

Potomac ALMANAC

HomeLifeStyle

Why Personal
Design Matters

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Interior designer Camille Saum created the dining room in the DC Design House. The dining table takes center stage with a 'floating taffeta skirt' by Design Logistics. The Bernadaud china, Moser glassware and table settings are from Consider It Done of Bethesda. The completely unexpected is a new mantle piece of Carrara marble covered with live moss.

Tribute to Courage,
Love, Dedication

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Recreational Safety

James Seavey, chief of the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department, speaks at the press conference May 4 on efforts to prevent incidents of drowning in the Potomac River Gorge and to reduce the number of hiking accidents on the Billy Goat Trail.



Rescue boats line the shore.

St. Raphael Students Welcome New Building

BY COLLEEN HEALY
THE ALMANAC

For the past year the sounds of bulldozers and dump trucks filled the air at St. Raphael parish. Last week, it was filled with sounds of singing and cheering. After a long wait of watching their new school build-

ing rise from a pile of dirt into a state-of-the-art educational building, the students of St. Raphael School were given "keys" to their new school and began the day moving books, desks and chairs into their new classrooms.

Pastor Father James Meyers felt the day was "exuberantly exciting."

SEE ST RAPHAEL, PAGE 15

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Tribute to Courage and Love

Women's Republican Club honors caregivers of those wounded in war.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

The Chevy Chase Women's Republican Club paid tribute last month to caregivers of U.S. military service members who are injured in the line of duty.

"My son is my hero," said Lorrie Knight-Major, mother of Army Sergeant Ryan Major, a wounded warrior. "He lives every day like it is his last." On Nov. 10, 2006, she received a phone call informing her that an IED planted underground in Afghanistan had seriously injured her son, destroying both legs, his fingers and leaving him with a traumatic brain injury. "From that moment on, our reality became very different. I became his caregiver, nurse, companion — and I had to circumnavigate military red tape as I advocated for his rights and needs," she said.

After four years of difficult rehabilitation and sheer determination, Ryan Major, now retired from the Army, is a survivor who lives independently, has completed two wheelchair marathons, kayaks, skis and has started his own business. Four years ago, his mom quit her job to become his full-time caregiver. She modified and renovated her home, putting in an elevator and changing the floor plan to adapt to his wheelchair needs. "I never thought he would be able to move out on his own — and now he is purchasing a home and driving a car. I am so proud of him."

Knight-Major and other wounded warrior caregivers received a special tribute from the Chevy



Caregiver Mom Laurie Knight-Major shows Potomac's Nancy Griffin her son Ryan's photo.

Chase Women's Republican Club at a luncheon on Wednesday, April 27. The event was held in the home and garden of former Kensington mayor, Jayne Plank. This luncheon included wives, fiancés, girlfriends and mothers of soldiers who have been injured in Afghanistan.

Carol Trawick was the keynote speaker for the event. Having served both as a military wife and a caregiver, she shared her thoughts about heroes. "Sometimes a hero goes on a journey he or she did not expect or want. The hero must overcome fears and see the reality of the situation. Life as it is becomes a 'new normal.'" She ended with the importance of building connections and trying to maintain the philosophy of "I wish, I can, I will."

The luncheon was the idea of Carol Bowis of Bethesda, the daughter of a Naval officer. She is the "Caring for America" chair for the club, which has recently won national recognition for its commitment

SEE CELEBRATING COURAGE, PAGE 6

Gilbert and Sullivan Return to Hoover

Students prepare for "Ruddigore."

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

English gentry, ancestral ghosts, an abduction, a curse by witches — all this and more will keep the audience on the edge of their seats when students from Hoover Middle School present the Gilbert and Sullivan Opera "Ruddigore" May 19, 20 and 21. The comic opera is a melodrama which includes a poor but virtuous heroine, an evil villain who abducts a maiden, a devious sailor who follows his heart, and a hero in disguise. The tale is topsy-turvy and humorous. The music is lyrical and delightful.

The Gilbert and Sullivan opera, performed by a cast of 55 students, is directed by Pamela Leighton-Bilik, Hoover Drama instructor. Every year, Leighton-Bilik directs a Gilbert and Sullivan opera at Hoover. She is fortunate to have a lot of assistance from Hoover parents as well as from former parents whose children have been a part of the school's drama program, she said.

Joanne Sperling and her daughter Laura, now a junior at Churchill High School, have been volunteering for the Spring Opera and with Leighton-Bilik



PHOTO BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

Sixth graders Suramyia Srivastava and Nadia Narnor play bridesmaids in "Ruddigore."

for many years. Sperling is the producer and choreographer, and Laura comes over after school to help the younger actors rehearse their lines, dance steps.

"I do whatever they need me to do," Laura said. She appeared in all of the Hoover productions and has continued in high school, performing in "Blast," "Anything Goes" and other Churchill productions.

Jimmy Schwartzman, a freshman at Churchill, also loves to come back to Hoover to help Leighton-Bilik. "I was in five of her acting classes at Hoover, and they really gave me confidence and a love of per-

SEE STUDENTS PREPARE, PAGE 4

POTOMAC ALMANAC ♦ MAY 11-17, 2011 ♦ 3

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NEWS

Students Prepare for 'Ruddigore'

FROM PAGE 3

forming," he said. Most of the students who return to help with the operas also appear in Leighton-Bilik's summer productions.

Eighth graders Daniel Espinoza and Max Wolpoff enjoy participating in Hoover operas. "I love playing the part of the villain," said Daniel. "I am Sir Roderick Murgatroyd — the bad baronet. It's so much fun, because I get to be a comedian. I have some really funny lines."

Max is Old Adam Goodheart, a servant. "The best part of my role is the comedic relief of the part. It relaxes the tension in the play," he said. Both particularly enjoy the camaraderie and working with their classmates on a common goal. Each plans to continue studying drama in high school.

Suramya Srivastava and Nadia



Lauren Sperling goes back to Hoover Middle to help with productions.



Max Wolpoff plays Old Adam.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

Narnor are sixth graders and this is their first time acting in an opera. They are both part of the bridesmaid chorus which sings and dances and opens the show.

They are finding that they are having fun and making lots of new friends.

Leighton-Bilik is the creator of
SEE AT HOOVER, PAGE 5



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NEWS

At Hoover

FROM PAGE 4

International Youth Gilbert and Sullivan. Every year, she directs a Gilbert and Sullivan production at a festival in the United Kingdom. She also directs Gilbert and Sullivan operas during the summer at Opera Naples in Naples, Fla. A former Disney Teacher of the Year nominee, she is the founder and artistic director of the G&S Youth Players of Washington D.C. and of PB Theatricals. "I saw my first Gilbert and Sullivan production when I was 8," she said. "I have loved it ever since." The play will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 19, Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door.



Jimmy Schwartzman, a Churchill HS student helper.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Partnership for Animal Welfare (PAW) is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit group. To adopt an animal, volunteer or make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.paw-rescue.org, call 301-572-4729 or write to PAW, P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768.

Neo (Dog)- Male, 2 yrs., 62 lbs., neutered, Boxer mix- Neo's fate, as a dog allowed to run the streets, would not have been a good one if he hadn't been saved by PAW. Someone shot this sweet, affectionate boy but he has received medical care and is coming along. Neo still loves people and deserves a caring forever home.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by **Michael Matese**

TV? What TV?

