

Community Service

Montgomery County Police Explorers Post 1986 Matt Platko and Yasmin Luna offer safety advice at the community service event held at Potomac Place Shopping Center on Saturday, Sept. 8.

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Renovation Transforms Split-Level
HOMELIFESTYLE, PAGE 11

Lee Takes Over as Churchill Quarterback
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Defeating Dystonia

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Club To Celebrate 40 Years of Service

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40 Years Of Service

Women's Club of
Potomac to celebrate
anniversary.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

A dedicated group of friends came together in 1972 to form an organization that would thoroughly enhance their lives — as well as the lives of countless citizens of Montgomery County. That group, the Women's Club of Potomac has grown from eight original founders to more than 50 members. They are still committed to the original club's goals — community service, education and fine arts — but over the years they have formed lasting friendships and donated thousands of hours as well as thousands of dollars to charities and projects within the community. The motto of the group is W-C-P, which not only stands for the Women's Club of Potomac, but also for Working, Caring and Participating. For 40 years, they have lived their motto and made the community a better place to live.

The founders were: Linda Simpson, Darlene Frank, Diane Hetherington, Joan Mason, Jeanine Mings, Judith Rose, Marie Smith and Betty Washenko. After many hours writing the by-laws and defining their goals, they joined the Montgomery County Federation of Women's Clubs and then they were off and running. They began volunteer work at the Thrift Shop, tutored English at Churchill high school, became involved in the Potomac Conservation Foundation, raised funds for the Children's Artificial Kidney and Kidney Transplant Center at Georgetown University Hospital and baked cookies for veterans at the Bethesda Naval Hospital. They also formed groups for social activities (book, bridge, needle-

SEE CLUB TO CELEBRATE, PAGE 4



Activity Rocket's Lisa Friedlander and Charlie Saunders.



Less Face It Sherry Weiss and customer Zoe Schaap.

Learning and Having Fun

Potomac Place Shopping Center, at the intersection of River and Fall roads, hosted a free back-to-school community

service event on Saturday, Sept. 8. Booths offered educational, safety and fun hands-on activities.



Sprinkles' Tom Orban and customer Parvin Mansouri.



Rad Orthodontics Brenda Villeda, Emily Alberts and Karen Schneider.



Shady Grove Adventist Hospital Aseeka Lamichhane, Maggie Kettleman and Valery Desdumes.



Mad Science Miriam Rust and Eduardo Hernandez.

Defeating Dystonia

6th annual event to
raise awareness and
research funds for
Dystonia.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Donna Driscoll is determined to win the fight of her life — against the life-altering disorder, Dystonia. For six years, the Potomac resident and her husband Tom have organized a golf and tennis tournament dedicated to raising Dystonia awareness as well as garnering funds for research to cure and prevent the neurological syndrome and movement disorder that she was afflicted with 10 years ago.

She had to retire from teaching, quit playing tennis and can no longer walk her dog around the block. She has difficulty in her daily living — such tasks as grocery shopping and navigating around her home are difficult and very tiring. There is presently no cure — but Driscoll states with resolve, "I am going to beat Dystonia. Researchers are making great strides and I am determined to raise enough money to solve the mysteries of this disease and find a cure. Through the generosity of caring individuals and businesses, our event earned \$25,000 for the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation (DMRF) last year, and we are hoping to raise even more this year."

The 6th Annual Dystonia Golf and Tennis Classic will be held on Monday, Sept. 24 at Bretton Woods Country Club, 15700 River Road, Potomac. The event will include a golf tournament, tennis tournament, awards reception, banquet, entertainment by the 19th Street Band, and silent and live auctions. Some of the auction items include

SEE EVENT SUPPORTS, PAGE 13

Public Invited to Police Equestrian Championships

Mounted police to
compete at county
fairgrounds.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Potomac equestrians, and those interested in the work of mounted police forces should plan to attend the 2012 North American Police Equestrian Championships on Sept. 29 and 30 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in

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Gaithersburg.

This two-day competition is designed to demonstrate the working partnership, trust and communication that officers develop with their horses in the interest of public safety. Admission and parking are free.

