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Churchill High School graduating seniors prepare to walk across the stage during the school's graduation at the DAR Constitution Hall on June 2.

Graduating Into the Future

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Patriotic Send-Off

NEWS, PAGE 3

Water Pipe and Series of Errors

NEWS, PAGE 3

Big Train Baseball

SPORTS, PAGE 9

PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE ALMANAC CALENDAR, PAGE 6 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 9 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 10

NEWS



Maxwell Heller, senior class president, gives the farewell address during his graduation exercise.



Churchill seniors Sarah Hollander, Lesley Hoopes, Danielle Reinhardt and Luiza Margulis pose for a picture before their high school graduation ceremony.



520 from Churchill Graduate

With his cousin, Robert Gibbs, and principal Dr. Joan Benz looking on, Churchill High School senior David Heilbron talks about memories of his cousin while introducing him as the guest speaker of the school's graduation exercise last week. Heilbron reminisced about how Gibbs used to live in his family's basement when Gibbs first moved to Washington D.C.

White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs was the guest speaker at Churchill High School's commencement exercise last week in Washington D.C.



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Patriotic Sendoff

Public service and newfound freedom mark Wootton's graduation.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

Moments before they proceeded into the auditorium and addressed their classmates from onstage pulpit, Thomas S. Wootton High School seniors Salah Czapary and Joanna Dong offered some hard-earned wisdom to rising freshmen at large.

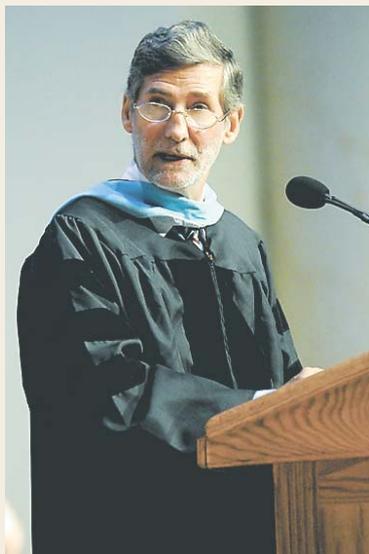
"Don't take all the AP [tests] they say to take," said Czapary, the senior class vice president.

"Sleep while you can," advised senior class treasurer Joanna Dong.

Wootton graduated its largest class ever — 631 — at D.A.R. Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, June 3, and during the festivities advice how to conduct one's self through the twists and turns of life that lay ahead of the graduates was ample. The spirit of the school mascot Patriot and the ideals of public service were expounded by the four commencement speakers, each of whom are Wootton alumni.

U.S. Naval Captain Gregory Thomas, Commander of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, advised the graduates to always challenge themselves and to never settle for settling for a comfort zone in their professional lives, which he said should be dedicated to serving others.

"Run, do not walk, from your comfort zone," Thomas said. Thomas' two older brothers and fellow Wootton graduates Commander Christopher Thomas, Ex-



Wootton principal Dr. Michael Doran addresses the Class of 2009.

ecutive Office of the President/Drug Control Policy, and Col. Douglas Thomas, Commander of the 10th Marine Regiment, also spoke. The fourth Thomas brother, Rear Admiral David Thomas was unable to make the scheduled appearance.

Presidential advisor and Cabinet Secretary Christopher Lu (Wootton '84) recalled how his late father, a Taiwanese immigrant stressed the importance of education to him. His father died long before Lu rose to his current political status, but would never have doubted the limit



Wootton's JROTC members Jean-Luc Bosset, Victor Nguyen, Alfredo Hernandez, David Karlsburg and Max Leonov present the colors for the singing of the National Anthem.



Commencement speakers: Presidential Advisor and Cabinet Secretary Christopher Lu, Commander Christopher Thomas of the Executive Office of the President/Drug Control Policy, Commander of the 10th Marine Regiment Colonel Douglas Thomas, Commander of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Captain Gregory Thomas.

Oops

Water main that ruptured along River Road was installed improperly, showed flaws during a 1998 inspection.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

The 66-inch-diameter water main that ruptured beside River Road during morning rush hour on Tuesday, Dec. 23 of last year was improperly installed in 1965, according to a report released last month by the Washington Suburban Sanitation Commission. It also showed flaws during a 1998 inspection and was flagged for a follow up inspection in the next 10 years that never took place.

"My operating assumption is that at that point in time for whatever reason inspectors turned a blind eye to violations of this nature."

— County Councilman Roger Berliner

The ruptured water main sent as much as 150,000 gallons of water per minute cascading down River Road a mile west of the I-495 interchange during that morning rush hour and led to a dramatic rescue of several commuters by Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Swift Water Rescue Teams via boat and helicopter.

Officials from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) outlined the conclusions of the study, which was conducted by an independent engineering firm based in Florida, and their ongoing inspection and maintenance efforts of their infrastructure during a briefing of the Mont

Of Love, Lockers, and Air Conditioning

Former Cabin John Middle School students gather to bid the old school adieu and swap stories.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

Next week Cabin John Middle School will let students out for summer one final time. After 42 years of service the building is slated to be torn down and rebuilt starting this summer, but long-time Cabin

John social studies teacher and former Cabin John student David McCutcheon isn't sad to see it go.

"It's not the building that makes the school, it's the people," said McCutcheon last week as dozens of former Cabin John students and staff members came to the school on Thursday, June 4 for a farewell ceremony.

"It's so nice to see people coming back," said Cabin John Staff Development teacher Brenda Green, who helped put organize the ceremony.

Former classmates both recent and more distant caught up over snacks and perused the hallways looking for their old teachers. Many Cabin John teachers and ad-

ministrators past and present gathered in the upstairs classroom of seventh and eighth-grade history teacher Karen Kleinman. Kleinman, like McCutcheon, began teaching at Cabin John when it reopened as a middle school for students in grades six through eight in 1989 after being closed for two years. Prior to that it was a junior high school that taught seventh, eighth, and ninth-grade students.

