

Potomac ALMANAC

Home Life Style

Hopkins and Porter renovation draws on long-time client relationship.

Home Life Style

A New Path
To Lockhouse 10

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Aiding Japan

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Churchill's DeFilippo
Shows Toughness
In Victory

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Building a New Path to Lockhouse 10



Matthew Logan, president of the C&O Canal Trust, pushes a wheelbarrow of sand to the area where a new path is being constructed.



Naomi Colflesh, 7 years old, compacts the sand on the path being constructed by volunteers.



Dan Mellis (foreground) and Kip Reynolds load dead branches into a truck to be hauled away on Sunday, April 10.



Rachel Black and Maria Giordano, both students at American University, shovel excess sand from the path being constructed to Lockhouse 10.

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Potomac's Ari Katz Steps Up To Aid Japan

Finding ways to help, encouraging others to "just jump in."

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Ari Katz wants to challenge other students to become involved in improving the world. On March 10, the earthquake hit Japan. Ari Katz's first reaction was to jump in to render aid and support in any way he could.

He wanted to be a first responder at the disaster site. Yet, as an American University student who needed to complete his classes, he had to be practical. He watched the horror on TV, worried about the Japanese people, the nuclear reactors and the U.S. troops trying to support them — and he found his own way to contribute. Ari Katz said,

"Through knowledge, motivation, a little creativity and hard work, I found that I could make a difference."

Twenty-one-year-old Ari Katz first became interested in fire fighting when his father, Robert Katz began serving as a volunteer firefighter. Ari Katz was just 9 years old. Ari Katz continued the family tradition by joining the Bethesda Chevy Chase Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), a part of the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, at age 13. While at Churchill High, he completed the initial fire classes at the Montgomery County Public Safety Training Academy as well as EMT training and qualified to become a First Responder Firefighter/EMT. He joined the BCC-CAP Ground Search Team and also recently completed the training to become a paramedic. He volunteers as a firefighter/rescuer and paramedic with the Burtonsville Fire Department. His dad continues to serve Montgomery County at the Training Academy and at the Cabin John Fire Station on River Road.

Fast forward to the earthquake in Haiti. Ari Katz
SEE ENCOURAGING, PAGE 4



Ari Katz helped set up medical aid stations in Haiti.

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BEFORE AND AFTER: Jenna Nober of Potomac receives a "Fashion Fix" at Westfield Montgomery's Style Tour. Nober's Style for Hire consultant Juliette Avren is in background in right photo.

Style Tour Creates Fashion Makeovers

Local residents were treated last weekend to Style Tour "Fashion Fixes" — hosted by Westfield Montgomery — with a runway debut, style tips, makeovers and wardrobe and style consultations from Stacy London of What Not to Wear's group, Style For Hire.

Jenna Nober of Potomac was one of the "Fashion Fix" participants.

She had recently lost 45 lbs. and wanted to "rewardrobe" herself and learn how to shop for her new size.

Her Style for Hire consultant, Juliette Avren, did an on-stage Q&A regarding style tips, fashion flaws and talked about how to outfit Nober to best complement her body type.

Encouraging Others To Help

FROM PAGE 3

immediately called the Haitian Embassy. Because of his training and qualifications, four days after the earthquake, he was deployed to Haiti aboard John Travolta's private plane. While in Haiti, he helped set up medical aid stations, figured out the logistics for incoming surgical teams and water treatment systems, and carried out a multitude of liaison and coordination tasks to help the international relief effort.

After the recent earthquake in Japan, Ari Katz stayed awake all night trying to figure out how he could best help. Through the internet and his father's contacts, he became part of a team of intelligence and logistics analysts working with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), helping them determine which imagery was most needed as well as how to package it and communicate it to the U.S. military, Urban Search and Rescue Teams, and volunteer responders in Japan. One of the biggest obstacles in the Japanese relief effort has been the inability to communicate between the U.S. and its ground forces. Relief convoys were often four to six hours away from their communication sources — and there was no easy way to transmit information to them.

After different efforts, the channel that was finally effective was communicating via Misawa Air Force Base, a U.S. Air Force base located at least 6-7 hours away from the disaster zone. He was able to get in

touch with the right people and began transferring maps and other logistics information, indicating where helicopters should deliver food and other recovery supplies.

His dad, Robert Katz, is not surprisingly quite proud of his son: "Ari voluntarily stepped up and took the initiative to fill a critical void, using his unique combination of experiences and skills."

Ari Katz is majoring in international relations, with concentrations in terrorism countermeasures and conflict resolution. He plans to travel to Israel this summer for cross training in their emergency response and anti-terrorist tactics. After graduation, he hopes to return again for about a year to receive further training.

One of his principal motivations in helping out was not for himself but to challenge other high school and college students to become involved, seek training and to use their training to improve the world. He stresses the importance of volunteerism: "Just jump in. Don't sit on the sidelines, become an active participant. Everyone can do something to help."

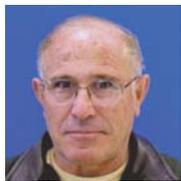
"This was a very rewarding experience for me," he said. "I just wish I could have done more."

Besides volunteering at Burtonsville Fire Station, serving as a First Responder and attending American University full time, Ari Katz enjoys his side photography business focusing on weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs and charity fashion events. He has some photos from his Haiti experience on his website at www.arikatz.pro. www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

Arrest Follows Pipe Bombing

Fire and Explosive Investigators from Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service, in concert with Virginia State Police, arrested 68-year-old Farzin Sadeghi of Marshall, Va. and Gaithersburg, on April 7 for a pipe bombing that took place on Wednesday, March 16, at 9:15 p.m. at 9214 Inglewood Drive in Potomac.



Sadeghi

Simultaneous search warrants were executed at Valley Dale Lane in Marshall and Walkers Choice Road Gaithersburg. The Virginia State Police executed the Fire and Explosive Investigations Section's arrest warrant.

The FEI, along with the MCPD, VSP, FBI, and ATF, identified Sadeghi early on as a suspect.

The investigation is continuing.

CRIME REPORT

❖ A residential burglary occurred in the 12100 block of Devilwood Drive in Potomac on Thursday, March 10 between 7:45 a.m. and 2:51 p.m. Forced entry; nothing was taken.