The competition will feature the Uniform, Equitation, and Obstacle divisions. More than 150 officers from across the U.S. and Canada will be coming to Montgomery County to compete. In addition to the competition, the NAPEC "Top Police Horse" will be honored with a Breyer model horse created in their likeness. The event is being jointly hosted by the Maryland National

Capital Park Police (Montgomery and Prince George's divisions) and the U.S. Park Police.

"We are hoping that the community will get actively involved," said Ellie Trueman, chair of the Development Committee for the 2012 NAPEC event and a Poolesville resident. "We have created a 'Host a Horse Hero' program which allows individuals to help sponsor a horse for \$30. We are struggling to get enough funding to provide a quality event and would like local corporate and individual sponsor support." Those who decide to "Host a Horse Hero" will have the opportunity to personally feed their spon-

sored horse carrots, apples and horse treats. They can also come to cheer on the officer and horse that they are paired with — and may be invited into the ring to award the ribbon if their horse wins. To "Host a Horse Hero, go to www.napecinc.org

Samantha Rubin of Potomac will be volunteering at the event. She has been riding since she was 3 years old and now competes in local equestrian events. The Churchill senior describes how she will be helping at the event: "As a volunteer I will give baskets of carrots and apples to the horses on Saturday as a part of the 'Host a

SEE POLICE EQUESTRIANS, PAGE 5

Program Designed to Halt Falls

Nearly 120,000 seniors lived in Montgomery County in 2010 and 3,294 calls were made to 911 due to falls by individuals more than 60 years old. People more than 80 years old accounted for nearly 2,100 of those calls, according to statistics from Montgomery County.

Preventable falls are the leading cause of injury-related emergency room visits and hospital admissions for Maryland residents over 65, according to County Executive Isiah Leggett, who was joined Monday, Sept. 10 by Fire Chief Richard Bowers and Susan Wranik, president of Grass Roots Organization for the Well-Being of Seniors (GROWS).

They highlighted a number of safety initiatives aimed at the county's growing population of seniors over the age of 65.

"Preventing a fall makes infinitely more sense than dealing with the consequences, financially and from the standpoint of quality of life," according to Wranik. "Agility, balance and coordination are the ABC's of healthy aging."

"Preventing falls among seniors is key to helping them stay healthy and enable them to live independently," said Leggett, in a press conference at the Executive Office Building.

"Seniors are among the most 'at risk' populations in the community," said Fire Chief Richard Bowers. Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service began a focused door-to-door outreach effort several years ago to connect and interact with residents to provide important safety information and address any potential home hazards and fall prevention.

The county has partnered with GROWS to promote educational activities and events throughout September, Falls Prevention Month.

A complete schedule of activities can be found on the county's website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov.

The county's Department of Health and Human Services and Recreation Department also sponsor classes that help seniors increase their strength and balance.

The Bone Builders Program began six years ago with four classes; 15 classes are scheduled throughout Montgomery County, including Potomac Community Library. See <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcg/calendar.html> and type in Bone Builders in the search function.

Gude Landfill Investigations

The Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Solid Waste Services will discuss recently completed and upcoming environmental investigations at the Gude Landfill at a public meeting Tuesday, Sept. 18, 7-8:30 p.m. at the Montgomery County Service Park Building, 16641 Crabbs Branch Way in Rockville.

The meeting will include a 30-minute presentation by Department of Environmental Protection followed by a 60-minute question and discussion forum open to community members.

The primary topics to be discussed include: landfill background, Waste Delineation Study and exchange of land with Park and Planning, Nature and Extent Study, an overview of the findings, and assessment of corrective measures.

Information on each of the topics is available in the Newsletters and Factsheets section on the Gude Landfill Remediation website. Visit <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/swstmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/solidwaste/facilities/gude/index.asp>

Crash Course in Planning

The Montgomery County Planning Department will host an Open House to teach citizens how it creates and plans communities.

Tour the headquarters, learn about the latest projects approved by the Planning Board, see what's planned for Montgomery County communities, talk with planners, and bring children for a "build-a-box-city" activity.

The Planning Smarter Open House is planned for Saturday, Oct. 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Park and Planning Headquarters, 8787 Georgia Avenue, in Silver Spring. See www.montgomeryplanning.org/planningsmarter

NEWS



The Women's Club of Potomac is celebrating 40 years of service to the community. Top row, from left, are Phyllis Warshauer, Ruth Zook, Edith Mueller, Carolyn Patterson, Joan Haller and Beverly Haass. Seated, from left, are founder Jeanine Mingos, president Mary Jane Morison and founder Joan Mason.