Have you noticed in the magazines and on video of homes that are on the market, that something's missing? Can you guess what? It's the television! Nowhere, when you're reading the latest issue of your favorite decorating magazine, checking out a model home or watching the Style channel, will you see the big screen tv anywhere in the room. Why? Because bedrooms are supposed to be an oasis of calm, where nothing as loud and intrusive as a television can be.

We all know though, that a television in the bedroom is a must have, so what to do? Your decorator can help with that, coming up with beautiful cabinets, or shifting book cases that will allow you to have your tv, but pretend you don't. New designs for hiding the television from the world have been making waves and there's even one that can conceal a 50 inch panel with amplifiers, DVD and VCR players under the bed!

According to the manufacturers, it only takes 45 seconds to deploy and hides the television from buyers as they wander the house, and let's them know they too can hide their television viewing from the world.

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NEWS

Celebrating Love

FROM PAGE 3

to community service. The initiative is a goal of the National Federation of Republican Women's Clubs. Under Bowis's leadership, the club has had several other projects such as Valentines for Vets distributed this year by the Red Cross to the wounded at Bethesda Navy Hospital, troop care packages assembled and sent overseas on two different occasions, and numerous donations sent to the Fisher House Foundation.

For this luncheon, she contacted Marie Wood, events chair for the Yellow Ribbon Fund, a local non-profit which has established a Family Caregiver Program. Bowis and Wood partnered to invite the caregivers to the luncheon. Twelve attended, each with a different story.

Anna Pace is from Italy but met Drew McComber in Seattle, Wash. while visiting her brothers. She was McComber's girlfriend when he was injured in Afghanistan. "His family told me of the accident and I immediately boarded a plane to D.C. When I arrived, I took a taxi to Walter Reed. I moved into Drew's room and stayed there for 40 nights on a cot next to his bed. Fortunately, he did not lose any limbs but for the first three months he was blind, scared and helpless. He had lost the use of one arm and had shrapnel in every part of his body. He had to have multiple surgeries, but gradually regained his eyesight and partial use of his arm."

"We were married in March," she said and shared photos with club members. The couple flew to Jamaica for their wedding with family and friends. "The wedding was small, but just what we wanted. We were just happy to be out of the hospital and are now looking forward to a wonderful life together." McComber has since left the military and is interning with a defense contractor.

Potomac's Nancy Griffin, whose husband and son served in the Air Force, said, "These women are so young to be thrust into this difficult situation. They come to Walter Reed, not knowing a soul or how to access help from the military. They have to live in group housing, try to understand military regulations and fight to get the best care for their loved one. Many have children to care for in addition to their husband. Money

is almost always a problem, since the caregivers have to quit their jobs. It is just so difficult. We are proud

that so many caregivers were willing to take the time to attend this luncheon."

One caregiver praised The Yellow Ribbon Fund. Bridgit Neisen was only 20 and from a small town in Missouri when her husband was injured. When she arrived in D.C., her instructions were to rent a car. "I was too young to rent a car," she said. "Here I was, not knowing a soul, feeling totally lost and lonely — but Bob Talbot of the Yellow Ribbon Fund was at the hospital waiting for me as my mentor. He helped me speak with the medical personnel, find a place to live, and even get taxi vouchers. The Yellow Ribbon Fund has been there for my husband and me — and this is where I will send my donations for the rest of my life."

Club Member Nancy Mattson of Potomac said, "This luncheon gave the caregivers a little respite from the difficulties that face them every day. I am so happy that we could provide a chance for them to feel appreciated and cared for. These women are heroes and need to be recognized for their strength and dedication in the face of adversity. As a club, we felt they do not get enough recognition for all they do. We are glad they could come today."

The club gave each attendee a gift bag to share with their families and a Giant gift card. The members were pleased that they could honor the caregivers and share their appreciation.

The Chevy Chase Women's Republican Club is the largest Women's Republican Club in Maryland. As a part of the Montgomery County Federation of Republican Women, they offer members the opportunity to meet political candidates, support the community and participate in a variety of social, service and political events. For more information, view the website at <http://www.mcfwrw.org/CC/index.htm>.



Potomac's Nancy Mattson and caregiver Lisa Kim

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Countries are well cultivated, not as they are fertile, but as they are free.

—Baron de Montesquieu

Home Life Style

'Your Home Should Make You Happy'

Design trends include more personal touches, smaller spaces, lower maintenance materials.

BY CLAIRE MCKENNA
THE CONNECTION

Many local interior designers participated in this Spring's design house to benefit Children's National Medical Center. Several reflected on recent trends and offered insight on why good design matters.

"Most of us are looking at our home now as more than an investment," said Barbara Franceski of Alexandria, who designed the family room in the design house. "We plan to stay in place for a longer period of time, and with that comes a desire to enjoy life right where we are."

For that reason, "personal expression is more center stage than ever," Franceski said. Homeowners want to use original, unique art to animate spaces, and can even turn to digitally printed wallpaper to create something unique for themselves. People are mixing materials like contemporary Lucite pieces with wood and alabaster and metals.

"We're embracing originality rather than a stale, decorated look."

DESIGNER MICHAEL ROBERSON of Arlington also referred to "a new eclecticism." This style consists of an "interesting mix of things we've never mixed before."

It used to be that eclectic design combined different historic and modern styles that in one way or another related to each other, she said. But now this is not always a requirement.

"Literally everything in the room is unique from everything else," Roberson said. "People seem to be simply putting what they like in a room."

This design technique can "sometimes be wonderful," but Roberson also implies that it also has the potential for disaster.

That's one reason Nancy Colbert of McLean, who designed the library in DC Design House, recommends consulting a designer, as well as checking other resources.

"Whether you're planning on going it alone, or choose to seek help [from a designer], spend time investigating current design magazines or websites to get a sense of what feels good for you."

In gathering ideas from these different sources, Colbert says new decorators may find "a place to build their vision."

One trend Colbert observes: "We're seeing less and less brown wood." Until recently, most furniture finishes consisted of some variation of brown wood. Now, however, decorators are noticing more painted



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/CONNECTION

'Nature inspired and quirky' describe well the hideaway designed by Lauren Liess. Grasscloth wall and ceiling coverings, diamond patterned sisal rug, an oversized window seat and a pair of distressed silver sconces are just a few of the cozy elements of Lauren Liess' hideaway at the Design House.

and combination finishes on furniture pieces.

LAUREN LIESS OF HERNDON was the designer of a "hideaway" bedroom in the design house that was designed as a relaxing place to enjoy the window seat, take a nap, write at the Parson's desk or share a cup of tea.

Her wing chair in the hideaway bedroom included its back upholstered in a Michael Smith floral while the seat and front of the chair are dark velvet.

For home decorators looking for a casual design, Liess suggests "using a casual mix of patterns and textures is a more relaxed way to design a room."

Grass-cloth wallpaper, in bedrooms or living areas, is one way to add texture.

MANY DESIGNERS have welcomed more business lately as clients look to redecorating as an alternative to relocating. "People seem to be re-doing what they already have rather than moving" says Juliana Cunningham, head of Juliana's Home Interiors in Clifton.