❖ A theft occurred from construction site in the 10400 block of Stapleford Hall Drive in Potomac between 4:21 Tuesday, March 8, and 7 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9. No forced entry; property was taken.

❖ A residential burglary occurred in the 11200 block of Quelway Road in North Potomac between 9 a.m. and 5:56 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15. Forced entry; property was taken.

❖ There were two thefts from vehicles in the same area. Both occurred overnight between Sunday, March 20 and Monday, March 21. Between 9 p.m. and 8:54 a.m. in the 8400 block of Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. Unknown means of entry; property and cash were taken.

Between 10:30 p.m. and 4:30 a.m. in the 11100 block of Powder Horn Drive, Potomac. Unforced entry; property was taken.

❖ A residential burglary occurred in the 11200 block of Quelway Road, North Potomac on Tuesday, March 15 between 9 a.m. and 5:56 p.m. Forced entry; property was taken.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by **Michael Matese**

Talk to Me

Communication is essential between a Realtor and her client or customer. As a buyer, you know what you're looking for, what is important to you in a home. Now all you have to do is make sure your Realtor knows that.

Sit down with her and tell her exactly what you're looking for in a home. What you have to have and what you don't care about. Do you have to have a pool? Let her know and there will only be homes with pools in them. Don't care about a pool, but can't live without a fireplace? Share that. Some Realtors have a checklist they can give to their customers that tell them exactly what they must have, what they're on the fence about and what is at the bottom of the totem pole in terms of importance.

Be vocal in what you want and share with your Realtor your likes and dislikes. Do you like the corner or would you rather have the cul-de-sac? Care nothing for a four car garage but must have the outdoor living room? Let your Realtor know and she can tailor the homes you see to your specifications.

A little communication can go a long way when it comes to finding the perfect home.

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ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY/APRIL 14

Coyote Run. 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online at <http://ecumenicon.org/conference/details/2009-infinity-banquet>. At Rockwood Manor, 11001 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac.

Debbie Sokobin's Talk on Passover. 10:30 a.m. Part of the JCC Seniors Organized for Change. At Ring House, 1801 E. Jefferson Street, Rockville. For reservations, call Debby Sokobin at 301-348-3760.

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. With DJ Mike Marcotte and Guests. Slow blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 to 11:30 p.m. At the Back Room at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or go to info@CapitalBlues.org or www.CapitalBlues.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 15

Google and our Society. 7:30 p.m. Free. Join senior writer for Wired magazine, Steven Levy, as he talks about how Google thinks, works, and shapes our lives in his new book, *In The Plex*. At The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda. Visit www.bethesda.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Walk Among the Giants: Walk with Audubon's senior naturalist among the sycamores, oaks and river birches along the Potomac River just upstream of Great Falls. 2.5 mile walk. For adults. 8-11:30 a.m. In conjunction with walks on Sunday July 3 and Saturday, Oct. 29. Call 301-652-9188. www.ANShome.org.

Good Earth Potomac. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. To learn about what can be recycled in Montgomery County, how to reduce waste and reuse materials, buy recycled products, and how to grasscycle and compost yard trimmings, visit with DSWS staff and recycling volunteers. At 11650 Falls Road, Potomac.

APRIL 16 TO MAY 21

The Day John Henry Came to School. Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 and 4 p.m. Some Saturday 11 a.m. performances. Single ticket prices range from \$10-\$22, with group rates available. At Imagination Stage 4908 Auburn Avenue, Bethesda. Visit www.imaginationstage.org.

SUNDAY/APRIL 17

The 21st Century Consort. 3 p.m. Admission is \$20/door. Music will include pieces by Joan Panetti, John Cage and Olivier Messiaen. At Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, 6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. Call 301-365-2850. Visit www.bradleyhillschurch.org.

Open Door Reading: Poet Lore

Launch. 2 p.m. Celebrate the launch of Poet Lore's spring/summer issue. The nation's oldest continuously published poetry journal, at 122 years old, hosts readings by local poets Janice Lynch Schuster, Melanie Figg, and R. Dwayne Betts. At The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda. Call 301-654-8664. Or www.writer.org.

Waltz Dance. 3:30 to 6 p.m. Admission is \$10. Introductory waltz workshop 2:45 to 3:30 p.m.; dancing from 3:30 to 6 p.m. With the band, Destino de Rosa. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

Author J.L. Price. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Will sign copies of his Christian Poetry book, *Poetry to Glorify the Father*. At The International Day of the Book, Howard Avenue in Historic Old Town, Kensington.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 20

Film Screening. 7 p.m. "Life in a War Zone: Montgomery County during the Civil War." At the Universities at Shady Grove, Conference Center Auditorium (Building 1), 9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville. RSVP to heritagemontgomery@gmail.com or 301-515-0753.

THURSDAY/APRIL 21

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. With DJ Mike Marcotte and Guests. Slow blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 to 11:30 p.m. At the Back Room at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or go to info@CapitalBlues.org or www.CapitalBlues.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 22

Story/Stereo. 8 to 11 p.m. Free. Emerging Writer Fellowship recipients Andrew Foster Altschul (*Deus Ex Machina*) and Eli Hastings (*Falling Room*) will read. Musical guest is cellist Amy Domingues. At The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda. Visit www.writer.org.

Earth Day Cleanup at Lock 8. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join Potomac Conservancy along the C&O Canal for a day of environmental stewardship. Cleanup activities include picking up trash, pruning vegetation along trails, and repairing the towpath and trails. Stop by for a few hours with friends, a group of coworkers or your family, and make an impact for the environment. Wear clothes that can get dirty — the Conservancy will provide all the necessary tools and equipment. No registration necessary.



MONDAY/APRIL 18

Orquestra de Guitarras de Barcelona. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30/regular; \$28/seniors and students. The ensemble features 25 of Spain's most gifted guitarists led by Director Sergi Vincente. At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center at Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville. Call the Box Office at 240-567-5301 or visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC.

At The River Center at Lock 8, 7906 Riverside Drive, Cabin John.

