that Maloney left the decision in the hands of the jury, and he urged the jury to let the healing for the three living victims and for Havenstein's family begin.

"Healing begins when justice is done," said Maloney.

Vikings' Historic Season Ends in Defeat

Whitman loses to QO, 7-2, in first regional championship appearance.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE ALMANAC

The last time Whitman's Ethan Thompson and Quince Orchard's Mike Ryan went head-to-head on the mound, the two produced a 10-inning pitcher's duel that took two days to complete. So when the pair of aces met for the first time since that classic, this time with the 4A West regional championship on the line last Friday, many expected an encore.

But as the Vikings trudged off the field somberly following a 7-2 loss that gave QO its fourth region title in five years, Thompson pointed to that 3-2 marathon of a loss back on April 20-21 that took two days to finish because of a thunderstorm to explain how the Cougars jumped all over him for six runs in the first two innings Friday.

"They had seen me for 10 innings already this year, they'd seen a lot of my changeups," said Thompson, a self-described "off-speed pitcher," of his 9.2-inning, four-strikeout, one earned run performance in April. He only made it through three innings in the rematch. "They hit the ball and we didn't necessarily make all the plays this time around. With one-game elimination, one



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Whitman senior Ethan Thompson had some trouble on the mound in the first two innings of last Friday's 4A West regional final against Quince Orchard, but had three hits to end the season with the third-highest batting average (.475) in school history.

ball goes one way and that's the game. I'm just happy about the season, it was a good season."

GOOD, THOUGH, doesn't do justice to what can only be described as a renaissance campaign for Whitman baseball, a program

that was making its first-ever regional title appearance this year. The championship game berth completed a remarkable two-year turnaround under coach Joe Cassidy.

The Vikings had three pitchers finish with an undefeated record, while producing a team ERA below three runs per game. In addition, six hitters in the Whitman lineup had batting averages of .340 or better.

But the bats went cold to start against QO Friday and the Cougars pounced. The Vikings were held scoreless through the first four innings thanks to Ryan (0.40 season ERA), and the pitcher helped his own cause early, singling home leadoff hitter Ryan Bowles in the bottom of the first and later scoring the game's second run on a sacrifice fly.

It didn't help that Whitman committed some gaffes in the field, something that would also come back to bite them in the second inning when a couple more errors allowed QO to put four more runs on the board, creating what would turn into an insurmountable 6-0 lead. Freshman Michael Flack came on in relief to pitch four shut-out innings for the Vikings.

"I think it was nerves," said Cassidy, whose team actually made a penchant for recovering from poor starts this season with eight come-from-behind victories, including last week's 2-1 regional semifinal win over Northwest. "The school hasn't been here. But you gotta give [QO] credit ... there's a reason they have a (state) championship, a runner-up, and three other regional championships this decade."

WHITMAN'S ONLY loss since that April

21 classic with the Cougars came in this regional championship rematch.

During the 24 days between the two defeats, the Vikings reeled off seven-straight wins including victories against quality foes like defending region champ Sherwood, Wootton, Magruder, and in the playoffs, Northwest.

Even in their title game defeat, the Vikings played like a champion. No. 9 hitter James Dionne started the top of the fifth inning by beating out a slow grounder on a bang-bang play and moved over to third after leadoff man Jesse Mates legged out a double.

Center fielder Max Hilbert's sacrifice fly brought in Dionne and Thompson followed with an RBI single to plate Mates. The hit may be relatively meaningless in the context of the game and the rest of the state baseball playoffs, but it was a strong indication of just how this season will be remembered for Whitman.

Combined with an earlier fourth-inning single and another in the seventh, when the Vikings loaded the bases but came away with nothing, Thompson finished his senior season with a robust .475 batting average. Turns out it was the third-best batting average in school history, an appropriate ending to what might be the finest baseball team to ever grace the diamond at Whitman.

"We have a great bunch of kids who don't quit," said Thompson, sporting a week-long playoff beard. "That's baseball, if you fall behind and quit, you're gonna be a bad team no matter how talented you are. This team had a lot of heart."

Wootton Lacrosse Ousted Again

Patriot boys' can't bring home state title.

BY MIKE WEINER
THE ALMANAC

Wootton entered Friday's lacrosse state semifinal matchup with Urbana as, once again, Montgomery County's best chance to come home with a state championship. The Patriots fell short, though, losing to Urbana by a 7-4 score.

After dominating county competition en route to another fantastic regular season, the Patriots had to attempt to win a game from behind for the first time this year. Facing a 5-1 deficit early in the third quarter, Wootton's Chris Doran and Jeff Zifrony contributed the only goals the Patriots were able to score in succession to narrow the deficit to two, but Urbana held on with two late goals to make sure there would be no last second heroics.