SEE BIDDING ADIEU, PAGE 11

SEE FAULTY, PAGE 5

COMMUNITY

Eva Hughes, 82, After Celebrating 60th Anniversary

Eva and Jack Hughes celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their family on May 28, 2009. They were married on May 28, 1949 in a triple wedding in Holy Comforter Church, in Washington, D.C., along with Eva's sister, Maza Berry Wilson, and brother, Bob Berry.

Together and a strong sense of family continued as these three wives all lived together while their soliders husbands fought in the Korean War and each returned safely. All three couples remained married for their entire lives, for 60, 58 and 57 years, respectively.

Eva Hughes died on June 1, 2009, peacefully at home in Potomac in the arms of her husband. She was 82.

THE SPIRIT OF FAMILY togetherness first evidenced in their wedding continued for the Hughes family, including children Judy, Sandy and John.

The Hughes and Wilsons brought property in Potomac. The Wilsons did not have any children of their own but embraced their nieces and nephew as their own.

The Hughes children grew up in the country where the schools were good and the children could ride and raise horses, explore and enjoy all the wonders of Potomac. During nights and weekends of 1962, the Hughes built their home on Horseshoe Lane with the help of friends and family, and moved into their home on New Year's Eve, 1962.

The Hughes have lived there happily ever since, raising their three children that now have six children of their own.

They all live very close by one

another, continuing the cycle of togetherness and a strong sense of family. Judy and Steve Miller raised their three children a few doors down from Jack and Eva on Horseshoe Lane, while Sandy and John Harrison live just a few blocks away. Son John started Dulles Electric & Supply in Sterling, Va., along with Dad Jack Hughes.

For more than 20 years, the extended family has gathered at Eva and Jack's Horseshoe Lane home for breakfast almost every Sunday. Her children remember that their house was always the gathering place, the place to hang out, even when they were teenagers.

EVA HUGHES loved to carve and decorate eggs and belonged to an egg guild in Virginia for many years. She loved shopping and traveling, and would pack her bag on a moment's notice to go anywhere; she was a great traveling companion.

Family and friends remember her special ability to listen and give just the right advice or suggestions in her very soft way, making everyone feel special with her great smile and attention.

Eva Hughes took care of each one of her grandchildren in their first few years to make sure that they got as much love as possible while her daughters Judy Miller and Sandy Harrison re-entered nursing and law, respectively.

She grew up in Rockingham County, Va., and graduated from Eastern High School in Washington, D.C.

Eva Hughes is survived by her husband Jack Hughes of Potomac; her daughter, Judy Miller and her husband Steve, and their three



Eva and Jack Hughes in 1947.



Eva and Jack Hughes at home in Potomac recently.

Eva and Jack Hughes were married 60 years ago on May 28, 1949 in a triple wedding along with Eva's sister and brother. Here are the three couples on their wedding day, Bob and Jean Berry; Doyle and Maza Wilson; Jack and Eva Hughes.



children Stephen, Patrick and Holly of Potomac; daughter

Sandy Hughes Harrison and her husband John and their three children, Sally, Johnna and Jake of Potomac; son John Hughes of McLean, Va.; her brother Ray William Berry of San Diego, Calif., and many other family members and

friends.

Eva Hughes's life will be celebrated with a gathering beginning at noon on Friday, June 12, 2009 at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 9200 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, to be followed by a Mass

at 1 p.m.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that contributions be made to the Friends of Brookside Gardens of Wheaton, Md. or Montgomery Hospice Foundation of Rockville, Md.

THIS WEEK IN POTOMAC

Don't Dress For Dinner

The Potomac Theatre Company will stage its annual summer play beginning Friday, June 19. This year's show is "Don't Dress for Dinner," a comedy farce about double adultery and gourmet cooking, spiced up with a little mistaken identity. A hit in Paris for two years now right in Potomac. The show kicks off Friday, June 19 and continues June 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28. Fridays and Saturday shows start at 8 p.m., Sunday shows start at 2 p.m. The shows are held in the Bullis School's Blair Family Center for the Arts located at 10601 Falls Road in Potomac. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$18 for children and seniors. For more information including ticket purchases visit

potomactheatreco.org or call 301-299-8571.

Hanson Farm To Rezone

The Hanson family of Quince Orchard Road in North Potomac, announced last week that they have filed an application to rezone the Hanson Farms. The application will implement the terms and vision of the 2002 Potomac Subregion Master Plan. The property was studied during the Master Plan review process, and detailed recommendations were developed and approved by the Planning Board and the County Council. To support opportunities for environmental protection in the Muddy Branch watershed, the Master Plan recommends rezoning the Hanson Farms to the planned development,

PD-2 zone, instead of the current RE-2 zone. The 170-acre farms are located along Muddy Branch Park, west of Quince Orchard and Dufief Mill Road and north of Travilah Road. The Potomac Horse Center is located to the east of the property on Quince Orchard Road.

John Hanson and other family members have been meeting with neighbors and community leaders over the past year to solicit their views and input. In accordance with the Master Plan recommendations, the plan includes large lots on the perimeter of the property to buffer existing residences to the south and east, and large areas of park land on the north and west. Fifty percent of the property will be preserved as environmentally responsive uses and open space, as recommended by the Master Plan.

The property is not currently for sale, said John Hanson, but the rezoning process now

would facilitate a potential sale at a later date.

The property has been actively farmed by three generations of the Hanson family, primarily raising beef cattle, mixed hay, grain and timber. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hanson have hosted tours for hundreds of school children over the years, and the farms have frequently been used for scout camping. The family expects the farming operations to continue for as long as possible, and there is no immediate plan for active development.