Cunningham commented on the recent trend for clients to simplify the redecorating process themselves. She said that renovating window treatments like panes, blinds and shutters "used to be a more labor-intensive process," but people now seem to be turning to simple shades to compliment their windows.



Bethesda designer Nadia Subaran updated and remodeled the pool kitchen in the Design House.

The designer also echoed many of her fellow designers in commenting on the lack of bold colors seen in homes recently.

"We're seeing much more middle-of-the-color-wheel combinations in all rooms," Cunningham said.

Allie Mann of Case Design agreed, saying "Grey is the new beige."

The designer assures anyone looking for a color change in their home that grey is a safe and smart option. "It can work in many rooms," using the successful blend of "Charleston Grey" in the master bedroom in the design house with the "Corn Forth White" she used in the master bathroom which she designed to support her argument.

Like Cunningham, Mann has noticed many of her clients seeking a less laborious

approach to redecorating their homes. Rather than the big additions Mann saw in the early 90s, the designer has noticed "a resurgence of people making better use of smaller spaces."

Mann added that many clients were "asking for more low-maintenance projects." Rather than purchasing materials for their new countertops or floors that require constant upkeep, homeowners are looking for lower maintenance options.

For example, Mann, who specializes in kitchen and bathroom remodeling, said that while before her clients have sought out natural stone tiles for their kitchen and bathroom floors, many have now caught on that porcelain tiles look about the same without requiring nearly as much work to maintain.

Mann offered several tips for getting the most from a modest change: "I'm a big fan of stripes- they can often play up the size of a room." Adding crown-molding can quickly make a room look more formal.

When looking to change the look of a room, often the easiest thing to do is switch out accessories, including pillows, shades, furniture covers and chairs.

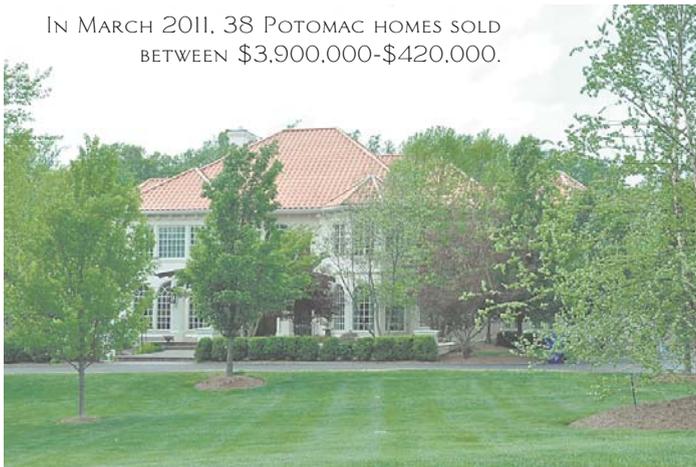
"SIMPLY PUT, I believe your home should make you happy," said Franceski.

"Allow yourself the freedom to create an environment that makes you smile. Doing so brings immeasurable joy."

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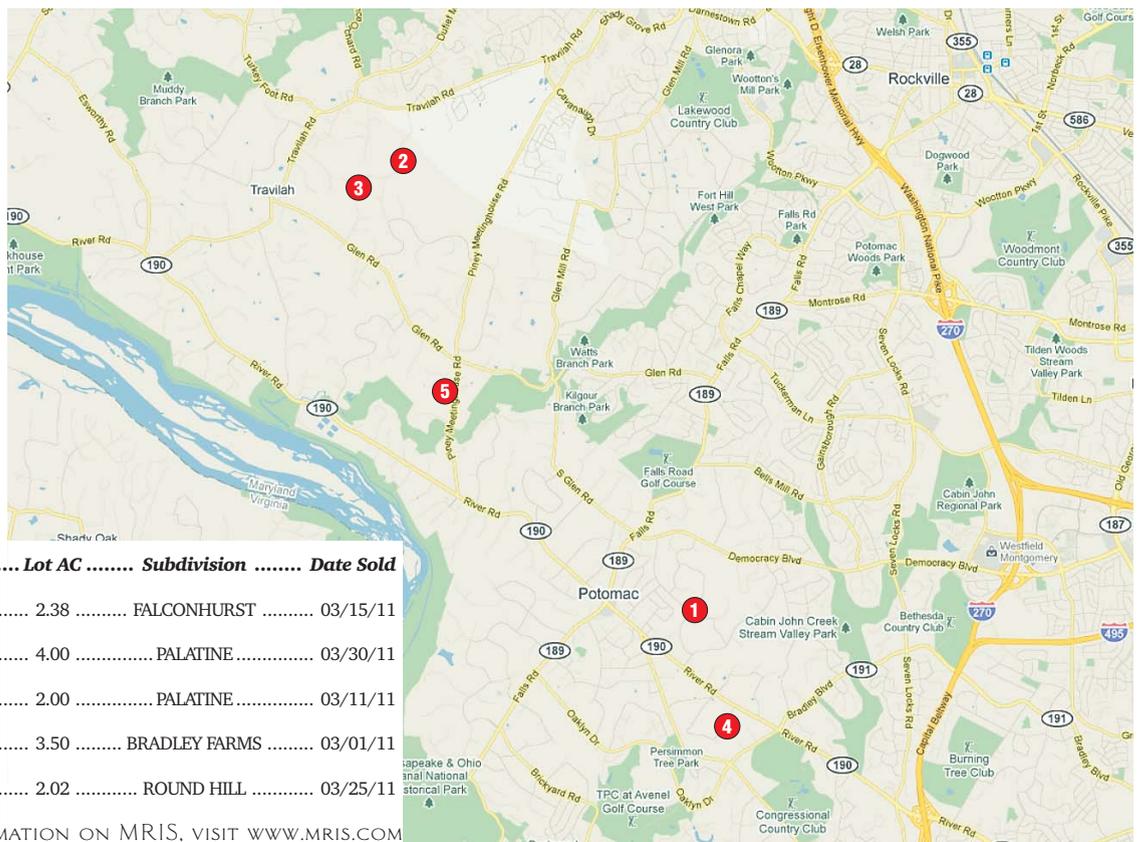
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Congregation Hosts House Tour

Tour proceeds to benefit area charities.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Make certain not to miss the 2011 Potomac Spring House Tour this Sunday and Monday, May 15 and May 16, to experience a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view stunning Potomac and Bethesda homes. The tour features five homes in the Potomac and Bethesda area and will run from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. It's an opportunity to view trends in decorating, architecture and landscape design.

Citing the variety of architectural styles and interior design on view on the tour, House Tour co-chair Sheila Moldover said, "You can get good ideas for freshening up your own house, even if it's not big or one of a kind. After all, every house has a dining room, a living room, bedrooms, a back yard, and the touches that add something special are very often details you would never think of on your own and yet make that space sing instead of being ordinary."

The house tour is sponsored by Har Shalom Congregation. Proceeds benefit the many local and international charities that Congregation projects support. A few of these include A Wider Circle, The Children's Inn at NIH, Manna Food Center, Darfur Interfaith Network Advocacy Committee, and Save A Child's Heart.