The first half of play was what did the Patriots in. Now the four-time defending 4A

West region champions, Wootton gave up the first three goals of the game and never established any sort of rhythm, entering halftime with a 5-1 deficit. Midfielder Mike Cresham had the lone goal in the first half for the Patriots, who were unable to hold possession of the ball partially because of the velocity of the bounces provided by the artificial turf field at Arundel High School, the host venue. The semifinal was only the second time this season that the Patriots had played on turf.

For the Patriots, it was another season that will be looked back on as a missed opportunity to bring home a state championship. Wootton finished with a 17-1 record, and recorded wins over Coronado — California's top team — and Good Counsel (Olney, Md.), not to mention running the table in league play for the third straight season. None of these things will matter for the Patriots, though, who had their eyes set on the state championship from the moment they were ousted last season by Dulany.

"Of course we wanted a state championship," senior goalie Yanni Rindler said. "But we can be proud of what we've done. Four

years ago, it was unthinkable for a team from our county to even dream about [a state championship]."

Over the last four years Wootton has been the most dominant lacrosse program in the area, winning every game in regular season play and becoming the first team from Montgomery County to ever win a game in the state tournament. The Patriots defeated Dulany in the 2007 state semifinal before falling to Severna Park in the championship.

Next year will be a challenge of staying power and it will involve a complete 180-degree swing in strengths. The Patriots graduate their best defender and midfielder, Matt Canter and Mark Jutkowitz, respectively, in addition to Rindler. But Wootton's trio of attackmen — Jeff Zifrony, Tim Lenardo, and Chris Doran — will all be back next year with a season's worth of chemistry under their belts. Those three will be the core of next year's team, and, along with defenseman Reid Shepherd, will try to take Wootton to the next level, that still elusive state championship. "We're not afraid to take on any team based upon the name on their uniform," Canter said. "Over the past



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Tim Lenardo and the Wootton boys' lacrosse team fell short in its bid for a state title, falling to Urbana in the state semifinals last Friday night.

four years the program has grown so we have to step up to the next level in order to gain respect with the other successful lacrosse schools. Winning the whole thing is in the near future for [our program]."

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SPORTS

Holy Child Lax Wins Title

Connelly School of the Holy Child's varsity girls' lacrosse team won its first-ever ISL A Division Championship, beating Episcopal 14-11 at Episcopal. Holy Child advanced to the finals after defeating Georgetown Day School 15-1 and Flint Hill 11-9.

"We all used our individual skills to work together and come out on top. We were determined to win," said senior Carolyn Hodgson.

POTOMAC SPORTS BRIEFS

Holy Child finished with a 5-1 record during regular-season league play and an 11-8 record overall. By winning the A division of the ISL, the team will now move up to the more competitive ISL AA division with teams like St. Stephen's/St. Agnes and Bullis.

"It was a perfect end to our season and they worked so hard to get to that point, not just physically but they were mentally prepared," said third-year coach Sarah Aschenbach. "They had a great outlook the entire season. And I think that was the key. They saw their progress throughout the season and it was huge."



COURTESY OF CONNELLY SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD

Holy Child's girls' lacrosse team celebrates its ISL A division title.

Churchill Girls Lax Loses

The Churchill girls' lacrosse team's improbable undefeated season came to an end last Wednesday when the Bulldogs lost a tight 12-10 game to Walter Johnson in the 4A West regional finals.

In her final high school game, senior Angela Biciocchi finished with a team-high six goals and three assists. Zoe Kabelac, Sofia Ein, Katie Ruben, and Jackie Nolan all chipped in a goal, while goalie Lizzy Naegali stopped 10 shots. For the season, Biciocchi finished with 72 goals and 23 assists, while Kabelac had a team-high 79 goals.

Portrait Gallery Honors Eunice Shriver

FROM PAGE 3

surprising that Lenz chose Shriver. His winning piece in the competition, called Sam and the Perfect World is a portrait of his son, Sam, who has Down syndrome and is a Special Olympics athlete. Later, as he sketched and researched with Shriver for the portrait, he saw the need to have Special Olympians included with her. "They tell the story of all that she has accomplished over the years," he said.

The following are the Special Olympian athletes featured in the portrait with Shriver:

Airika Straka, 12, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisc., won first place in the 50-meter and third place in the 100-meter snowshoeing races. She is also involved in Best Buddies. When Lenz initially portrayed her raised arms in the painting, he had some hesitation. But, he then realized that she had the same gesture as that on the Special Olympics medal.

Katie Meade, 25, of Des Moines, Iowa, is a Special Olympics Global Messenger and an inspirational speaker who speaks on behalf of the intellectually disabled. She has been an athlete for 13 years.

Andrew M. Leonard, 40, Reynoldsburg, Ohio, whose specialty, weightlifting, enables him to lift over 400 pounds. He is the only Special Olympics athlete to hold a non-Special Olympics national title: American Drug-Free Powerlifting Association Champion 1994 and 1995.