Ultimately, the development of this 170-acre property will present an opportunity to preserve environmentally sensitive lands, expand the stream valley park system, provide a needed recreational facility, and create a walkable residential community, according to the Hanson family.

Faulty Installation Facilitated Rupture

FROM PAGE 3

gomery County Council's Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee (T&E) on Monday, June 8.

WSSC records indicate that inspectors appeared to have been on hand during the installation of the 66-inch pre-stressed pipe and to have signed off on it despite the fact that bedding that should have been placed between the pipe and the jagged bedrock surrounding it was not, said Gary Gumm, chief engineer for WSSC. The requirement

to place such cushioning around pipes near rock was implemented in 1954, 11 years prior to the installation of the River Road pipe, Gumm said. The direct contact of the rock with the pipe led to cracking that allowed groundwater to penetrate and weaken it over time, according to the report. County Councilman Roger Berliner (D-1), a member of the T&E Committee, said that the improper and approved installation likely indicated that the River Road main is not unique to the WSSC system.

"My operating assumption is that at that point in time for whatever reason inspectors turned a blind eye to violations of this nature. I have no reason to believe that this was necessarily an isolated case," said Berliner afterwards.

Gumm said there was no way to know for sure and that continuing the ongoing infrastructure inspection program that has been enhanced in recent years is the best way to assess the state of the system.

The revelation that the pipe showed flaws

during a 1998 inspection and was never reinspected produced wonderment among the members of the T&E Committee, which includes Berliner, committee chair Nancy Floreen (D-at large), and George Leventhal (D-at large). The pipe was given a 2 on a rating scale from 1 to 10, with 10 being the worst condition, said Gumm. Inspectors at that time noted deterioration of the pipe lining and marked it down for reinspection within the next 10 years, a reinspection that Gumm said never took place.

"We saw the beginnings then, we knew

SEE FAULTY, PAGE 11

Under no circumstances shall the Preliminary Official Statement or this announcement constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction. The Bonds may not be sold prior to the time an Official Statement is delivered in final form.

PROPOSED NEW ISSUE

RATINGS: Fitch: AA
Moody's: Aa3
S&P: AA-

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

Or to mail photo prints, send to: The Potomac Almanac, "Me and My Dad Photo Gallery," 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

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by
Michael Matese

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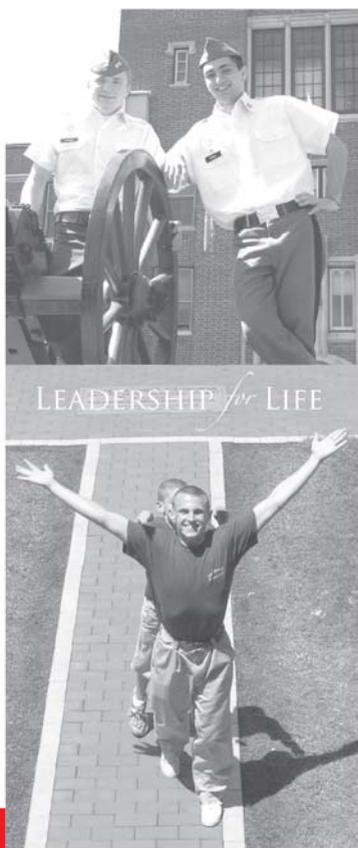
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Sing-Along Celebration Debut at Strathmore

Join song leader Elise Kress and guitarist Lawrence Brand for a fun evening of singing popular songs from the 1950's to the present on Saturday, June 19 from 8 to 9:30 p.m. at The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Other performances are on July 11 and 25th, both Saturdays. See the Web site for schedule, directions and tickets. General admission tickets are \$20. Call 301-639-7608 or go to www.SingAlongCelebration.com.

The audience will sing the songs that have been the soundtracks of our lives — everything from folk songs, rock & roll classics from the 50's, 60's and 70's, to a little bit of country. Songs include hits by Chuck Berry, Donovan, Gordon Lightfoot, Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Everly Brothers, Buddy Holly, Josh Groban, and many others.

Elise Kress will lead the singing. She is a gifted singer, flute and whistle player, and has been a member of several well-known and loved Celtic bands. She has performed at venues such as The Kennedy Center, The Birchmere and the Philadelphia Folk Festival.

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.

THURSDAY/JUNE 11

Teacher's Thursday. 7-8 p.m. In-depth exploration of topics relevant to science and outdoor education. At Locust Grove Nature Center, 7777 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Register for programs at www.ParkPASS.org or call 301-299-1990.

FRIDAY/JUNE 12

NCCF Art & Soul Charity Auction. 7-10 p.m. Hosted by JC Hayward of WUSA-TV (Channel 9). Enjoy an evening of fine art, food and company. Artwork from local artists will be auctioned off, along with vacation packages, jewelry and other rare finds. RSVP to Darnell John, Development Assistant, at djohn@nccf-cares.org or 301-365-4480, ext. 164. At the Music Center at Strathmore. Tickets are \$150/person.



"Charlie Brown"

"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" will open Friday, June 26 and continue through Saturday, Aug. 8 at Adventure Theatre, 7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo, Md. An American Sign Language (ASL) interpreted performance is Saturday, Aug. 8 at 4 p.m. \$12 for children, \$15 for adults, group discounts available. Starring in this production is 2008 Helen Hayes Award Nominee for Lead Actor in a Musical Andrew Sonntag (Charlie Brown), 2004 and 2008 Helen Hayes Award Nominee for Featured Actress in a Musical Lauren Williams (Sally), and DC (and Adventure Theatre) favorites Kurt Boehm (Snoopy), and Emily Levey (Lucy). For tickets: Visit us online at www.adventuretheatre.org, or call the box office at 301-634-2270.