Swingin' the Blues. 9 p.m. to midnight. Slow Blues and Swing Dance. Admission is \$15. With BG and the Mojo Hands. Two dance workshops from 8 to 9 p.m. — Slow Blues or West Coast Swing; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Bumper Car Pavilion, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Donna Barker at dbarker@glenechopark.org or 301-634-2231, call Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222.

SATURDAY/APRIL 23

Paws in the Park Dog Walk & Fest. Noon to 4 p.m. Walk begins at 1 p.m. Cost is \$20/individual; \$35/family. One of the largest dog walks in the DC area. Sponsored by the Montgomery County Humane Society. At Bohrer Park, 506 S. Frederik Ave., Gaithersburg. Visit : <http://mchumane.org/Paws11.shtml>.

Junie B. Jones. 11 a.m. Part of the Saturday Morning Children's Series. For ages 5 and up. A fun musical that follows the adventures of Junie B. during her first grade year. At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center at Montgomery College, 51

Mannakee Street, Rockville. Call the Box Office at 240-567-5301 or visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/PAC.

MONDAY/APRIL 25

Kinobe and Soul Beat Africa. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20/advance; \$25/door; \$15/student. At IMT Rockville, Saint Mark's Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville. Call 301-754-3611 and visit www.imtfolk.org.

TUESDAY/APRIL 26

Singer-songwriter Danny Schmidt. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$18/door; \$15/advance. At Unitarian Universalist Church, 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville. Visit www.FocusMusic.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27

The Sweater Set. 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12. Maureen Andary and Sara Curtin perform at the Mansion at Strathmore. Combined, the two members of The Sweater Set perform on ukulele, guitar, flute, accordion, glockenspiel, maracas, banjo, piano and kazoo. At the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. To purchase tickets, call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

THURSDAY/APRIL 28

Rockville Mayor Phyllis Marcuccio. Initiatives and Direction for Rockville. 10:30 a.m. Part of the JCC Seniors Organized for Change. At Ring House, 1801 E. Jefferson Street, Rockville. For reservations, call Debby Sokobin at 301-348-3760.

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. With DJ Mike Marcotte and Guests. Slow blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 to 11:30 p.m. At the Back Room at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Donna Barker at 301-634-2231 or go to info@CapitalBlues.org or www.CapitalBlues.org.

APRIL 29-30

Call It Anything: Miles Davis' "Electric Period" 1968-1991. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Free. Through the use of film footage and excerpts from recordings like "Live-Evil" and "On the Corner," poet and music critic Reuben Jackson will discuss this chapter of Miles Davis' career. At The

Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda. Visit www.writer.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 30

Shamar Rinpoche Book Signing. 4 to 6 p.m. Shamar Rinpoche will sign the new English translation of his book, *The Path to Awakening*, a commentary on Chekawa Yeshe Dorje's Seven Points of Mind Training. At Bodhi Path Washington DC Metro Area, 12540 Falls Road, Potomac. Email: admin@bodhipathmd.org or call 240-453-9200.

Irish Piano Music. 8 p.m. With Thérèse Fahy on piano. Free. Presented by Washington Conservatory of Music, Imagine Ireland, and the Fulbright Commission. At Westmoreland Congregational Church, One Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Visit www.washingtonconservatory.org or call 301-320-2770.

APRIL 29 THROUGH MAY 1

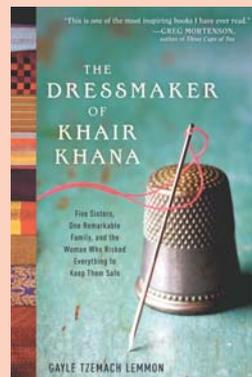
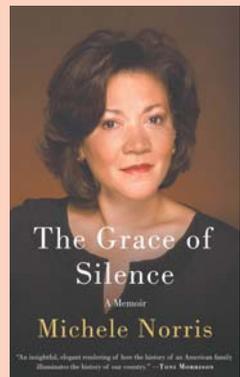
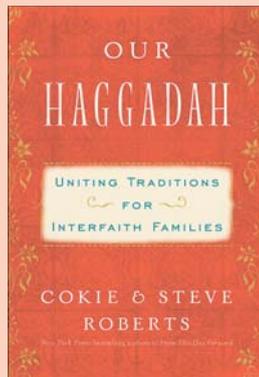
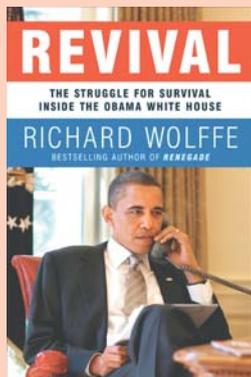
Azalea Garden Festival. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. Plant sale featuring azaleas, annuals, flowering shrubs and roses, herbs and vegetables, wildflowers, perennials and all the essentials for your garden. Also specialty boutiques, Funland, games, crafts, inflatables, carnival games, and boardwalk style food; Mark's Run, a 5K race and 1 mile "family fun run", Sunday, May 1. At Landon School, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda. Visit www.Landon.net/azalea.

SATURDAY/APRIL 30

An Evening with Strauss Waltz Ball. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$20. With the band, Olde Vienna with Dave Wiesler, Alexander Mitchell, Barbara Heitz, Ralph Gordon and Elke Baker. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, or go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 1

Teaching by Shamar Rinpoche, "Day-to-Day Meditation." 10 a.m. to noon. Free. At Bodhi Path Washington DC Metro Area, 12540 Falls Road, Potomac. Email: admin@bodhipathmd.org or call 240-453-9200.



APRIL 15 TO 17

Bethesda's Annual Literary Festival. Free. Literary guests include Michele Norris, Steve and Cokie Roberts, Gayle Tzemach Lemmon, Richard Wolffe and Marie Arana. Highlights of the Bethesda Literary Festival include the Reading and Awards Ceremonies for the Essay & Short Story Contest, the Youth Writing Contest and the Bethesda Poetry Contest; a meet-and-greet with over 15 of your favorite authors, and author events for children and teens. Held in and around Bethesda. Sponsored by the Bethesda Urban Partnership.