Loretta Claiborne, of York, Pa., has completed 26 marathons and was honored in 1996 with the Arthur Ashe Excellence in Sports Courage Award. She is also a moti-



PHOTO BY CAROLE DELL

Eunice Shriver's oldest son, Bobby, helps artist David Lenz unveil her portrait in the atrium of the National Portrait Gallery.

national speaker and a long-time part of the Best Buddies organization.

And, featured looking outward in the painting is Martin Sheets, 53, of Greensboro, N.C. Marty is a winner of over 250 athletic medals in competition. In a tearful gesture after the unveiling, he buried his face deep in the arms of his father, David Sheets, and they stood and hugged each other while guests quietly viewed the portrait. Sheets, who lives with his parents, started competing in the Special Olympics games as a 15-year-old and received his first gold medal in 1968 from Eunice Shriver at the first Special Olympics games. "After that, his life just blossomed," said David Sheets. "I don't know what it would have been like without Special Olympics."

Recalling the doctor's advice for his son, Sheets said they suggested Marty be placed

in a home because, they told the parents, their son would be unable to do the simplest of tasks such as tying his shoes.

"His mother went home and taught him how to do it that very day," said Sheets. Marty Sheets continues to compete in Special Olympics, now excelling in golf and powerlifting, and in addition to his sports, he has been working for Macys for 35 years.

Speaking to the Special Olympians at the unveiling, Lenz told them, "You embody Mrs. Shriver's legacy." His work is the first to be commissioned by the Competition, launched with an endowment from a former docent, Virginia Outwin Boochever.

Lenz's portrait of Shriver and the five Special Olympians is set in a haunting landscape of contrasts: distant, dusky clouds threaten the horizon but give way to an illuminating light from the sun as it radiates onto the subjects. "I wanted the symbolism to show Mrs. Shriver moving all the world from the darkness of discrimination to the sunlight of enlightenment," said Lenz. The optical phenomenon drives the point home. But, what is most illuminating is Lenz's portrayal of Shriver. Her hair, characteristically windswept and full, catches the light and holds it. She is shown as somewhat ageless. Not young in the portrait, neither is she old. But, leaning to the later years, Lenz captured her vitality and compassion and it must have been a tall order to paint. When asked about that tall order he revealed:

"It came from my gratitude for all she did that made the world a better place for others and for my son."

To become a member or to support the National Portrait Gallery, call 202-633-6362 or visit their Web site www.npg.si.edu.

Marketing 101



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Perhaps you've noticed, as I have, that over time, certain familiar consumer products generally available at the supermarket (if all else fails, people at the very least, have to eat and clean and "hygiene" themselves) rework their appearance/packaging. I don't mean what's inside, I mean what's outside. And even though the old adage of not judging a book by its cover has to be as familiar to food/household product manufacturers as it is to the rest of us, the packaging/presentation of products does seem to change, for good reason, I'm sure. Perhaps there's a marketing cycle manufacturers follow that relates to a consumer's buying habits. (Yeah, it changes to retain the old customers and entice some new customers.)

Recently I've noticed changes in the packaging for a brand of orange juice I no longer buy (acid reflux issues) and for a brand of deodorant I most certainly still buy. And, though the packaging is definitely more attractive and eye-catching than previously (or maybe it's simply that change, any change in a familiar product is noticeable, style over substance you might say), I cannot say — so far as the deodorant is concerned — that the change in the packaging has provided me any noticeable benefit. So far as I can tell, I still stink when I'm supposed to and still smell fresh as a daisy when, after a shower, I apply my unscented gel.

All things considered, am I continuing to buy — or not buy — these products in spite of their packaging, because of their "new" packaging or does the packaging have zero effect on my decision-making other than as an aid in helping me locate the item on an increasingly crowded grocer's shelf?

If it is, indeed, not about the quality of the product (the inside), and more about the presentation (the outside) — then not only am I judging a book by its cover, I am judging that book by how it looks in comparison to its neighbor's covers (adjacent products on the shelf). And, when it comes to what I eat or how I personally "hygiene" myself, I would hate to think that all the studies that have been completed, focus groups paid and opinions solicited, to determine, from a distance exactly what would get me — the consumer — to buy a particular product (at least once to try) have no bearing on the real marketing reason behind the product's unique appearance. Moreover, is what I see on the grocer's shelves actually less about quality and more about quantity (the space allocated to a particular manufacturer/product on that extremely crowded shelf)?

If so, this attempt at market/consumer manipulation apparently is what makes the consumer's world go 'round. Still, when it comes to the food I eat and the household/manufacture's products I buy and the manner in which I try to keep myself healthy and fit, I resent that outside interests are attempting to manage what goes on inside my house and inside my body.

I imagine one could say that this is simply the free-market system at work, and having the freedom to choose enables/empowers the consumer to buy or not to buy for their own personal reasons and not be effected by any of these psychological ploys. Still, I can't help wondering where all this theorizing starts and strategizing stops.

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

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