Go to www.nccf-cares.org

Campfire Stories. 7-8 p.m. Old-fashioned fun around the campfire. At Locust Grove Nature Center, 7777 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Register for programs at www.ParkPASS.org or call 301-299-1990.

Bethesda Art Walk & Tour. 6-9 p.m. Features 13 galleries and studios that open their doors from 6-9 p.m. on the second Friday of every month. Free guided tours begin at 6:30 p.m. and meet at the Bethesda Metro. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

7th Annual Art and Soul Charity Auction. 7-10 p.m. Proceeds from the event will benefit the construction of the Freddie Mac Foundation Youth Activities Center (YAC), NCCF's sole cultural arts and recreational facility on the center's Bethesda campus. Sponsored by the National Center for Children and Families (NCCF) in Bethesda. At the Music Center at Strathmore in Bethesda. Tickets are \$150 per person. Contact Heidi Coons at 301-365-4480, ext. 114.

Bethesda Big Train vs. Alexandria Aces. 7:30 p.m. Shirley Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive, Cabin John Park, Bethesda. Gates open at 6. First pitch is at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: Adults, \$7, Kids 6-12 \$3, Kids 5 and under or in baseball uniforms, free. Go to www.bigtrain.org or call 301-983-1006.

"Swingin' the Blues" - Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 p.m. to midnight dancing; 8-9 p.m. two workshops: Slow Blues or West Coast Swing. Instructors: Donna Barker, Mike Marcotte and Ken Roesel. Admission: \$14. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to dbarker@glenechopark.org or www.DanceDC.com. The Glen Echo National Park is at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo.

Henry Mills and Tala Rahmeh. 7 p.m. Performance poet Henry Mills appears in *Helicopters and Vultures*, an exploration of what it means to be a product of refugees, a survivor of their history and the fallout of the 20th Century. Free. At The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda. Call 301-654-8664.

SATURDAY/JUNE 13

Used Book Sale. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Most hardback books are \$1, large paperbacks are \$1 and regular sized paperbacks are \$.50. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Dr., Potomac. Call 240-777-0690.

Doggie Birthday. 1-3 p.m. Gucci the Chihuahua's 5th birthday celebration. Pin the Tail on the Chihuahua, dog-treat filled pinatas, treats for pets and people. At MacArthur Pet Shop, 4611-N Sangamore Road, Bethesda. Call 301-320-3998

Philharmonic Chorale. 8 p.m. With pre-concert lecture at 7 p.m. The National Philharmonic Chorale presents an entire a cappella program, featuring one of the great masterpieces of Russian Orthodox music — Rachmaninoff's *Vespers*. Written in 1915 for the All-Night Easter Vigil ceremony for the Russian Orthodox Church, it is considered a jewel of the choral repertoire. At the Music Center at Strathmore. Tickets from \$29; Kids 7-17 are free.

Tot Time: Creek Crawl. 11:15-12 p.m. Toddlers will explore the delights of running water in a shallow section of Cabin John Creek. At Locust Grove Nature Center, 7777 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Register for programs at www.ParkPASS.org or call 301-299-1990.

Health Freedom Walk. 9:45 a.m. At Woodlawn Cultural Park in Sandy Spring. Three-mile walk begins at Rural Legacy Trail. \$5 registration. Age 10 and under free. At 16501 Norwood

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 7

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 6

Road, Sandy Spring. Call 301-421-5445 or go to www.onehealthylife.org.

Bethesda Artist Market. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bethesda Place Plaza, at Old Georgetown Rd. & Woodmont Ave.

Enjoy the original fine art and craft of 25 local artists along with live entertainment at the Bethesda Artist Market, located in the Bethesda Place Plaza. Call 301-215-6660 or visit www.bethesda.org.

How to Have a Well-Behaved Dog. 1-3 p.m. Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Rd., Potomac. Improve your dog's behavior by using management techniques coupled with rewards. Speaker: Ann Melchior, Puppy and Basic class trainer. **FREE**, but register at www.yourdogsfriend.info or 301-983-5913.

Navigating over land. 1-4 p.m. Clint Cosner, an expert surveyor with 25 years of experience, will lead an orienteering workshop for hikers and outdoor enthusiasts ages 8 and up with Potomac Conservancy. River Center at Lockhouse 8, C&O Canal National Historical Park, 7906 Riverside Ave., Cabin John. RSVP to chapin@potomac.org by June 10.

SUNDAY/JUNE 14

Slow Blues and Swing Workshop and Dance. 7-8:30 p.m. Instructors Donna Barker and Mike Marcotte. \$17 admission or \$12 for the dance from 8:30-11 p.m. Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo Park. Featuring Melanie Mason Band. Visit www.DanceDC.com, call or e-mail Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or dbarker@glenechopark.org. Glen Echo National Park is at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo.

Model Search. 1-3 p.m. For American Girl Fashion Show to benefit Prevention of Blindness Society of

Bethesda Painting Awards

The Bethesda Painting Awards announced the top four prize winners last Wednesday during the exhibition's opening at the Fraser Gallery.

Camilo Sanin from Jessup, Md., was awarded "Best in Show" with \$10,000; Heidi Fowler of Reston, was named second place and was given \$2,000; Magnolia Laurie of Baltimore, was awarded third place and received \$1,000, and Lillian Bayley Hoover of Baltimore, was given the "Young Artist" award and received \$1,000.

The eight artists selected as finalists are:

Steve Adams, McLean; Heidi Fowler, Reston; Lillian Bayley Hoover, Baltimore; Jeff Huntington, Annapolis; Magnolia Laurie, Baltimore; Katherine Mann, Baltimore; Greg Minah, Baltimore, and Camilo Sanin, Jessup, Md.