Club To Celebrate 40 Years

FROM PAGE 3

work, gourmet cooking and more) — and additionally they traveled together to visit historical sites. Along the way, they developed life-long friendships.

Over the years, the organization has continued to raise money for their Benevolence Fund. Since their founding, the group has donated more than \$200,000 to a variety of local causes. In 2012, they gave \$1,000 each to the Casey House, Fisher House, St. Martin's Soup Kitchen and the Montgomery College Summer Theater Scholarship Fund. The previous year, they donated to Bethesda Cares, Montgomery County Animal Shelter, Montgomery Hospice, Montgomery College Scholarship Fund, Fisher House and the Navy Seals Foundation. Some of the other recipients in past years have been the Potomac Community Center, Save the Bay, Ivymount School, USO, ALS Society, Lupus Foundation, Alzheimer's Foundation, Special Olympics and many more.

Former President, Phyllis Warshauer who served from 1981 – 1983 said, "A highlight during my presidency was our support of the Potomac Community Center. It was the first effort by the club to support a local Potomac organization. A proud moment for me was presenting a scholarship to a deaf student at the Maryland School for the Deaf."

Jan Phillips, president from 1996-97, explained her most meaningful projects: "An exciting activity this year was choosing a new Community Improvement Project. Centering on the theme, 'Cherish the Child,' we continued to support Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) student and again are offering financial aid to hearing impaired students. At the Ivymount School, we supported the summer schol-

arship fund, provided volunteer services and are purchasing an auditory trainer for the school."

Beverly Haass was president from 2007–2009 and from 2011–2012. Her fondest memory is of the Luncheon, Bridge and Game Day Fundraiser, "When I announced that we made over \$1,000, my heart skipped a beat as the room erupted with loud applause. Wow! I found out it was not only important to me but also to so many. What a wonderful feeling to have everyone be so supportive. Our interest in service to our community continues as we do the best we can to provide assistance to people in dire need."

This year's president, Mary Jane Morison, has chosen two goals: "I would like to increase our club membership to keep the organization alive and vibrant, and I want to enhance and build on WCP's basic foundation or Community Service. We will be hosting an art show in the spring as one of our primary fundraisers. We will continue to volunteer and take gifts to the Rockville Nursing Home and also volunteer at the Montgomery County Thrift Shop."

The organization is seeking new members. They meet on the third Thursday of each month (except February) at Lakewood Country Club at 11 a.m. for their meeting and lunch. Speakers and topics are presented at each meeting. This group is an opportunity to make new friends, join in many social activities (Bridge, Mexican Train, Mahjong, Book Club, Wine Tasting, outings and more) and to become involved in service to the community. To learn more, contact Mary Jane Morison at 240-558-3707 or by e-mail marjamo@comcast.net.

The club's anniversary celebration will be held at 11 a.m. on Sept. 20 at Bethesda Country Club.



PHOTO FROM WWW.NAPECINC.ORG

North American Police Equestrian Championships will be held Sept. 29-30.

Police Equestrians

FROM PAGE 3

Horse Hero' program. On Sunday, I will be passing out brochures and giving horseshoes to all the children coming to the event. I will also be working with other volunteers to help with the mini-seminars on horses and riding and with the pony rides. We are expecting many families, horse-lovers and people who want to see a very entertaining event and those wishing to show their support for the mounted police units. Anyone wishing to learn about horses and riding will find it a really great event too."

Sunday is "Families and Horses Day." In addition to the Obstacle competition, the day will feature mini-seminars and opportunities for riding and becoming involved with horses in our area. Children will have a chance to ride ponies, and enter coloring contests. A horse exerciser will be available to give adults the feel of riding with-

out actually getting on a live horse. A horse dentist will demonstrate caring for a horse's teeth, and a farrier will demonstrate how to put shoes on a horse.

"The planning for NAPEC 2012 has been ongoing for nearly a year," said Sergeant Rick Pelicano of the Maryland National Capital Park Police and chair of the 2012 NAPEC Organizing Committee. "There are many details, including the divisions, program, horse accommodations and course design and all have to be balanced with the budget which is dictated by contributions and sponsorship from the community. This economy has really dealt a blow to the event," said Pelicano. "We are hoping the community will come forward with support. And we certainly hope the community will come out to enjoy the two days of competition complete with activities that will interest and entertain all ages."