ENTERTAINMENT

Potomac Spring House Tour Is May 15-16

Congregation Har Shalom's annual Potomac Spring House Tour is scheduled for Sunday and Monday, May 15-16 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The house tour features five area homes — three in Potomac and two in Bethesda, including the Bethesda home of Chevy Chase-based kitchen designer Jennifer Gilmer. The work of two Bethesda-based architects — Dean Brenneman and Mark MacInturff — are on display in two of the tour homes.

The houses represent a variety of styles and sizes and offer opportunities to gather ideas for home renovation and decorating.

The deadline to buy discounted tickets is Thursday, April 14. Tickets for the house tour are \$20 each until April 14. Prices for house tour tickets will be \$25 each after April 14. Tickets may be purchased on-line at

www.PotomacHouseTour.org.

Raffles are also being sold, at \$5 each or 6 for \$25, with raffle prizes that include art work by Potomac artist Renate Chernoff and gift certificates to area restaurants, including a \$400 certificate for Morton's Steak House. Raffles may also be

purchased on-line.

Congregation Har Shalom is a nearly 50-year-old conservative Jewish synagogue in Potomac, comprised of more than 800 families. The address is 11510 Falls Road, Potomac.

The annual Potomac Spring House Tour benefits the congregation and its many projects that help local and national charitable organizations.

More information on each of the homes on the House Tour, advertising opportuni-



This home in Potomac features a light-filled addition with a rotunda, clerestory windows and an art studio.

ties and on-line ticket and raffle sales are available at www.PotomacHouseTour.org, or by calling 301-299-7087, ext. 336.

PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Potomac Almanac will publish them in our Mother'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 Mom Photo Gallery," 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

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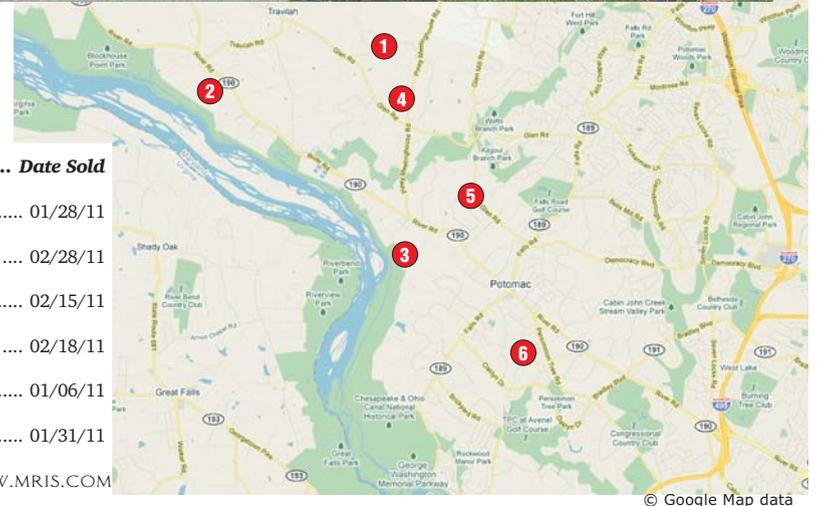


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Repeat Business

Twenty-year partnership culminates in kitchen transformation.

Hopkins and Porter in Potomac had completed two remodeling jobs in past homes for Nick Burnett as well as one in an old town house in Northwest DC. Their handyman division had been helping Nick and his wife Miriam Schneidman with a host of miscellaneous changes to his present abode, a contemporary in Bethesda. This had included swapping out windows, redoing closets, making changes to the basement, and partially opening up the kitchen with a pass through.

This time, however, Burnett came to Hopkins and Porter with a tricky kitchen remodel that would involve a complete gut of the mudroom, laundry area and the kitchen, with a break through to the living room.

For this project, Nick and Miriam had been working on potential designs but had come to an impasse. They just could not find a way to break through the old layout to the design they knew they wanted. Miriam also was dreading the dust she knew was an inevitable corollary to renovation.

The original kitchen had a constricted layout, blocking the flow of light, space, people and energy. Beautiful backyard views were obscured, and the owners said time spent in the kitchen was more drudgery than enjoyment. The owners have an artistic and architectural disposition, and encouraged Hopkins and Porter architect Kai Tong to think creatively.

"I felt that a single strong sweeping gesture was needed to clear out, energize and organize the space," said Tong. "I went with the simple but powerful diagonal line, spanning from one corner of the space to the



"I felt that a single strong sweeping gesture was needed to clear out, energize and organize the space. I went with the simple but powerful diagonal line."

— Kai Tong, Hopkins and Porter Architect

opposite end, creating a sightline all the way through the kitchen and into a newly enlarged window at the far end." But the new design did not add any new square footage to the home.

The team removed the wall separating the kitchen from an adjacent family room, and designed and custom-built new semicircular hardwood steps, allowing for an unrestricted flow of people and "chi" energy throughout the first floor of the house, ac-

ording to Tong.

"The visual vocabulary of my particular design for this specific client is light and airy, and almost sparse, with lots of new space shaped by natural bisque finish maple cabinets and dramatic countertops," he said.

The finished space is a transformation: a dramatic kitchen and entertainment space enhanced by vistas to the outside gardens. Hopkins and Porter incorporated energy efficient appliances in the kitchen. The

owners and remodelers conducted an extensive comparative study between synthetic and natural stone for the countertops and finally settled on natural.

When the project was complete, the Burnett/Schneidmans invited the staff of Hopkins and Porter to a celebratory party. Over hors d'oeuvres and wine, Nick made a toast to the gathered neighbors, recalling 20 years of successful remodeling projects with Hopkins and Porter.

Bill and Peggy Rothrock of Gaithersburg, towpath regulars, walk their boxer rescue dog, Thunder, 2 and 1/2-years-old.



Ah, Spring

Taking advantage of a nice day, Sarah Ulica and her father, Mike Brunner, 78, both of Potomac, take to their bikes. Unlike many of the C&O Canal bikers, they are in training to ride the canal, 170 miles from Swains Lock to Shepherdstown, W.Va., something Brunner said he always wanted to do.



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Home LifeStyle

The Family Foyer: Essential Space

BY JOSH BAKER
 FOUNDER, BOWA

The front entryway. The mudroom. The all purpose room for shoes, backpacks, mail, mobile phones, keys and gym equipment.