A public opening will be held on Friday, June 12, from 6-9 p.m. in conjunction with the Bethesda Art Walk. The Fraser Gallery is located at 7700 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite E in Bethesda and gallery hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 11:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. The exhibition will be on display through July 4.

Metropolitan Washington children's programs. At the Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Dr., Potomac. Call 202-234-1010 or visit www.youreyes.org.

The Shekhter-Tekhter and Binyumin in "Our Zeydes and Bubbes as Children." 4 p.m. Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Rd., Rockville. Tickets through box office at 301-348-3872, or at the door. \$18 general public, \$12 for members of JCC, YGW. Call 301-348-3864.

Thrift Shop Half Price Sales. Noon to 4 p.m. The Montgomery County Thrift Shop, 7125-27 Wisconsin Ave., in

Bethesda, will hold two half price sale days on two Sundays - June 14 and June 28, from noon to 4 p.m. Everything in the shop, with the exception of consignment merchandise, will be half price. Go to www.MoCoThrift.org.

Cajun and Zydeco Dance Party. 3-6 p.m. At Glen Echo park's Spanish Ballroom. Feature band is Acadien Cajun Band. Half-hour Cajun lesson taught by Michael Hart and Sharon Schilero at 3 p.m. Admission is \$15. Call Michael Hart at 301-762-6730 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.DancingByTheBayou.com. At

Bethesda Row Summer Concerts

Bethesda Row hosts its Second Annual Summer Concert Series Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. The 13-week outdoor concert series is free to the public and will take place Wednesday nights through Aug. 26 on Bethesda Lane at Bethesda Row near Redwood Restaurant and Bar. Each week, attendees will be able enjoy live music from local bands, giveaways, merchant specials and more. Call 301-998-8395 or www.bethesdarow.com.

SCHEDULE

June 17 — Dan Haas — Lounge Pop
 June 24 — Meg Murray — Blues
 July 1 — Taylor Carson — Singer/Songwriter
 July 8 — Justin Trawick — Urban Folk Rock
 July 15 — Felicia Carter Trio — Jazz
 July 22 — Matt Hutchinson — Rock n' Roll with British Pop
 July 29 — Aubriot — Pop/Rock
 August 5 — James King — Jazz
 August 12 — Donato Soviero — Jazz
 August 19 — The Lovejoy Group — Latin/Blues
 August 26 — Keegan Corbey — Indie Folk Rock

7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo.

Sommerville; soloist Caelyn Sommerville; the Emory Grove United Methodist Church Youth Choir; The Finest! Youth Performance Troupe; Lincoln Park Historic Foundation; and storyteller Vernon Ricks. At the BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown, Md. Call 240-777-5199.

THURSDAY/JUNE 18

Forum on the 2010 Census: Why Does It Matter? 7-8:30 p.m. Hosted by Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards, representing Maryland's 4th Congressional District. At the William H. Farquhar Middle School, (Multipurpose Room), 16915 Batchellors Forest Rd., Olney, Md. RSVP to 301-516-7601.

13th Annual Juneteenth Celebration. 7 p.m. Performances by musical prodigy Joshua

FRIDAY/JUNE 19

Sing-Along Celebration. 8 p.m. Join song leader Elise Kress and guitarist Lawrence Brand at the Music Center at Strathmore. Call 301-639-7608.



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OPINION

It Won't Be the Village Without the Surrey

BY MARY KIMM
THE ALMANAC

Potomac Village will not be the Potomac Village without The Surrey.

The iconic store opened in what is now the Chevy Chase Bank building before moving to its current location in 1959.

It is the last remaining store of that era, the time before the other two shopping centers opened at the crossroads of Falls and River roads. Mitch and Bill's Exxon (now Texaco) is the only other Potomac business from that time.

The Surrey, still run by family members of its founder, Alyne "Lyn" Carroll, is closing for several reasons: the economic downturn, competition from internet discounters, the suburbification of much of what was horse country. But we've seen the very high rents that financial institutions and chain stores are willing to pay in Potomac Village drive out many beloved local stores and restaurants. And this is what, in the end, marks the end for the Surrey in the Village. Most small businesses have been able to negotiate costs savings during this downturn. Instead, the Surrey was facing a rent increase.

IF FOR SOME unimaginable reason, you live in Potomac, but you have never been inside the Surrey, go there quickly. You have a little less than two weeks. If you go, you will at least know what people are talking about when they remember 56 years of that unique Surrey fragrance.

Whatever it is that creates the fragrance that greets you when you walk into the Surrey, chances are it will be gone without a trace or a real explanation later this month when the Surrey closes its doors. The fragrance, a combination of the new leather of saddles and bridles plus the well-oiled leather of used tack for sale plus

potpourri and other elements as varied and mysterious as a complex cabernet, has never been adequately analyzed.

At Christmas, if you were lucky enough to get a box from the Surrey under the tree, that fragrance would waft out of the box to greet you before you knew what was in the box.

I don't remember the first time I went into the Surrey. My family moved to Potomac, walking distance from the Surrey, in 1967 when I was 12. I had already been riding at Camp Furman in Potomac before my family moved out here so chances are I had already been to the Surrey for my boots and helmet. They probably came from the Surrey's consignment attic, where Potomac families have passed along gently used and outgrown riding gear for generations.

I DON'T REMEMBER the first time I took my daughter, Emma, to the Surrey. I rode well into college, but then didn't ride for 15 years. When Emma was four, she took a few lessons and was hooked. I went along for the ride. Emma was six the first year she rode in the Potomac Day parade.

Trips to the Surrey included visits with owner Lyn Carroll. We enjoyed the Surrey's 40th anniversary in 1993 when she was 81, and the Surrey's 50th anniversary in 2003 when she was 91.

Alyne Finley Carroll, 91, died Dec. 14, 2003, a few months after the 50th celebration.