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 12

Journaling and Grief Workshop Miniseries. 6:30-8:30 p.m. A two-session workshop that will focus on grief issues. No previous experience with journaling necessary. Participants need to plan on attending both sessions. Led by professional counselors. Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Dr. Free. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 14

Crabtowne Combo. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Drop-in beginner swing lesson and the band plays two extended sets starting at 9. \$15. At the Bumper Car Pavilion in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd.

Balboa DJ Dance. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Drop-in beginner Balboa lesson and a DJ dance starting at 9 p.m. \$10. At the Backroom Annex at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 19

Networking Event. 4-6 p.m. The Potomac Chamber of Commerce

invites businesspeople to bring their business cards and enjoy conversation with other businesses in the area. At 10710 Falls Road. \$10 for Potomac Chamber Members; \$15 for non-members. Reservations can be placed at potomacchamber.org or call 301-299-2170. R.S.V.P. by Sept. 17.

Scouting Night. 7 p.m. Hosted by Cub Scouts Pack 773 of Potomac. At 9908 South Glen Rd. Email membership@potomacpack773.com, or visit www.PotomacPack773.com, or call 240-793-0175.

MONDAY/SEPT. 24

Afternoon Grief Support Group. 1-2:30 p.m. For anyone grieving the death of a loved one, a six-week group led by Montgomery Hospice professional counselors. Mondays, North Bethesda United Methodist Church, 10100 Old Georgetown Rd. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

Health Session. 2012 Pain Awareness Month Symposium "Hope, Help and Healing: Changing the Culture of Treating Chronic Pain." 8:30 a.m.-4:45p.m. For anyone with chronic pain and professionals. Active Military free. Fee and scholarships available. Call 301-231-0008 or visit www.painconnection.org.

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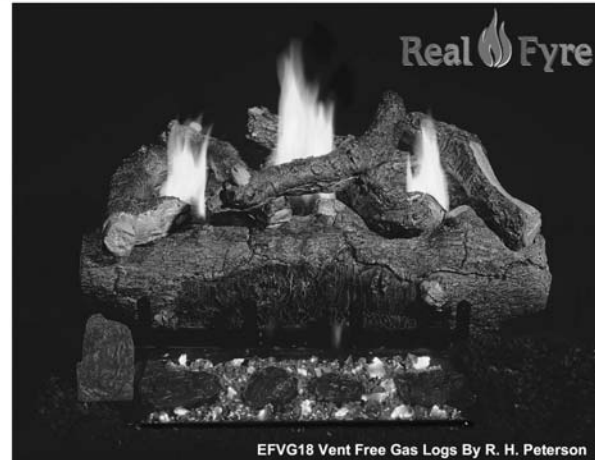
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Or reserve your spot online at www.potomacchamber.org

R.S.V.P. by September 17th, 2012

Bring your business cards and plenty of conversation!

If you would like to donate a door prize, please call Jennifer at the Chamber office.



OPINION

Remembering Those Lost on Sept. 11

Eleven years after terrorist attacks.

On Sept. 11, 2001, 9:37:46 a.m., American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon. The Pentagon's on-site firehouse responded immediately to the crash. Firefighters from nearby Reagan National Airport and Arlington County Fire Department arrived within minutes.

One-hundred-and-eighty-four lives were lost at the Pentagon that day. Nearly 3,000 people died that day in the nearly simultaneous attacks in Arlington, New York and Pennsylvania. Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 6,400 U.S. military service men and women have died in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The following list of people who lived in Connection Newspapers coverage area and died in the Sept. 11 2001 terrorist attacks, is compiled from multiple sources, including news reports, and is likely not complete. The Pentagon Memorial website offers photos and biographies of most people who died at the Pentagon. <http://pentagonmemorial.org/explore/biographies>