One house on the tour is located in the River Falls subdivision. The light-filled addition with a rotunda, clerestory windows and an art studio was added in 2005 and designed by architect Dean Brenneman. The addition expanded the traditional colonial into "the best entertainment space you could have," say the owners. Tour guests will enjoy viewing a spectacular art collection as well as paintings by the owner, an attorney who is also a prize-winning and exhibited painter.

Another home on the tour is an elegant stone home set on 14 acres in Potomac. Located near the intersection of Persimmon Tree Road and River Road, the grounds are landscaped with fountains, koi ponds, a lake and acres of flowers. The home features an 8-sided, 26-foot high family room with a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace. A 400-gallon fish tank is a highlight of the lower level, along with the wine cellar, game room, exercise room and "endless" pool.

Glass walls incorporate the outdoors with the indoors in a stunning contemporary home designed by architect Mark McInturff. This home, designed to meet the needs of three generations, is a contrast of light and dark. Rooms include ribbon mahogany panels on the walls and ceilings which stand out against the lighter oak floors used throughout the home. Art and objects d'art from Italy, Mexico, South America, Costa Rica, Israel, South Africa, India and Germany can be seen throughout this Lake Normandy Estates Home.

Co-chair Valerie Gordon of Potomac sums up the tour: "What fun everyone has going into beautiful homes that they would never have had a chance to see if they weren't on this House Tour. There is a focus on eclectic artwork from around the world, family heirlooms from many centuries and a large variety of wood: cherry, teak, oak, ribbon mahogany

and barn beams from France. There is whimsy in the collections of roosters, owls, dachshunds, lions, and Dr. Seuss characters. You'll find painted glass, murano glass, tin, terracotta, Jerusalem and Carderock stone, granite and even a triangular sink. Rooms of various dimensions abound and the oval office is right here too. The list goes on and on so come join us as we give back to the community."

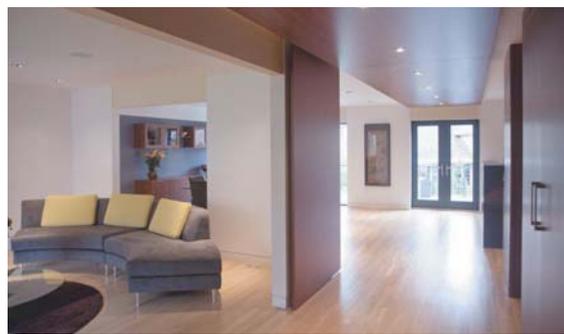
Tickets for the tour and raffle tickets can be ordered on the House Tour website - www.PotomacHouseTour.org through Friday, May 13, 3 p.m. or purchased on Wednesday and Thursday, from 9-5 and on Friday from 9-3 at Congregation Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road, Potomac. Tickets may also be purchased at Har Shalom Sunday 9 - noon and Monday 9 - 3. Tickets are available at House A on Barrett Lane between Bradley Blvd and Audubon Road on tour days between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. A sign will be out front of House A. Tickets will not be available at any of the other homes. If

you have an advance purchase receipt, you must pick up tickets at Congregation Har Shalom or at House A. Tickets are \$25 — cash or check only if purchased on house tours days. Houses may be seen in any order, but once you visit a home, you may not return to it. Once tickets are purchase, detailed maps and directions to each home will be given.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25. Raffle prizes include works of art and restaurant gift certificates for Morton's Steak House, The Palm, Hunter's Inn, and afternoon tea for four at Normandie Farms.



Some of the homes on the Potomac Spring House Tour sponsored by Har Shalom Congregation.



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When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com & click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Potomac (20854)

10304 Snowpine Pl.	\$1,049,000	Sun 1-4	Yasmin	Long & Foster	301-983-1212
10633 Willowbrook Dr.	\$1,699,900	Sat/Sun 1-4	Autumn Ambrose	Potomac Heritage	240-453-9444
10703 Great Arbor Dr E.	\$875,000	Sun 2-5	Henny Van Gogh	Keller Williams	301-556-4149
11211 River View Dr.	\$1,895,000	Sun 1-4	Leslie Friedson	Long & Foster	301-455-4506
11409 Falls	\$1,795,000	Sun 1-4	Norman Domingo	XRealtyNET	888-838-9044
12252 Greenleaf Ave.	\$499,000	Sun 1-4	Irene Wertheimer	Weichert Realtors	301-455-6095
13330 Deerbrook Dr.	\$1,125,000	Sun 1-4	Peg Mancuso	Long & Foster	301-765-6132
13438 Bissel Ln.	\$1,399,000	Sun 1-4	Alexa Kempel	Washington Fine Prop	240-678-4561
13522 Broadfield Dr.	\$1,069,000	Sun 1-4	Leslie Friedson	Long & Foster	301-455-4506
14 Arive Ct.	\$759,900	Sun 1-4	Irene Wertheimer	Weichert Realtors	301-455-6095
5 Stoney Creek Way	\$1,249,000	Sun 1-4	Michelle Yu	Long & Foster	301-251-3040
7844 Oracle Pl.	\$649,900	Sun 1-4	Yasmin	Long & Foster	301-983-1212
7908 Raphael Ct.	\$939,000	Sun 1-4	Nurit Coombe	Re/Max 2000	301-881-1700
8186 Inverness Ridge Rd.	\$549,900	Sun 1-4	Peg Mancuso	Long & Foster	301-765-6132
8620 Falls Rd.	\$759,000	Sun 1-4	Steven Excoabar	Long & Foster	301-251-3040
8908 Potomac Station Ln.	\$1,675,000	Sun 1-4	Nancy Itteilag	Long & Foster	202-363-1800
9410 Lost Trail Way	\$439,000	Sun 1-4	Leslie Friedson	Long & Foster	301-455-4506
9704 Holloway Hill Ct.	\$1,295,000	Sun 1-4	Kate Wise	WC & AN Miller	240-603-3333

Bethesda (20817)

6406 Stoneham Road	\$579,000	Sun 1-4	Alison Shutt	Washington Fine Prop	301-219-7671
7017 Natelli Woods Ln.	\$1,795,000	Sun 1-4	Ashton Vessali	Weichert	703-760-8880
8908 Oneida Ln.	\$698,500	Sun 12-5	Mary J Murphy	Allied Realty	301-656-8600
9010 Seneca Ln.	\$1,035,000	Sun 12-5	Mary J Murphy	Allied Realty	301-656-8600
9019 Burdette Rd.	\$1,595,000	Sun 1:30-4	Ruffin Maddox	Washington Fine Prop	301-922-4443
9613 Weathered Oak Ct.	\$1,499,999	Sun 1-4	Ron Danielian	Coldwell Banker	301-431-8677
9808 Ashburton Ln.	\$599,000	Sun 1-4	Cheryl Leahy	Long & Foster	301 370 2484

North Potomac (20878)

13201 Squires Ct.	\$1,300,000	Sun 1-4	Ken Bennett	WC & AN Miller	240-899-0356
13809 Hidden Glen Ln.	\$1,089,000	Sun 1-4	Anne Cavanagh	Long & Foster	301-467-9071
141 Mission Dr.	\$619,000	Sun 1-4	Neil Bacchus	Long & Foster	301-468-0606
14424 Stonebridge View Dr.	\$839,000	Sun 1-4	Jill Aharon	Coldwell Banker	240-328-2640