Whatever your name for it, this space is essential for every homeowner. At BOWA, we call this important room the “Family Foyer” as it often includes spaces to help organize the way today’s modern family lives. Here are four tips to help your family optimize (or create) a useful Family Foyer.



BOB NAROD PHOTOGRAPHY

This family entrance features custom bench and cubbies.



Josh Baker

1.) Transforming a Space into a Family Foyer: If there is no space currently allocated as a Family Foyer, the first step is to understand what the space is currently being used for and if those functions can be moved elsewhere or incorporated into the new family foyer space. For example, at BOWA, we are seeing more people repurpose their back halls and laundry spaces into family foyers. Many families are doing home renovations to move their laundry facilities to the upper level since that is where the majority of laundry is generated.

2.) Protect from Wear and Tear: The family foyer is the first line of defense from the outdoors—meaning it sees a lot of traffic, dirt and other debris. To protect floors from wear and tear, utilize tile or stone flooring. These materials are much easier to clean and protect than carpet or wood flooring. Stone materials used to create adjacent patios or walks can be incorporated to create a cohe-

sive flow between the indoor and outdoor spaces. For walls, we recommend a quality grade of paint with a more durable finish like eggshell or satin, which makes clean up easier. For aesthetic reasons, we also see a lot of wainscoting used in family foyer renovations. This material also has the added benefit of being a more durable surface to protect walls from the scuffing of kids’ backpacks and the dog’s scratching.

3.) A Space for Everything: From a space for mail organization, to mobile phone charging stations, to shelves for storing children’s backpacks and shoes. We have also seen dog showers and storage for Fido’s leash, toys and food. In some cases the family foyer blends into the home more seamlessly by remodeling areas for crafts or laundry centers (if that doesn’t get moved upstairs). There are a lot of tools out there to help economize and tuck storage into every spare space. Small space storage organizers

used to be seen only in the design of boats and RVs but are now being used to help fit a lot of function into residential small spaces. At BOWA, we particularly see this in our condo remodeling and row house projects, where space is often at a premium.

4.) Provide Personalized Spaces: If you provide it, maybe they’ll use it? Consider designating individualized spaces for family members to help ensure their personal items are actually put away. For children, consider creating individual lockers or cubbies with their names on them and designed to meet the needs of the particular child. For example, the ballerina needs space for her dance bag while the budding baseball player might need a taller cubby for his bat bag and cleats. For smaller spaces, you can still provide children opportunities to customize. That may mean a different color or decal on their cubbies, or adjustable hooks for the youngest child to be able to hang his or her coat without assistance.

78th Anniversary Historic Garden Tour

The Garden Club of Fairfax will host five homes on the 2011 tour in Arlington and McLean, Va. on April 19.

Featured homes include a cross between a ranch and a “Cape Cod on steroids,” designed and constructed by Marvin T. Broyhill for his son, Joel Thomas Broyhill; a modified Craftsman house by BOWA Builders; a brick cottage-rambler, a Tudor Revival Arts and Craft remodeled 1938 home and a French Country home.

This year’s co-chairs Sandra Hunt and Cheryl Freeman of Vienna are working up last minute details on the docent’s notes and coordinating the multiple committee assignments.

The Fairfax Tour will be held on Tuesday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$20 prior to the tour and \$25 day of tour; they may be purchased online at www.VAgardenweek.org or locally at participating retailers: Anita Perlut Interiors in Oakton, Burke Florists in the University Mall, Calico Corners on Williamsburg Boulevard, Color Wheel in McLean, Company Flowers in Arlington, Damon Galleries in Vienna, Executive Press in

Fairfax, Express Jewelers in the Ballston Mall, Heart in Hand in Clifton, Judy Ryan of Fairfax, Katie’s Coffee House in Great Falls, Lemon Twist in Arlington, McLean Cleaners in McLean, Mesmeraldas in McLean, Millie’s Dry Cleaning in Arlington, Needlewoman East in Falls Church and the Old Brogue Irish Pub in Great Falls.

On the day of the tour, tickets may be purchased at the Memorial Baptist Church and at any of the properties open for the tour.

Garden Week in Virginia hosted by the Garden Club of Virginia, the oldest and largest statewide tour in the country. This year 36 tours feature 250 homes, gardens, and historic landmarks during the week of April 16-23.

At the Ceckowski-Christie home, a transformation of the grounds got underway six years ago. And now it boasts an Edgeworthis chrsantha, a Pyrus communis Moonglow – Pear, a Mexican buckeye, a Continus grace Smoke tree, a Parsley-leaf Hawthorn, Chinese Fringe, a Japanese Snowbell and Cusa dogwoods, Cornell dogwoods, and a walking stick tree.

SCHOOLS

To have an item listed mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Call 703-778-9412.

Two Potomac students have received national awards for their outstanding writing through The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the 88 year-old program that recognizes outstanding creative teenagers and offers publication and scholarship opportunities.

Andrea Mirviss, 18, of Potomac won a Gold Medal; and **Ruthie Prillaman**, 16, of Potomac won a Silver Medal.

These writers, along with 108 others who have earned regional recognition, will be honored locally on Thursday, April 14 at the Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre.

Danielle Carty of Potomac, a junior at Gettysburg College, is spending the Spring 2011 semester studying in Australia.

Green Acres Middle School students are participating in a Day of Action on Friday, April 15, to learn more about how hate and discrimination can hurt others. Originating in 1996 as a Day of Silence, this day has been set aside in a number of schools across the country, to help students understand the need to eliminate discrimination — particularly against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. By taking a pledge of silence for a day, students can show solidarity with closeted LGBT people and raise awareness of the discrimination they face. Three years ago, Green Acres students felt that taking a pledge of silence for the day was not enough. On the Day of Action, Middle School students will focus on discrimination against LGBT people, and will have the opportunity to meet and hear from several LGBT people and their allies.

Some 170 Montgomery County area students were named to the dean's list at Salisbury University for the fall 2010 semester. North Potomac area residents include **Gloria Chibueze-Azinge** and **Laura Hundy**. Potomac area residents include **Chris Allen**, **Dean Allen**, **James DeBernardis**, **Daniel Lader**, **Jimena Lazarte**, **Anh Nguyen** and **Christina Sohl**.