- ❖ Spc. Craig Amundson, 28, Fort Belvoir, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Lt. Col. Canfield D. Boone, 54, Clifton, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Charles Burlingame, 51, Herndon, employed by American Airlines, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Rosa Maria Chapa, 64, Springfield, employed by Defense Intelligence Agency, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Eddie A. Dillard, Alexandria, employed by Philip Morris, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Capt. Robert Edward Dolan, 43, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Navy, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Charles A. Droz III, 52, Springfield, employed by EM Solutions Inc., died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Gerald P. Fisher, 57, Potomac, Md., employed by Booz Allen Hamilton, died in Pentagon
- ❖ 1st Lt. (Ret.) Richard P. Gabriel Sr., 54, Great Falls, employed by Stratlin Consulting, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Diane M. Hale-McKinzy, 38, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon

- ❖ Stanley R. Hall, 68, Centreville, employed by Raytheon, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Brady K. Howell, 26, Arlington, employed by U.S. Navy, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Lt. Col. Stephen Neil Hyland Jr., 45, Burke, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Bryan C. Jack, 48, Alexandria, employed by Department of Defense, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Steven D. Jacoby, 43, Alexandria, employed by Metrocall, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Ann Judge, 49, Great Falls, employed by National Geographic Society, died on AA Flight 77

EDITORIAL

- ❖ Norma Cruz Khan, 45, Reston, Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Assn., died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Terence M. Lynch, 49, Alexandria, employed by Booz Allen Hamilton, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Ada L. Mason-Acker, 50, Springfield, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Maude, 53, Fort Myer, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Mark McGinly, 26, Vienna, employed by Carr Futures, died in World Trade Center
- ❖ Patricia E. Mickley, 41, Springfield, employed by Department of Defense, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Khang Ngoc Nguyen, 41, Fairfax, employed by Navy contractor, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Barbara K. Olson, 45, Great Falls, attorney, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Maj. Clifford L. Patterson Jr., 33, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Capt. Jack D. Panches, 51, Clifton, retired from U.S. Navy, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Lisa J. Raines, 42, Great Falls, employed by Genzyme Corp., died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Todd H. Reuben, 40, Potomac, Md., attorney, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Charles E. Sabin, 54, Burke, employed by Department of Defense, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Marjorie C. Salamone, 53, Springfield, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Cmdr. Robert Allan Schlegel, 38, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Navy, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Mark E. Schurmeier, 44, McLean, employed by Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp., died in World Trade Center
- ❖ Janice M. Scott, 46, Springfield, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Michael L. Selves, 53, Fairfax, employed



PHOTO BY PAM BROOKS

- by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Diane M. Simmons, Great Falls, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ George W. Simmons, Great Falls, retired from Xerox, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Lt. Col. Gary F. Smith, 55, Alexandria, retired U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Norma Lang Steuerle, 54, Alexandria, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Lt. Col. Kip P. Taylor, 38, McLean, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Leonard E. Taylor, 44, Reston, employed by XonTech Inc., died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Sandra C. Taylor, 50, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Sandra D. Teague, 31, Fairfax, employed by Georgetown University Hospital, died on AA Flight 77
- ❖ Karl W. Teepe, 57, Centreville, employed by Defense Information Agency, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Meta L. Waller, 60, Alexandria, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Ernest M. Willcher, 62, North Potomac, Md., employed by Booz-Allen Hamilton Inc. died in Pentagon
- ❖ Maj. Dwayne Williams, 40, Lorton, employed by U.S. Army, died in Pentagon
- ❖ Vicki C. Yancey, 43, Springfield, employed by Vredenburg Co., died on AA Flight 77.

A Chance to Re-examine Brickyard School Site

BY GINNY BARNES

During this long, hot summer as the corn and soybeans grew and ripened as they have for over 30 years at Nick's Organic Farm, a series of events played out in the Circuit Court, at the State House in Annapolis and at the County Board of Education that have weakened plans for a soccer complex on Brickyard Road. On Aug. 12, Gov. Martin O'Malley sent a letter to County Executive Leggett and Board of Education President Shirley Brandman that begins with "I believe we are about to make a big mistake in destroy-

ing acres of productive organic farmland which could be a priceless asset to the education, health and well being of generations of Montgomery students." The letter went on to praise the vision and virtues of a

COMMENTARY

Brickyard Educational Farm, already teaching school children about organic farming, looking to supply organic produce for school lunches, offering field trips and eventually a Beginning Farmer program. His eloquence about the potential of the farm was worthy of American poet and agrarian philosopher Wendell Berry who has also written in

support of Educational Farm founder Sophia Maravell's proposal.