Rockville (20850, 20852)

1306 Gaither Rd.	\$659,223	Sun 1-4	Peg Mancuso	Long & Foster	301-765-6132
1705 Piccard Dr.	\$625,000	Sun 1-4	Sonia Ruiz	Long & Foster	703-683-0900
2985 Glenora Ln.	\$575,000	Sun 1-4	Kate Sheckells	Gerlach RE	301-656-8686
308 Currier Dr.	\$575,000	Sun 1-4	Ann McClure	McEneaney	703-790-9090
501 King Farm Blvd #307	\$349,000	Sun 1-4	Leslie Friedson	Long & Foster	301-455-4506
6625 Sulky Ln.	\$675,000	Sun 1-4	Anna Masicca	Long & Foster	240-4237-000
10101 Grosvenor Pl #803	\$309,999	Sun 1-4	Michelle Hessel	Long & Foster	301-975-9500
11611 Ashley Dr.	\$399,900	Sat 12-3	Denise Szczor	Long & Foster	301-468-0606
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2202	\$534,790	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
11750 Old Georgetown Rd #2208	\$328,720	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
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11800 Old Georgetown Rd #1114	\$449,690	Sat/Sun 11-6	Bob Lucido	Toll MD	410-979-6024
604 Harrington Rd.	\$349,900	Sun 1-4	Stephanie Horwat	Weichert	301-385-6115
808 Bowie Rd.	\$474,900	Sun 1-4	Ashton Vessali	Weichert	703-760-8880

For an Open House Listing Form,
call Deb Funk at 703-778-9444 or e-mail
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com
All listings due by Monday at 3 P.M.

ENTERTAINMENT



FRIDAY/MAY 13

A Sacred Music Concert. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30. The program includes: Byzantine Hymn Soloist: Rouba Estephan; Ave verum: Mozart Choir; Exultate jubilate: Mozart Soprano: Diane Atherton; Laudate Dominum: Mozart Soprano/Choir. At Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church Sanctuary, 10620 River Rd. Potomac.

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. Call 703-778-9412.

THURSDAY/MAY 12

America's Veterans: A Musical Tribute. 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Free tickets. Featuring Country Music Sensation Jo Dee Messina, Irish Tenor Ronan Tynan, Jazz Trumpeter Arturo Sandoval and "So You Think you Can Dance" Season 3 Winner Sabra Johnson. At the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, Bethesda. Call 301-581-5100.

Piano Recital. 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$28 (Stars Price \$25.20). This artist channels the 19th century composer and pianist Clara Wieck Schumann (wife of Robert Schumann), recreating an 1871 concert by Clara. Performing on Strathmore's 1850s Broadwood piano, Sharon Joshua deftly



MAY 14-15

Dance of Sri Lanka. Admission is \$20. With Nruthya Pooja. Saturday, May 14 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, May 15 at 7 p.m. At the Music Center at Strathmore, Studio 405, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Call 301-581-5100 or www.citydance.net or www.strathmore.org

intersperses works by Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Robert Schumann, Bach and Chopin with engaging readings from Clara's diaries and letters. A Gerald M. Woofert Memorial Concert Program. At the Mansion at Strathmore. Call 301-581-5109 or visit www.strathmore.org.

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. Slow Blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 to 11:30 p.m. With DJ Mike Marcotte and Guests. 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/MAY 13

Blues and Soul Fusion Dance Party. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$10. Dance lesson from 8 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. DJ Ken Roesel. At the Back Room, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Visit <http://www.dancebuddies.com/AllThingsBlues.htm> or contact Ken Roesel at 703-282-4187 or at DanceBuddies@Starpower.net.

Art Show. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. 200-plus artists will display art and sculptures. At Geneva Day School, 11931 Seven Locks Road, Potomac.

SATURDAY/MAY 14

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Most hardback and large paperback books are \$1 and all regular paperbacks are \$.50. Be sure to check out the "special attention" book section. All books are donated by the local community for the benefit of the Potomac library. At Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Dr., Potomac.

Violinist Elena Urioste. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$32-\$79. Elena Urioste will play Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4 with the National Philharmonic, led by Music Director and Conductor Piotr Gajewski. At the Music Center at Strathmore. Visit nationalphilharmonic.org or call the Strathmore ticket office at 301-581-5100.

Managing Multiple Dogs. 2 to 4 p.m. Topics of discussion will include competition for resources, feeding, barking multiplied, walking more than one dog and other concerns. With speaker Marilyn Wolf, CPDT-KA (www.korrektkitters.com). At Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Register by emailing register@yourdogsfriend.info or by calling 301-983-5913.

MAY 14-15

Dance of Sri Lanka. Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20. CityDance Ensemble presents Nruthya Pooja: An evening of Traditional and Folk Dance of Sri Lanka by Asanga Domask. At The Music Center at Strathmore, Studio 405,



PHOTO BY KELSEY PHELPS

Storytellers gossip over Daniel's Involvement with the peasant Ti Moune in the KAT 2nd Stage production of "Once on This Island."

NOW THROUGH MAY 22

"Once on This Island." Performances are 7:30 p.m. on Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets are \$16/\$18/\$9 by calling the Arts Barn box office at 301-258-6394, or online at www.gaithersburgmd.gov/ArtsBarn. For more information about KAT 2ndStage, visit the KAT web site at <http://www.katonline.org>. At the Gaithersburg Arts Barn.

5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Purchase at Strathmore Ticket Office, 301-581-5100, www.citydance.net or www.strathmore.org

SUNDAY/MAY 15

Canal Stewards Cleanup. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Help the Conservancy clean up and beautify the land and water surrounding Lock 8, and along miles 8 and 9 of the C&O Canal towpath. At the River Center at Lock 8, 7906 Riverside Drive, Cabin John. Visit www.potomac.org/site/river-center-events/index.php.

Wildflower Walk. 9 to 10:15 a.m. Join wildflower expert Marijke Gate and Potomac Conservancy in a stroll along the towpath and explore the banks of the C&O Canal and Potomac River in search of both common and unusual spring wildflowers. At the River Center at Lock 8, 7906 Riverside Drive, Cabin John. Visit www.potomac.org/site/river-center-events/index.php.

From Foster Home to Adoption Success. 1 to 4 p.m. What every foster needs to know to help make the fostering experience successful and easy. Speaker: Julie Jacobus, CPDT-KA; Training by Julie (www.trainingbyjulie.com). At Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Register by emailing register@yourdogsfriend.info or by calling 301-983-5913.

Durufle' Requiem. 4 p.m. Free. The Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir with soloists, Mark Mason and Tanya Coyne, orchestra conducted by Julie Vidrick Evans and Marvin Mills at the organ, will present this masterwork of the sacred choral literature to conclude the 40th Anniversary Season of musical offerings. At the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, One Chevy Chase Circle, NW, Washington, D.C. Call 202-363-2202.