Emma worked at the Surrey for a while as a teenager, learning so much more than customer service from Kay Titus and Lyn Morgan and others. Christmas shopping on Christmas Eve always included a stop by the Surrey for potent egg-nog. Losing the Surrey is like a death in the family. We don't know yet what will open in its place, but we do know that the Village will never be the same.

LETTERS

Revenue Or Safety?

To the Editor:

I echo Gerry Dunn's opinions relative to the traffic cameras. It is obvious that the cameras are placed in the interests of maximum revenue rather than public safety. In reality this is a tax with a different name. I received a ticket at the same location as Gerry Dunn. Having been in business for over 50 years, I learned that "nickel and

diming" clients causes great anguish. In this case it caused Gerry Dunn to spend a thousand dollars because of a \$40 ticket. In my case, and I am sure in the case of others, it makes me determined to leave the State of Maryland at the earliest practical moment. This is truly "The People's Republic of Montgomery County."

Richard W. Watkins
Potomac

The Big Train Are Back

Bethesda's summer baseball team celebrates second decade.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE ALMANAC

New Bethesda Big Train ace Cameron Love has no personal connections to Montgomery County. Originally from Beaverton, Ore., Love started 11 games this past spring as a freshman at the University of San Francisco and his summer trip to the Washington, D.C. area was just the second time he had ever ventured to the east coast.

But ask him why he decided to spend his summer playing baseball in the Cal Ripken Senior Baseball League (CRSBL), an all-college wooden bat league with teams based throughout the area, and a San Francisco-Potomac pipeline emerges.

"There's kind of a legacy for young players from the University of San Francisco to come here and have a great summer experience with [manager] Sal [Colangelo] and the Big Train," said Love, who pitched seven shutout innings in the Big Train's season-opening 4-0 victory Saturday night. "It's a great community and there's some good baseball out here. Guys have been coming here from San Francisco the past four or five years."

And they've been thriving here. Last season, San Francisco pitcher Matt Hiserman took the CRSBL by storm, finishing the season with an unprecedented 0.00 earned run

average over the course of 37 innings pitched. After one start, at least, Love looks intent on matching that.

But it's not just the players that keep coming back wanting more. While both Major League Baseball teams in the area — the Baltimore Orioles and Washington Nationals — rank 25th and 27th, respectively in attendance this season, the Big Train are coming off a year in which they drew more than 15,000 total fans, a figure that was tops amongst all other CRSBL teams.

STARTED IN 1998 as part of the Bethesda Community Baseball Club by founders Bruce Adams and John Ourisman, the Big Train were an answer to Washington, D.C.'s void within the professional baseball ranks. With the closest professional baseball action in Frederick, Bowie, or Baltimore, the top college prospects that came to play for the Big Train almost instantly gained credibility within the community.

Now even with a MLB team in the district, the Big Train are still flourishing. Just this past Saturday for their home opener, which featured an appearance by former Georgetown basketball star and current NBA player Jeff Green, the Big Train had a franchise record 1,160 fans show up.

"As far as summer ball goes, you can't really beat playing for this team and in this community, so I just decided the best thing to do would be to come back," said second baseman Jordan King on returning to the Big Train for a second season after completing his sophomore year at Meridien College in Mississippi.



Shortstop Drew Lee played with the Big Train this past weekend, but is expected to be chosen in the MLB Entry Draft, which takes place Tuesday and Wednesday after the Almanac's deadline.

Part of the reason players seem to embrace the community is that they literally become ingratiated within it the moment they step foot in the area. Players stay with host families that volunteer a bed for the summer.

And since the CRSBL is strictly college-only, players are unpaid, but do pick up extra money for food and gas by being counselors at team-run youth camps over the course of the summer. But Colangelo, who has been a coach with the Big Train since its inception, thinks the main reason quality players keep coming back is the relationships they develop.

"Just the chemistry, playing with different people, so when they get

to pro ball that's gonna broaden their horizons even more when they move out of the country, to the Dominican and everything else."

IT DOESN'T HURT that the product on the field has been about as good as one can find in the college ranks. The Big Train finished in second place with a 29-13 record, setting several club and league records in the process. As a team, the Big Train had the highest collective batting average (.278), on-base percentage (.380), and hits (388) in league history.

The lineup could be even more potent this season with "50 to 60

percent" possessing the potential to play professionally down the line, according to Colangelo. Key returners include King (.325 BA), outfielder Luke Adkins of Mississippi State (.316), and first baseman Danny Steinstra of San Jose State, who set a Big Train record finishing last summer with a .391 batting average. If that weren't enough, though, the Big Train also add last year's CRSBL MVP Mike Celenza of Quince Orchard High School and Sailisbury College in Maryland, who hit over .400 last summer and during the college season in 2009.

According to Colangelo, the

SEE BOYS, PAGE 11



Manager Sal Solangelo is back for his 11th year with the Big Train, and fourth season as head coach.

Catch Him While You Can

Last summer, Bethesda Big Train shortstop Drew Lee hit a club-record seven homeruns following his junior season at Morehead State. His batting average, though, was a relatively mediocre .250, so when August came around he told manager Sal Colangelo that he'd be back in the area for another tour of duty this year.

Nine months later, Lee showed up at Big Train camp as a no doubt MLB draft pick after "blowing up" during his senior season, according to Colangelo, hitting .413 with 18 homeruns in 53 games for Morehead State.

Colangelo expects Lee to be picked within the first 10 rounds of Tuesday and Wednesday's MLB Draft, which occurs after the Almanac's deadline. That likely means Lee will be sent to a minor league team of some kind in the near future. Until then, though, "He'll be here and he's gonna play," said Colangelo. The Big Train's next scheduled home game is Friday night at Shirley Povich Field in Cabin John Regional Park. Children who wear Halloween costumes to the game get in for free.