Two days later, on Aug. 14, the Circuit Court ordered a Stay of the July 24, 2012 decision by the State Board of Education to affirm a lease to the county which also Stays the March 8, 2011 decision of the local Board of Education, thus prohibiting it from carrying out its land lease agreement, dated April 19, 2011 with Montgomery County. A virtual cheer went up in the courtroom. Scores of press attended. In granting the Stay, Judge Greenberg clearly

SEE BRICKYARD, PAGE 7

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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Brickyard

FROM PAGE 6

the value and fragility of 30 years of organically tilled soil.

On the same day, just an hour later in a nearby courtroom, another Circuit Court Judge ordered the county to turn over documents requested by the Brickyard Coalition nine months ago and already court ordered in July: Documents that had still not been produced. Hopefully, these elusive records will fill gaps in the unknown story of how

such a secretive process took place without the public knowing until it was too late to alter except through the courts. How did the Montgomery County Board of Education come to think this was a good idea in the first place? And, if it was such a good idea, why was the decision about the site not played out in an open, publicly transparent process?

Just three days after the Stay, on Aug. 17, Superintendent of Schools Joshua Starr sent a harshly worded letter to farmer Nick Maravell declaring he had no right to occupy the Brickyard Road property, allowing access to the land only to harvest the

existing crops and shutting off all on site farm educational activities for school children or anybody else. The odd juxtaposition of the two letters; one from a state politician passionately advocating for farm education and the other from our school superintendent putting a stop to it is indicative of the contentious nature of this long 18-month saga for the Brickyard School site, the neighborhood surrounding it, and the organic ideal in a farm the Potomac community has come to embrace. A saga that speaks again and again to the need to start over. Superintendent Starr cannot be happy having to write such a letter — a letter re-

sulting from a decision in which he had no part. Governor O'Malley shouldn't have to plead for educational initiatives that may appear to have him meddling in local politics. But, now we have a Stay which stands until the case is heard in Circuit Court on the merits. That hearing has yet to be set. We have a moment to reflect and for all intents and purposes, the school site has reverted to the Board of Education.

A lot of money has gone into administrative and legal challenges on all sides. The School Board alone has spent over

SEE BRICKYARD, PAGE 7

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Swimming Pool Trends

As summer nears (or even when its balmy memory is keeping you warm in wintertime), the thoughts of many homeowners turn to thoughts of lounging by the pool and ways to improve the overall ambiance of your pool area. Both traditional, in-ground pools and more cost-effective, above-ground options are both choices that add hours of endless enjoyment to a home while you're living in it, and dollar value to homes on the market. For both options, there are any number of ways to spruce up the pool area of a home on the market, making it ever more appealing to the prospective buyer. When it comes to decking material, paving stones are an option that is fast-growing in popularity. Industry professionals cite some of the advantages to paving stones as their ability to outperform, outlast and outshine mortar set in stone, grass, wood, concrete and brick when it comes to flexibility, durability and strength. Paving stones are available in a variety of colors and sizes, lay well if installed properly and are less susceptible to shifting, sagging, cracking and separating. Above-ground pools, like traditional in-ground pools, should also consider adding decking and fencing to the above ground pool unit—with just a few minor upgrades that are cost-efficient, your affordable pool option can add untold value to your home's asking price. Once you've taken the time to invest in the appearance and function of your pool area, not only do you have the coolest place to spend your hottest months, but you've got a sizzling feature to display to buyers when your home hits the market!

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

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Happening Now In A Park Near You: Bow Hunting in Fairfax County Parks



- > Should families, hikers, joggers, cyclists, dog walkers & other park visitors have to dodge arrows intended to kill wildlife for 5 months each year?
- > Should Fairfax County waste our tax dollars on ineffective lethal "deer control" when proven effective humane methods exist?
- > Should hunters be allowed in our parks to exacerbate deer-vehicle collisions, which increase when deer flee in fear from danger?
- > Should we have to witness suffering, dying, or dead deer in our parks or surrounding neighborhoods?
- > Should animals be subjected to suffering & slow death when humane methods exist?