MONDAY/MAY 16

VOICES 2011. 6:30 p.m. Presented by the Women's Philanthropy of The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington. Speaker is Valerie Plame Wilson who will speak about her time serving as a covert CIA Operations Officer. At the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road, Bethesda. Visit shalomdc.org/voices.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 18

Illustrated Lecture. 8 p.m. Free. With renown Jerusalem paper-cut artist Archie Granot, presented by ArtSites, the Guild for Judaic Art. Granot uses multiple layers of interlaced designs to create three-dimensional reliefs. His unique works utilize Hebrew inscriptions and Jewish imagery. At Tikvat Israel Synagogue (Library), 2200 Baltimore Road, Rockville. Contact Roz at Rozf002@juno.com

Spring Luncheon. 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dr. Joyce Antler, author and playwright, will discuss her book, *You Never Call! You Never Write!* A History of the Jewish Mother and Jen Chaney, Washington Post reporter will speak at the luncheon hosted by the Greater Washington Women's Chapter of the

Brandeis National Committee. At Lakewood Country Club, 13901 Glen Mill Road, Rockville. Members \$70. Non-members \$80. All proceeds to benefit Science for Life Research in neurodegenerative diseases. Reservations required. 301-340-8940.

MAY 19, 20, 21

Sing It! Shout It! Tell About It! 7:30 p.m. Hoover Middle School presents the Gilbert & Sullivan operetta "Ruddigore." Tickets are \$5 at the door. At Hoover Middle School, 8810 Postoak Road, Potomac. Call Hoover Middle School at 301-469-1010.

THURSDAY/MAY 19

Slow Blues and Swing Dance. 9 to 11:30 p.m. Admission is \$8. Slow Blues lesson from 8:15 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 to 11:30 p.m. With DJ Mike Marcotte and Guests. 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/MAY 20

The Kathy & Mo Show. 8 p.m. Starring Kathy Najimy and Mo Gaffney. Tickets are \$35/regular, \$33/seniors and students. At the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Box Office: 240-567-5301.

Story/Stereo. 8 p.m. Free. Emerging Writer Fellowship recipients Merrill Feitell (Here Beneath Low-Flying Planes) and Susanna Lang (Even Now) will read. Musical guest: The Cornel West Theory. Details: www.writer.org or call 301-654-8664. The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda.

SATURDAY/MAY 21

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. With the Gordon Webster Sextet. Beginner Swing Dance Lesson from 8 to 9 p.m.; dancing from 9 p.m. to midnight. At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Go to www.thejamcellar.com, call Curtis Breitenlohner at 301-404-2064 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222.

"Strut Your Mutt." 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dog parade and festival fund-raiser. Organized by the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rotary Club, this event will bring together over 5,000 participants and hundreds of dogs for a day of outdoor festivities. At Woodmont Avenue between Bethesda Avenue and Elm Street, Bethesda. Go to www.strutyourmuttbethesda.org or call 301-980-4302

Verdi's Requiem. 8 p.m. Tickets are \$32-\$79. Performed by the 200-voice all-volunteer National Philharmonic Choral, the concert will showcase soprano Arianna Zuckerman (mezzo-soprano); Patricia Miller (tenor); Don Bernardini (tenor); and Kevin Deas (bass). At the Music Center at Strathmore. Visit nationalphilharmonic.org or call the Strathmore ticket office at 301-581-5100.

FINE ARTS

MAY 14 AND MAY 23

Photography and Paintings. 3 to 7 p.m. Works by Fataneh Dadkhah and Nasser Ovissi. At Exhibit9 in Potomac. Call Sarah Barzmehri at 202-276-9419 or visit www.exhibit9gallery.net.

MAY 28, 29, 30

"Light, Shape and Color." An Exhibition of Original Watercolors by Michael F. Shibley. At the Yellow Barn Gallery at Glen Echo Park. The Gallery is open Saturday, May 28 from noon to 8 p.m.; Sunday, May 29, from noon to 5 p.m.; and, Monday, May 30, from noon to 6 p.m. Receptions for the artist are scheduled for Saturday, May 28, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. and for Sunday, May 30, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Contact the Yellow Barn Gallery at 1-301-371-5593 or contact the artist at 301-807-6890 or at mfs-art@comcast.net.

NOW THROUGH MAY 21

Watercolor Exhibition. Free. Strathmore presents The Baltimore Watercolor Society's 2011 Mid-Atlantic Regional Watercolor Exhibition. Includes 95 original pieces selected by juror John Salminen. Art Talk for adults on Saturday, May 14 at 1 p.m. At the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Call 301-581-5109.

NOW THROUGH MAY 29

Miniature Marvels. Oils, watercolors, collages and mixed media with 12 artists: Jing-Jy Chen, Marilyn Devers, Bonita Glaser, Mimi Hegler, Linda Kozak, Pamela Patrick, Ellen Ratner, Genevieve Roberts, Nancy Still, Katherine Sullivan, Bonita Tabakin and Shirley Tabler. At the Dennis and Phillip Ratner Museum, 10001 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda.



NOW THROUGH JUNE

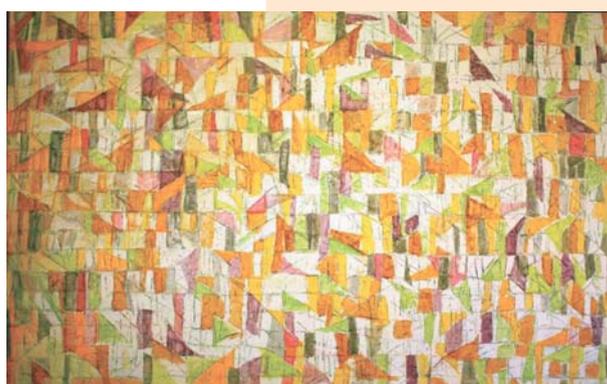
Fused Glass Exhibition. Free. An exhibition of fused glass by Kari Minnick and paintings by Deborah Brisker Burk. Artists' reception Sunday, May 22 from 1 to 3 p.m. At Gallery Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road, Potomac. Call 301-299-7087.

NOW THROUGH MAY 19

Artist Mark Lovett. Selected into the juried show, The First Annual Scottsdale Salon of Fine Arts, hosted by the Legacy Gallery. Mark Lovett Studio, 4 Echo Court, Potomac. Visit www.scottsdalesalonoffineart.com.

NOW THROUGH JUNE 4

Eunhee Park Dickerson. Paintings and drawings. Her works are mainly abstract oil paintings on canvas, but the show will also include her drawings and prints on paper. At the Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Artist's Reception is Friday, May 13, from 6-9 p.m. Visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com.



Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras at Strathmore

Spring Concerts

With a Special Salute to the American String Teachers Association
Sunday, May 22 at 3 pm and 7 pm



3 pm Chamber Strings, Young Artists, and Symphony
7 pm Chamber Orchestra, featuring pianist, Adonis Gonzalez, and Philharmonic
TICKETS: \$20 adults; \$5 for music teachers; \$12 children under 18 and seniors.
 Strathmore Ticket Office: 301-581-5100
www.strathmore.org
 Special group rates: 301-581-5199

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Ford's Short-Handed Lifts Churchill Past Paint Branch

Bulldogs enter regionals as No. 2 seed in 4A-3A West.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

Saturday, May 7 figured to be an easy and enjoyable afternoon for the Churchill boys lacrosse team.