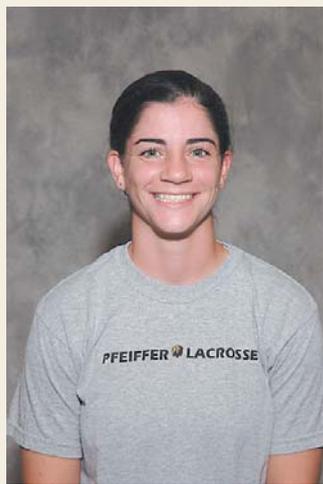
POTOMAC SPORTS BRIEFS

Whitman Grad Named All-Region

Last month, Potomac native and 2005 Whitman graduate Krissy Bentolila was honored as an all-regional selection by The Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association

(IWLCA) for her play in girls' lacrosse with Division-II Pfeiffer University this past season. Bentolila, a senior, was named to the all-south second team.

As a senior captain playing attack, Bentolila led Pfeiffer to a 12-7 record on the season. She started in all 19 games for the Falcons and earned a total of 78 points off of 45 goals and 33 assists. She scooped up 20 ground balls, won 10 draw



Potomac native Krissy Bentolila

controls, and caused 13 turnovers. Bentolila tied for seventh in goals per game in Conference Carolinas. She also ranked fourth in the league in assists per game and points per game. Along with being selected for first team all-conference honors, Bentolila was named conference player of the week in week eight and was named to the womenslacrosse.com honor roll in the same week.

Swim Results

The MCSL summer swim season is right around the corner and the Almanac doesn't want any child's achievements in the pool to go unnoticed. To have swim team results posted in the Almanac each week, contact sports editor Mark

Giannotto at mgiannotto@connectionnewspapers.com.

Golf Tournaments

The Montgomery County Golf Cup Series sponsored by Singha Beer of Thailand begins play this Friday with a tournament at Little Bennett Golf Course. The 2009 series will feature five tournament rounds played at five different MCRA golf courses throughout Montgomery County during the summer and fall.

To register for the 2009 MCG Singha Cup Series, participants must complete an application form, which is located on the MCRA website www.MontgomeryCountyGolf.com, and fax it to Needwood Golf Course at 301-417-0530. The tournament series will have a \$100 non-refundable registration fee and each event will have a reduced greens fee of \$40 per event. For more information about the 2009 MCG Singha Cup Series, call the local MCRA golf course or visit www.MontgomeryCountyGolf.com.

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COMMUNITY

Dying To Tell You, Sort Of



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The question was posed by my co-worker, Big John Smith, one night as I arrived at the office after hours to do a little organizing: "Hey Ken, how are you doing?" My answer: "John, I'm in pretty good condition for the condition I'm in." And the "condition" to which I refer is cancer. Yup, cancer as in the dreaded, often terminal, disease. (If only this column was going to be a light-hearted recounting of astrological antics but alas, poor Yorick, I know it well; it's not.)

No, this column is going to be about a health situation that I find myself in, quite unexpectedly, I may add. The situation to which I refer is as a recently diagnosed, stage IV lung cancer patient; at present, hairless and four "chemos" in to a six-chemo cycle, with no radiation to follow and surgery not an option. (There are two big tumors in my chest/lungs with multiple smaller ones located throughout so my oncologist feels that surgery would not exactly be a patient-friendly pursuit.)

My prognosis is not great (great, it's not even mediocre); 13 months to two years, although, as my doctor said to me recently, he's "wrong all the time." To which I replied, "I'm glad you're wrong all the time." Nevertheless, as a result of the seriousness of his prognosis, I have made a few changes. I have to tell you, though, if the shock of the diagnosis doesn't kill you; totally out of the blue, symptom free, and I'm a lifelong non-smoker (5 percent of lung cancer patients are non smokers) before the actual cancer does, you have, as Ricky Ricardo so often said to Lucy, "some 'splaining to do." And for the week or so after we (team Lourie: me, my wife and my brother) received the diagnosis, you're in a daze, and you can explain nothing; assembling/researching information, trying to sort out fact from fiction, find some chink in cancer's armor, navigate a path to a longer and healthier life, a life that only days before was not so abbreviated.

Moreover, when you recall what the oncologist told you in that initial team meeting; that you should probably quit work and maybe consider taking that vacation you always wanted to but never had the time or the inclination to take, your world officially changes. I remember sitting in the oncologist's office listening to him read through the reports of the various scans/tests/biopsies that I had and then to hear him summarize the diagnosis — and severity, I swear I felt like I was watching a Lifetime movie, a movie I saw at least a hundred times while spending three nights a week visiting my parents/then my widowed mother, except that this wasn't a movie, this was real, this was me. Surreal doesn't begin to describe it.

The best answer we could get from the doctor as to why a lifelong non-smoker with no relevant (meaning cancer) family history to speak of would be so diagnosed at 54 was, the medical version of s--- happens: "Cells mutate." And that's pretty much where the conversation ended. The oncologist's motivation was to go forward and attempt to treat/cure, not to go backwards and research the past, and it wouldn't change the course of my present so moving forward we did, and we have.

I'm going through chemotherapy. I've changed my eating habits; I'm now eating an alkaline diet, basically fruits and vegetables; I'm drinking alkaline water; taking a teaspoon of baking soda once a day; drinking my Mona Vie and supplementing it all with vitamins and minerals, and miscellaneous other homeopathic-type remedies. And so far, I'm doing pretty well, "Above average," my oncologist said. My first post-chemo CT scan showed "significant" shrinkage in the two largest tumors. In addition, I'm "tolerating" the chemotherapy very well which allows/enables my doctor to treat me as aggressively as is prudent given my health and fitness. And my health, all things considered, is fit.