Christopher Horning, a senior studying in the Dolan School of Business, has been named to Fairfield University's fall 2010 dean's list.

The following local residents were among 216 students from Ithaca College who received degrees during the College's commencement ceremony held in December 2010: **Heather Rosner**, daughter of Steven and Sally Rosner of Potomac, received a master of music degree from the college's School of Music; **Daniel Wolk**, son of Lawrence and Susan Wolk of Potomac, received a bachelor of science degree from the college's School of Health Sciences and Human Performance, and **Susan Landau**, daughter of William and Gail Landau of Potomac, received a bachelor of arts degree from the college's School of Humanities and Sciences.

The following local residents were named to the dean's list at Ithaca College for the fall 2010 semester. **Susan Landau**, daughter of William and Gail Landau of Potomac, was named to the dean's list at Ithaca College's School of Humanities and Sciences, and **Sarah Perlmutter**, daughter of Scott Perlmutter of North Potomac, was named to the dean's list at Ithaca

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 13

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Good Friday, April 22

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

3:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

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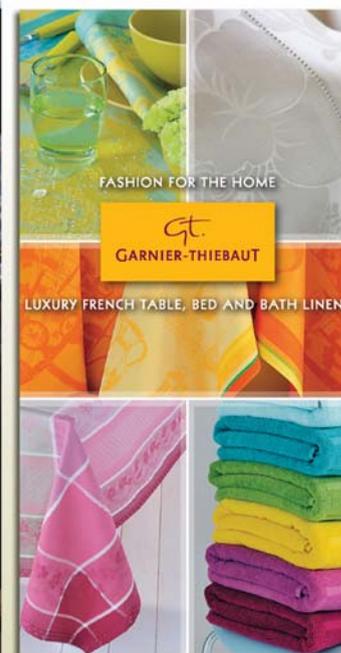
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April 14th - 21st

Churchill's DeFilippo Shows Toughness in Victory

Bulldogs win back-to-back games after 0-5 start.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

The Churchill baseball coaching staff ripped the Bulldogs for lacking toughness after a shut-out loss to Magruder on March 26. Two weeks later, Charles DeFilippo traveled a painful path to show he got the message.

The sophomore suffered an injury to his right calf during a collision at first base in the second inning of Monday's game against Northwest and was hit on the right triceps with a pitch in the third inning, but remained in the contest. Before getting banged up, DeFilippo's RBI single in the first frame helped Churchill jump out to a four-run lead

DeFilippo "had a rough day."
— Churchill head baseball coach Scott Blackwood

and the Bulldogs held on for 7-2 victory at CHS.

DeFilippo's rough afternoon started in the second inning, when Northwest's Zach Bubb collided with the lanky Churchill first baseman while trying to beat out an infield grounder. DeFilippo fell to the ground where he remained while being attended to by Churchill coaches.

"At first, it was painful and I couldn't really put a lot of pressure



Churchill starting pitcher Kelby Spring earned the victory against Northwest on Monday.

on it," DeFilippo said, "but I relaxed, calmed down and I just stretched it out and it felt better."

The following inning, Northwest starting pitcher Matt Cononie drilled the left-handed batting DeFilippo on the right arm.

"Truthfully," DeFilippo said, "I feel better after I get hit. I feel more awake and involved in the game. I [did] my job [by get-

ting] on base."

Churchill started the season 0-5 while scoring just six runs. On Saturday, the Bulldogs got in the win column with a 12-2 victory against Richard Montgomery before beating the previously 5-1 Jaguars.

DeFilippo "had rough day," Churchill head coach Scott Blackwood said. "But to his credit, he battled. He fought through it and



Churchill sophomore Charles DeFilippo, left, played through the pain of a right calf injury and getting hit by a pitch in the right triceps.

he did a great job over at first today. ... If you get hit in the face, what are you going to do about it? We responded a lot better today than we have. The last two games, it almost seems like something's clicked. After winning our first game, something has clicked that [makes them] go, 'OK, so this is how it's done.'"

SEE BULLDOGS WIN, PAGE 13

SPORTS BRIEFS

Wootton Baseball Facing Adversity

The Wootton baseball team, winner of five consecutive 4A West Division championships, is in unfamiliar territory. The Patriots lost to Walter Johnson 7-5 on Monday, dropping their record to 4-4, including a 1-3 mark in the division.

Wootton lost its division opener to Whitman 6-5 on March 31, but bounced back on April 4 with a 5-4 win against Richard Montgomery. Two days later, the Patriots had a five-run lead in the fifth inning against Northwest, but couldn't hold on. The Jaguars used four hits, four walks, one Wootton error and some luck to plate six runs in the fifth inning en route to a 10-9 win in Germantown.

Northwest's Steven D'Amato led off the inning with a fly ball to the outfield that the Wootton center fielder lost in the sun. From there, the flood gates opened.

"We had them on the ropes," senior Pete

Spiropoulos said, "it was just poor execution at times."

Through seven games, Spiropoulos batted .500 with 12 runs, three doubles, one home run and seven RBIs while playing the outfield, shortstop and pitching. The right-hander had a 1.80 ERA in 11 2/3 innings.

"He's been tremendous," Wootton head coach J.D. Marchand said. "He's one of the harder workers on the team. ... He leads by example.

He goes out there and starts things and gets the energy rolling."

Wootton senior Damian Cruz led off the Northwest game with a home run, his second leadoff homer of the season.

Through seven games, Cruz hit .370 with seven runs, one double, two home runs and six RBIs.

"He's come a long way this year," Marchand said of Cruz, who now plays a more prominent role for the Patriots.

Wootton is scheduled to face Churchill at 3:30 p.m. on April 14.

— JON ROETMAN



Pete Spiropoulos batted .500 through seven games for Wootton.