It was senior day for the Bulldogs, who entered their final game of the regular season with an 11-2 record. One of the top teams in the region, Churchill hosted 5-5 Paint Branch for its final postseason tune-up.

Things went as planned early, with Churchill jumping out to a 4-1 lead in the first quarter. But for the next 20 minutes, Paint Branch did its best to spoil the Bulldogs' party, tying the score at 7-7 in the third.

"We were tied and I really wanted my team to get back on the horse so I just went through a few guys. Whatever it takes."

— Churchill senior Francis Ford

That's when senior midfielder Francis Ford made a game-changing play that led Churchill to victory.

With the Bulldogs playing a man down, Ford evaded a Paint Branch double team and scored with 6:58 remaining in the third quarter, giving Churchill an 8-7 lead. The goal

sparked a 5-1 Bulldogs run and Churchill closed the regular season with a 12-9 victory at Shepherd Stadium.

"We were tied and I really wanted my team to get back on the horse so I just went through a few guys," Ford said. "Whatever it takes."

Paint Branch had scored three consecutive goals before Ford's athletic maneuver.

"Francis is a real good player," Churchill head coach Jeff Fritz said.



PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

"He tucked his stick, split the double team real well and went right to the goal. He's an excellent shooter, and not only is he a good shooter, he can create that shot, too. That definitely was a big goal."

Seven players scored at least one goal for Churchill, led by senior attackman George Hermes' four goals. Ford and sophomore midfielder Morgan Rhodes each scored two, and senior attackman Brad Grossman, junior midfielder Spencer Ralph, sophomore attackman Matt Leonard and freshman midfielder Matt Moshyedi each had one. Grossman also had several assists.

"Seniors stepping up on senior day," Fritz said of Hermes' four goals and Grossman's passing performance. "It was nice. They both excelled because the team played real well in those instances. We moved the ball extremely well. George finished all day and Brad saw the field real well and fed a lot today. They both had outstanding days."

Seniors Ford, Hermes, Grossman, midfielder Brad Boyland, attackman Zach Gordon, midfielder Coby Rodman, defenseman Andreas Constantinou, defenseman Armin Bagheri, attackman

Churchill senior George Hermes led the Bulldogs with four goals on Saturday.

Churchill senior Francis Ford scored a short-handed goal in the third quarter of Saturday's game against Paint Branch, giving the Bulldogs the lead and propelling them to victory.



Brad Grossman was one of 11 Churchill seniors to play their final regular season home game on Saturday.

Bharat Bhatia, attackman Evan Tassis and midfielder Nick Gutschmit played their final regular season home game for Churchill.

"They've led by example," Fritz said. "It's not a big rah-rah group. There's not a lot of them. But they're the quiet guys that go hard to work every day and they lead by example. It's been an outstanding character class."

Churchill (12-2) enters the postseason as the No. 2 seed in the 4A-3A West Region and receives a first-round bye. The Bulldogs, who have won 11 straight games, will face the winner of No. 7 Blake and No. 10 Blair. Sherwood is the No. 1 seed, Wootton is No. 3, Walter Johnson is No. 4 and Whitman is No. 5.

While Saturday's victory didn't go as smoothly as Fritz would have liked, the Churchill coach said the Bulldogs are prepared for the playoffs.

"We get up for the big games," Fritz said. "Unfortunately, we didn't play real well today. We kind of overlooked them a little bit. We'll be fine for the playoffs. Today was definitely a wake-up call."

Churchill advanced to the regional semifinals last season, where the Bulldogs lost

to eventual state runner-up Wootton. This season, Churchill has hopes of advancing even further.

"We except to take it all the way to the state championships," Ford said. "We have heart. We have mad heart—a lot of spirit on this team (and) a lot of love for lacrosse."

SPORTS BRIEFS

Whitman Crew Wins 8 State Titles

The Whitman crew team took home eight state championships during the weekend of May 1 in Chestertown.

Whitman captured state titles in the women's varsity eight (4 minutes, 49.1

seconds), women's JV eight (5:11.2), men's JV eight (4:38.6), men's novice eight (5:17.2), women's freshman eight (5:36.2), men's freshman eight (5:04.4) women's JV four (6 minutes, 30.4 seconds) and women's varsity four (6:05.3).

Churchill Girls

Lacrosse Earns No. 1 Seed

The Churchill girls lacrosse team defeated Walter Johnson 9-5 on May 4 and Paint Branch 18-4 on May 6 to improve to 11-0. The Bulldogs will be the No. 1 seed in the 4A-3A West Region and receive a first-

round bye. Churchill, the defending region champion, will face the winner of Wootton and Montgomery Blair in the quarterfinals.

Walter Johnson is the No. 2 seed, Sherwood the No. 3, Blake the No. 4 and Springbrook the No. 5. Whitman received the No. 6 seed and Wootton the No. 8.

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.

McDaniel College senior Kimberly V. Williams of North Potomac, is among 40 juniors and seniors inducted into the McDaniel College chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at a May 1 ceremony held on campus.

Williams is a senior English major and Writing minor. She is the editor-in-chief of the Free Press, the secretary of the International Club, and a member of

Alpha Lambda Delta.

The following local students received awards at St. Mary's College of Maryland:

❖ **Gursharan Kaur Bawa**, of Potomac, received the Chinese Award;

❖ **Daniel Ruthenberg-Marshall**, of Potomac, received the Board of Trustees Award;

❖ **Taren Michelle Parsons**, of North Potomac, received the Mattie M. Key Award in Mathematics.

MCPS students have been named

2011 Presidential Scholars for their outstanding academic achievement, leadership, citizenship, service, and contribution to school and community.

The students, the only Maryland public school students to receive the award, are among 141 students nationwide to be named Presidential Scholar winners and will be honored in Washington D.C., June 18-21. Congratulations to:

❖ **Clara H. McCreery**, of Walt Whitman High School, who named Ms. Susan Wildstrom as her most influential teacher.

MILITARY NOTES

Navy Seaman Cassandra T. McBurney, a 2005 graduate of Winston Churchill High School recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Army Pvt. Christopher B. McKee has graduated from the Fire Support Specialist Advanced Individual Training course at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla. McKee is the son of Michael D. and Annette B. McKee of Melvern Drive, Bethesda. The private is a 2008 graduate of Walter Johnson High School.

Army Spec. Amanda L. Lowman has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla. Lowman graduated in 1989 from Churchill High School, Potomac, and received a master's degree in 2005 from the University of Washington, Bothell.

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Not Writing for Pity's Sake



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Other than the fact that mental exercise (public venting of a very private problem) is presumably good for the soul – and the heart and the brain and every other internal organ/system that makes us human, writing a column one day after my first CT Scan in four months has taken place, and three or four days before I'll actually learn the results seems a precarious time to put any thoughts on paper; heck, maybe even express them verbally to anybody inclined to listen. Nevertheless, if I am nothing else (and I'm lots of things), I am a creature of habit, routine and repetition. I may not be anal-retentive or obsessive-compulsive but I'm something, so here I sit – and write (print, actually), pen in hand, as if I have something illuminating to say.