And as I find myself saying to whomever expresses an interest, "If it wasn't for the underlying diagnosis and the side effects from the chemo therapy, I'd be doing great." Really.

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

Bidding Adieu to Cabin John Building

FROM PAGE 3

Michelle Erica Green dropped in to say hello to McCutcheon. The two were Cabin John and Winston Churchill High School classmates and McCutcheon now teaches Green's son, Adam Anderson.

CHURCHILL SOPHOMORE Alex Campbell recalled where his lockers were each year — number 499, then 20 or so lockers down the hall between the gym and the cafeteria, then right outside Mr. Kim's room. And he recalled his favorite memory from his recent middle school days — band teacher Scott Herman.

"Evil as he could be but he's the greatest teacher ever," said Campbell.

There was the camaraderie that turned to love for several of the early Cabin John teachers — Green recalled the Whites, McCartneys, Lubinetskis and Wehrles who married. There is the litany of famous alumni — Hollywood producer Darren Star, NFL players Dhani Jones and Marcus Mason ("He drove me crazy," said Kleinman, with a laugh), and so on.

Opened in 1967, the stories of the building's mechanics now border on folklore as well. Mold lingers behind old paneling and termites aren't hard to find, said Kleinman. In rooms with computers, extension cords snake in bunches from one power strip to the next en route to the one or two



PHOTO BY ARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

Past, present and future: Cabin John Middle School social studies teacher (and former student) David McCutcheon, seventh-grade student Adam Anderson and his mother Michelle Erica Green (a former classmate of McCutcheon's), former math teacher Maxine Altman and current and longtime history teacher Karen Kleinman were among those who came to Cabin John — where moving boxes are now ubiquitous — to bid the school farewell.

electrical outlets in the room. In room 228, teachers are forced to keep windows open in the middle of winter because otherwise the room, located above the boiler room, said McCutcheon, would be unbearably hot. Before the window air conditioning units were installed in the mid-1990s temperatures crept towards the triple digits inside classrooms and school sometimes had to be let out early. After the air conditioning units were installed t-shirts that boasted 'We're cool at Cabin John Middle School' were distributed.

THERE WAS the time some years back that 70 pounds of pigeon droppings were discovered beneath a grate somewhere in the building's ventilation system after some students complained of seasonal allergies that

were worse than usual. Then, too, there was the time that the asbestos insulation had to be removed and in the weeks leading up to school administrators and teachers tried to get ready for the new year with most of the school under plastic wraps, recalled former school secretary Roz Katz.

McCutcheon attended Cabin John in its days as a junior high school, and when he started teaching there after its reopening the staff turnover made it feel like a completely different school than the one he had attended. When Cabin John reopens — the school will move to a holding facility in Bethesda and is slated to return to the new facility in time for the 2011-2012 school year — McCutcheon and many others will be familiar faces that will help to keep the spirit of Cabin John alive.

Wootton Graduates Look to Their Future

FROM PAGE 3

less opportunities afforded to his son by a good education, Lu said.

Christopher Thomas imparted that one's definition of success should be the measure of their contribution to the world, but if this year's seniors hadn't figured out yet just how to get there they shouldn't fret.

"If you know what you want to do with your life, that's great," he said. "If you don't, don't worry — you'll figure it out."

Gregory Thomas spoke of the photo he has of his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy, a photo that shows former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger ready to

shake Thomas' hand, and the back of Thomas' head while he waved to the audience. Thomas said that looking back occasionally and appreciating those who helped you along the way was important.

Wootton principal Michael Doran drew the day's biggest laughs, mixing advice with humor and school spirit. He advised the students to associate personal quality of life

— not money — with success.

He congratulated the middle school principals of the Wootton cluster schools who were in attendance who guided the graduates "when you were 11, 12, and 13 and at your most unlovable," he said. And he sent them off by assigning one last task.

"Just remember wherever you go — Patriots rule," he said.

Faulty Installation Facilitated Rupture

FROM PAGE 5

we needed to get back to it," said Gumm. "We were unable to get back to it."

Berliner afterwards called that revelation unsettling and disturbing. WSSC is currently on schedule to have all of its water mains 48-inches in diameter and larger inspected by 2013 and given the budgetary constraints of the WSSC and the two counties that fund it — Montgomery and Prince George's Counties — that is probably the best timetable that can be expected, said Berliner. During the recent process of adopting the budget for fiscal year 2010 the Montgomery County Council reached agreement with the Prince George's County Council for a 9 percent rate increase that will provide additional funding for large diameter pipe inspections, fiber optic monitoring, and repairs as well as an increased pace of small diameter water main replacement. The fiber optic monitoring systems can be in-

stalled during the inspections and will greatly enhance WSSC's ability to monitor pipes going forward, said Gumm.

Despite the recent rate increase, Gumm said that WSSC facility remains short of the necessary staff to properly oversee all installation, though he acknowledge that there are presently no pipes of similar size to those along River Road being installed.

"If we were doing it today we do not have enough inspectors to watch every step along the way," he said.

Leventhal urged Montgomery County residents to be aware of the necessity of fully-funding WSSC.

"WSSC is only paid for through your water bill, ladies and gentlemen. People would need to understand that if there's anxiety [about WSSC's infrastructure] ... the only way we can address that is its going to involve people paying more on their water bill," Leventhal said. "I don't look forward to it but that's what its going to take."

Boys of Summer

FROM PAGE 9

pitching staff will be in a bit more flux with starters Michael Bottoms and Love leading the way. As for Love, he has had to get used to a new place, a new field, and a new bed. One luxury he has had is his catcher and roommate at San Francisco, Mason Marioka, who's also playing for the Big Train this summer.

"I've got him as a crutch," said Love. "But it has also been nice to meet all these different people from all over the country, just to learn from people who have played in different parts and some really good players. ... It's cool that they kind of let me into their family."

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