PHOTO BY ANN HINDMAN

SPORTS

Bulldogs Win Back-to-Back Games

FROM PAGE 12

Churchill took control early against Northwest, scoring four runs in the first inning. The Bulldogs sent nine batters to the plate and got run-scoring singles from catcher Ian Shemer, third baseman Russell Rentfro and DeFilippo. With its lead trimmed to 4-2, Churchill added a pair of runs in the fourth inning and one in the fifth. Nick O'Brien led off the fourth with an opposite-field double off the left-center field fence. Danny Weiss plated O'Brien with a run-scoring single and Matt Kogan scored Weiss with a double to right-center.

Brian Green produced a run-scoring single in the fifth.

"The bats are starting to come around," Blackwood said. "It took time — it took a lot of time — but the great thing about it is it doesn't matter what your record is going into the playoffs. Everybody makes the playoffs. As long as we're playing our best baseball at the end of the season, that's all that matters."

Meanwhile, Churchill starting pitcher Kelby Spring limited Northwest to two runs — one earned — in six innings. The soft-tossing left-hander kept the Jaguars off balance with a less-than-blazing fastball and an assortment of offspeed pitches. Spring worked his way out of trouble on a few occasions, stranding six Northwest runners in scoring position.

"He does a great job of mixing up his pitches,"

Blackwood said. "He's not going to overpower you, but he did a great job. He was hitting his spots today and I think that's what was frustrating [for the Jaguars]: they had to hit his pitch instead of them hitting their pitch."

Spring pitched well in the team's season opener on March 21 against defending state champion Sherwood, but a lack of offense led to a 2-1 loss. On Monday, the Bulldogs staked Spring to a comfortable advantage.

"It feels great," Spring said of pitching with a lead. "It gets everyone pumped up. Not only do I feel more comfortable out there, but all my defenders are playing a lot better because they're a lot more pumped up."

Churchill will travel to face Wootton at 3:30 p.m. on April 14. The Bulldogs are still a work in progress, but Blackwood sees potential.

"It's a young group and if we can eliminate the physical mistakes [and] giving teams opportunities, we can be successful," he said. "We gave [Northwest] a lot of opportunities, but we did a great job at stopping those opportunities. It seemed like we were playing from behind when actually we were ahead. ... I'm just proud of my guys that each week they're getting better. They have to continue to work hard and that's all I can ask is to get better, to see improvement."

SCHOOL NOTES

Fourth School Student Wins Regional Bee

The Fourth Presbyterian School hosted the third annual Scripps Regional Spelling Bee for Montgomery County on March 5. The bee is sponsored by The Meakem Group of Wells Fargo and was held at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Bethesda. Thirty-four Montgomery County public and private schools were represented this year. After 10 rounds, it was narrowed down to two students: Marina Stumpf, an eighth grader from Grace Episcopal Day School, and Susanna Yau, a seventh grader from Fourth Presbyterian School. The two middle school girls then continued for several more rounds without faltering, but then, in the 17th round, Marina misspelled "neophyte." Susanna correctly spelled "Rubicon" to win the round and then clinched the title with the championship word "ineluctable."

Susanna will now go on to compete in the 84th Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.



Susanna Yau, a seventh grader from Fourth Presbyterian School, and Marina Stumpf, an eighth grader from Grace Episcopal Day School.

on June 1, along with hundreds of other elementary and middle school students from across the United States. The winner of the National Bee receives a \$30,000 cash prize and an engraved loving cup trophy from Scripps, a

\$2,500 savings bond, a reference library from Merriam-Webster, \$3,800 in reference works from Encyclopædia Britannica, and a \$5,000 cash prize from the Sigma Phi Epsilon Educational Foundation.

SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 11

College's Roy H. Park School of Communications.

The Catholic University of America named **Peter Wawrzusin** to the dean's list with distinction for a GPA of 4.0 in the fall semester in the School of Arts and Sciences. Peter is a junior, majoring in psychology, Spanish minor

on a pre-med track. Peter was also elected co-captain of the Men's Soccer team, the 2009 and 2010 Landmark Conference Champions. Peter graduated Winston Churchill High School in 2008.

Swarthmore College student-athlete Michael Giannangeli of Potomac has been named to the Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll

for the 2010-11 winter season. The honor roll recognizes athletes' performance both on the field and in the classroom.

Tarek Mohamad Elhage of Potomac was named to the dean's list for the fall 2010 semester. Elhage is a graduate of Winston Churchill High School in Potomac.



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the easiest to do because there
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Time To Consider



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As much as I want to – and try to – act normally (not consider the fact that I have cancer and a life-expectancy-challenged future), every day; situations, questions and decisions arise which, inadvertently almost, prevent me from doing so. Choices that previously would have been made without giving any thought to time. Now, all I see is time.

As a few examples: pills; some of the vitamins and supplements I buy offer a multi-bottle discount/incentive. Given the varying numbers of pills per bottle, it's possible I could be buying enough pills to dose for a year – or more. Ordinarily, given the value/cost savings and my middle age, it would be prudent and cost-effective to buy in such quantities. But then it hits me: am I going to be alive in a year? And if not, why spend money now on something I might not need later?

A new bed, a dental crown, a new roof, a new washer/dryer; do you think products/services with a 10-year/20-year guarantee interest me, generally speaking? If I didn't have a terminal disease and the need was genuine, and the money was available, I wouldn't hesitate. Now, not so much. I don't want to think this way, but I do.

Clothes, shoes/sneakers, seasonal items, items bought off-season/in advance; three months, six months ahead: will I need these items the next time the calendar reads spring, summer, fall or winter? Maybe I will, maybe I won't; and again, might the money I spend now – for the future, instead be needed for a present that might arrive sooner than I want to believe – or even anticipate? I realize a positive attitude/belief is important, crucial maybe, but sometimes you can't stop a speeding train by merely hoping and praying that it slows down. A thought sort of has a mind of its own, if you know what I mean?

I guess what this column is really about is, how am I supposed to live for today (as a terminal cancer patient) when my nature, my personality and my life's experiences have typically been about living today while planning and preparing for tomorrow? To not consider, in everything I do – or consider doing, the fact that I have an "underlying problem" (stage IV lung cancer), and a less-than-expected life expectancy, would seem to be counter-productive almost.