In truth, I'm simply passing some extremely stressful time in the most relaxing manner I know: writing honestly about my underlying problem (stage IV lung cancer), trying to stumble onto some self-effacing/self-deprecating humor to carry through the next half a week or so until my results are known. At least this time however, I won't be wondering if anyone from my HMO will be calling me with those results. I've already made a preemptive call to their Oncology Research Coordinator, a woman with whom I have an 18-month association due to my participation last year in a Phase II Study she managed, to see if she could intercede on my behalf and once again, contact me as soon as my scan results are posted. Unfortunately, my oncologist is away for the next week and my appointment with him is not scheduled until the middle of the following week, and waiting, as you might imagine, is hardly a preferred option. "Of course," she said, she "would be happy to help." I am after all, her "star patient;" having successfully and without incident or hassle/inconvenience to her, adhered to the rather rigorous requirements of the year-long study.

Now that I know I'll definitely be receiving a call and from whom, I'll be able to just worry about the results (I don't have to, but I will of course; it's human nature and impossible – for me, to act otherwise). The way I figure it though, I've reduced my anxiety by 50 percent; I only have to worry about half the problem, and half is a significant reduction. Moreover, I've taken control of what I could (guaranteeing that a call will be made – and when) and accepted what I can't: the results, and control, for a terminal patient, is very important to have. As is balance. Now the wait seems more manageable, sort of.

I also know that something very necessary is going to occur – in a timely manner, and something very unnecessary – stressing about it, won't. A simple solution to a complicated situation, and anything that can be done; arranged, planned, organized or clarified to assist a patient, terminal or otherwise, the better. And I suppose, writing this column, betwixt and between my scan and the results of that scan as it is, is another example of trying to find calm in that storm.

I may not have had much to say, but it made me feel good saying it, nonetheless. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

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

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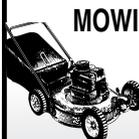
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GETTING AROUND

Advice and Humor Mark Huckabee Visit

BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT
THE ALMANAC

Obviously, he was in Maryland to drum up support for The Free State's Republican party, but it could have been a dual mission.

Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee (two terms in a state that boasts a huge majority of Democrats) was the guest of honor at a May 4 luncheon given at Denise and Rex Reed's Potomac area home.

"Will you, or won't you?" he was asked. "I'm very seriously contemplating," he responded when questioned if he will enter the GOP presidential race in 2012. "I will know in a month," he added.

"My wife wishes I would. I think it's to get rid of me," he added. His son, David, at the party, also nodded his assent toward the race.

About 25 VIP guests chipped in between \$500 to \$2500 to personally meet the former Governor including a photo opportunity. In addition, a hundred others, presumably Republicans, of both conservative and moderate persuasion, each contributed \$125 to attend the luncheon and short speech, sans the photo op.

"Maryland is like Arkansas, there aren't too many Republicans who come out in the daylight," Huckabee joked. On a serious note, he voiced the usual GOP rhetoric: less taxes, less government and a flat tax on consumption. "I favor a flat tax on consumption, not income. A fair tax that is family friendly," he said. He added he would gladly give up the break on his mortgage tax to not "ever deal with the Internal Revenue Service." This created an enthusiastic round of applause.

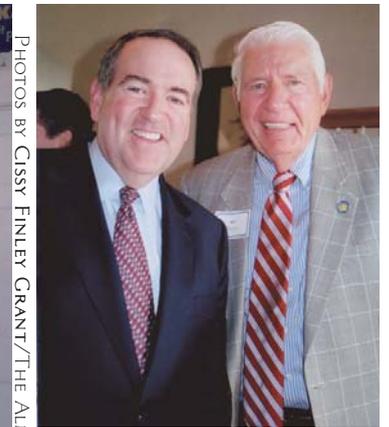
"If we want our economy to grow we



Host Rex Reed, holding daughter, Clare, 8 months, bid former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee farewell following the two-hour event at the Reed's Potomac home.



Former State Sen. Jean Roesser of Potomac, (left) Annapolis County Executive John R. Leopold, and former Montgomery County Board of Education candidate Martha Schaeur were among those who heard Governor Huckabee tell the gathering, "This is a great moment for America to be reminded of its resilience," referring to the war on terrorism.



Bill Wallace of Potomac was among many local and state-wide residents who turned out to meet former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee who was visiting here to raise funds for Maryland Republicans.

should reward those who make it grow. Do not punish those who work with high taxes. That's telling people not to save, but go spend it all now," Huckabee said.

Referring to the country's debt he advised, "We have gone from the greatest generation, my parents', to the worst. We are sacrificing our children," he said.

Regarding the recent news involving terrorists, a reporter questioned, "Do you feel the Pakistanis were aware of Osama bin Laden's existence in Abbottabad?" Huckabee quickly responded, "It's insane not to think there was no knowledge whatsoever that they didn't know. It's absurd," he added, referring to what he called a million dollar compound. Concluding the subject, he remarked, "The last thing that went through Osama's mind was an American bullet."

Moving from national to statehood politics the former Governor was asked what would he recommend Maryland Republicans to do to gain more representation. He ticked off, all in one sentence, "Don't push the Republican label, push the product, cut government spending, make government local and encourage free enterprise."

As he told the gathering when he offered a 10 minute question-and answer-period, "You know what Q and A really means? It stands for questions and avoidance."

There were numerous state-wide Republicans in the gathering including GOP state chairman former Senator Alex Mooney of Annapolis, Harford County Executive David Craig, Bel Air, and Anne Arundel County Executive, John R. Leopold.

Leopold told a story relating to when he was a resident of Honolulu and ran for the

state senate.

He said he knocked on the door of President Barak Obama's home. It was in the mid '70's, and his grandparents' home.

"He was just a boy, but I could take you right to the place today." He mentioned having told the story to Mrs. Obama when she visited the United States Naval Academy recently. "She got a laugh out of it," he said.

There were lots of people laughing at this gathering. Governor Huckabee, when not seriously pushing the GOP agenda, has a great sense of humor. Example, his opening remark, "When I arrived it was fantastic to see the horses in the field. There will be pony rides later."

Maybe in Arkansas there is no difference between horses and ponies. It was still a good laugh.

St. Raphael Students Welcome New School Building

FROM PAGE 3

It is a nice finish to a great journey. The sign outside says it all. We have had lots of support along the way."

The new school building contains classrooms, art, science and computer labs. Each grade has its own color which is reflected in the classroom design. In front of each classroom door, the tiles are in the shape of a cross.

Principal Teri Dwyer said "the best thing I heard on the tour was when a nursery school child looked out of the top floor window which is level with the church steeple and said 'I can see God.' I thought what a beautiful goal for a Catholic school. We want the children to see God and take Him into their world. Our educational program is rigorous, and sculpted to the needs of our children. Now we have the room to expand and the space to do more. Father Bill planted

the dream and Father Meyers has seen it through and added his own touch. The colors and attention to detail has exceed all expectations."

The project to start a school at St. Raphael Catholic Church began as the dream of Father Bill Finch who died in 2009. Each year the school adds a grade and next year it will expand to sixth grade. The new educational building houses the new parish library and St. Raphael School, while providing more meeting space for local organizations and charities.

Students from St. Raphael School and Nursery School pose on the opening day of their new school building.



PHOTO BY COLLEEN HEAVY/THE ALMANAC



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