Still, not doing so, might hurt me in the short run. I wouldn't exactly call this an opportunity (seems the wrong word, given my prognosis) however, but perhaps it is a chance to rearrange my life in a way that might provide some relief. It's so backward though, for me to not consider the consequences tomorrow of what I'm doing today. It's not normal. Not how I was raised. Not instinctive, at all. So it doesn't seem/feel right. But I suppose being diagnosed with lung cancer at age 54 isn't right either. What is right though – for me, is trying to find a balance (I'm a Libra; duh!) so that I can stay true to who I am but not be so stuck in my circumstances that happiness is always beyond my reach.

As you can tell, I'm still working on it. Maybe the journey taken is more important than the actual arrival. I sure hope so because, knowing myself as I do, I'm not sure I'm getting there anytime soon.

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

LETTERS

More Sports Fields Needed

To the Editor:

The following letter was sent to residents who have expressed concern over proposed soccer fields at the Brickyard Road site.

Thank you for your email concerning the Brickyard Road tract.

I have an ongoing concern about the dearth of rectangular sports fields in the Down County, especially given our growing youth population and their recreational needs in Bethesda and Potomac.

The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission in its 2005 PROS plan referenced the need for more multipurpose rectangular fields, especially in the Down County. Specifically, it calls for an additional 88 multi-purpose rectangular fields in the County by 2020. You'll find it on page five in the following link: http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/ParkPlanning/Projects/LPPRP/LPPRP_2005/LPPRP_Executive_Summary.pdf

In addition, the Potomac Master Plan, approved by the County Council in 2002, following hearings and work sessions, explicitly recognizes that future school sites offer potential for fulfilling some of the recreation needs of the Potomac Subregion and that all school sites not otherwise recommended in the Plan for environmental conservation should be considered for other public uses.

The Master Plan specifically points to the Brickyard site as suitable for ball fields. (Potomac Subregion Master Plan, p. 135) With one-third of the County devoted to agricultural reserve and only 4 percent of the County otherwise undeveloped, we must look to sites identified in our master plans for suitable uses to meet the greater public needs. And, at a time when County fiscal resources are seriously challenged, developing public-private partnerships is one way to help us meet the broader public needs.

The County is currently seeking input from the community on implementation prior to issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP). The responses to that RFP will determine whether there is a suitable partner to work with the County in a public-private partnership on the project.

I am committed to helping solve the unmet recreation need for fields, and to ensuring that this is done in accordance with the vision of the Master Plan, while also addressing concerns within the community. Community feedback will be helpful in that regard. Also, the solicitation for someone to develop and operate the fields will specifically exclude the use of artificial turf as an option, and will not permit the installation of lights.

I have visited the private commercial farm currently on the property, which now, by lease, is the County's. Because I recognize that the solicitation and field development approval process could take at least a year, we have already signed an agreement with the private farmer to allow him to remain on the land through the upcoming growing season. While I recognize that some may

prefer this private use of public land; this public asset can better serve a broader public interest and clear unmet need in the county. We will also evaluate the possibility of dual use for both recreation and farming on the current site.

As you know, the County has devoted extensive areas to agricultural production with one-third of the County's land area being part of the County's Agricultural Reserve. I fully support the protection of our Agricultural Reserve, but the Brickyard school site is not part of the Agricultural Reserve and, per the Master Plan, is suitable for a broader public use.

With programs being cut for youth and others, I strongly believe that we must step forward in creative ways to advance positive youth development through the provision of sports opportunities. A public-private partnership for the development and operation of ball fields on a publicly owned site will help to meet a need for county youth at minimal expense at a location already identified as suitable for such use.

I appreciate your taking the time to share your views.

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Process Not Followed

To the Editor:

Note that the soccer field complex was originally proposed in 2009 by a private sports group, MSI soccer. The developed fields and large parking lots etc. are not intended for use of non-members ... i.e. general public. MSI has paid lobbyists pursuing use of this parcel through affordable lease with the county — a lease that has not been signed yet by the Board of Education.

Take special note: Process has been ignored in this case. Board of Education failed to follow the requirement to declare the Brickyard acreage surplus and set in motion public process as required by law. That central issue is missed in the County Executive's form letter. Montgomery Countryside Alliance President and Potomac resident Diana Conway spoke to this at the well-attended public gathering last week ... the community does not want to weigh in on the done deal of soccer field ... they want a voice in what the appropriate use should be.

Moreover, Mr. Leggett makes a point of calling Nick a private farmer or business ... neglecting to acknowledge the public value of 31-year strong organic seed/feed farm. He also completely ignores the request (attached to the correspondence to which he is replying) to explore a MC Food Counsel and educational center for public school children in response to the proposal signed by over a dozen local and national food and environmental advocacy groups and in concert with the recommendations of the County appointed Green Economy Task Force.

The correspondence certainly deserves

more than this canned response and certainly deserves factual answers. In addition, Board of Education should be responding to direct inquiries regarding its process ... or lack thereof.

Caroline Taylor, Executive Director
Montgomery Countryside Alliance

What's Behind Lease's Delay?

To the Editor:

On March 8, Superintendent Jerry Weast presented a resolution to the Board of Education asking for permission to execute a lease for the Brickyard Road Middle School site.

Superintendent Weast stated, "I am recommending that the Board of Education authorize the president of the Board and the superintendent of schools to execute a Land Lease Agreement with Montgomery County, which has been reviewed by the Board of Education's attorney."

Yet, as of April 12, there is still no executed lease between the Board of Education and Montgomery County. If the document was ready to go on March 8, what's the hold up?

County Executive Ike Leggett would like to discuss "next steps" for this public school land with the public. But as of now the Land Lease Agreement that gives him the right to control this property doesn't exist. The public needs to see what the Board of Education's agreement with Montgomery County says before discussing "next steps."

The Board of Education holds public school land in trust for the benefit of the school system. The public would like to see how the Board of Education has honored that trust in the leasing of this 20-acre public school site for a non-school purpose.

We're waiting.

Janis Zink Sartucci
Potomac

PetConnect Hosts Auction

PetConnect Rescue is hosting a Gala Art Auction at Marriott Gaithersburg Washingtonian Center, 9751 Washingtonian Blvd. on Sunday, April 17. Preview is at



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