> Should Fairfax County cater to bow hunting special interest groups OR fairly represent the interests of our 1.3 million residents?

Fairfax County has mismanaged the deer issue & used our tax dollars for a one-sided, useless, lethal program for decades. The results? **INEFFECTIVE. FAILURE. WASTED TAX \$\$\$.**

There are numerous proven effective alternatives that the County has not pursued:

4-poster bait stations, roadside deer warning systems, wildlife migratory passages, fencing/barriers, herding methods, immunocontraception, etc.

Please contact your representatives & demand responsible, efficient, sustainable, & humane solutions!

Chair	Sharon Bulova	703-324-2321
Mason District	Penelope Gross	703-256-7717
Braddock District	John Cook	703-425-9300
Mount Vernon District	Gerald Hyland	703-780-7518
Dranesville District	John Foust	703-356-0551
Providence District	Linda Smyth	703-560-6946
Hunter Mill District	Catherine Hudgins	703-478-0283
Springfield District	Pat Herrity	703-451-8873
Lee District	Jeff McKay	703-971-6262
Sully District	Michael Frey	703-814-7100



Deer are not killed quickly by arrows. Studies show that death takes many hours. If this is not acceptable for companion animals, why is it acceptable for wild animals?



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PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER PIPER

Narrator Christian Beltran in "Carnival of the Animals."

'Carnival of the Animals' Onstage at Glen Echo Park

On Sept. 21, 2012, the Puppet Co. presents guest artist Bob Brown Puppets' "Carnival of the Animals." This "grand zoological fantasy" brings Camille Saint-Saëns' musical suite to life with bunraku-style puppetry and musical jokes that will entertain and captivate both children and adults.

Bob and Judy Brown, of Bob Brown Puppets, created this production more than 20 years ago with local puppeteer Don Becker and former Puppet Co. employee John McAnistan. The team created this production to perform with symphonies, and they have toured throughout the U.S. and Canada, as well as overseas in Singapore. Brown was influenced by Bil Baird's production of "Carnival of the Animals" that Brown saw when he was 19 years old.

Brown and Christopher Piper, artistic director of the Puppet Co., will take the stage together for the first time in more than 30 years. Piper worked for Bob Brown Puppets in 1957, continuing for several years until they went on to separate endeavors. Brown

is now the guest artist for the Tiny Tots program at the Puppet Co., of which Piper is a co-founder.

"Carnival of the Animals" will also be the first bilingual production at the Puppet Co. Narrator Christian Beltran will integrate English and Spanish.

This is a bunraku-style puppet show, a Japanese term for black theater, in which the audience cannot see the puppeteers manipulating the life-size puppets. There are also rod puppets and marionettes. The story unfolds as a young boy, giving up on his piano practice, crawls into bed and falls asleep clutching his stuffed lion. "Carnival of the Animals" plays from his radio, and the toys in his room come to life as various themes play.

The Puppet Co. is a non-profit organization producing Puppet Theater, especially for children, as an art form synthesizing the visual and performing arts. Hand puppets, rod puppets, marionettes and shadow puppets are used in the fully staged productions of the traditional and original stories that comprise its ever-growing repertory.

Details

Carnival of the Animals
Sept. 21 – Oct. 7, 2012
Fridays at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.
Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.
\$10 Adults and Children. Group rates available.
Call 301-634-5380 or visit www.thepuppetco.org.
Running time is 40 minutes and recommended for PreK – Grade 4.

Middle Eastern Bazaar Opens Sept. 21

Saints Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, in Potomac, will host its 29th annual Middle Eastern Bazaar and Food Festival the weekend of Sept. 21-23.

Middle Eastern delicacies on the menu will include grilled lamb, kibbee, tabouleh, hummus, gyros, falafel, spinach pies, baklava and a variety of other traditional dishes. Both dine-in and carry-out food and pastries will be available for sale.

The bazaar will also feature live Arabic music on Saturday evening until 10:30

p.m.; raffles; jewelry booths; international groceries; religious items; and children's activities. Tours of Saints Peter and Paul, a Byzantine-style church, will also be provided, for those interested.

Saints Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church is located at 10620 River Road. The hours of operation will be Friday, Sept. 21 from 4 to 9 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 22, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and on Sunday, Sept. 23, from noon to 4 p.m. Call 301-765-9188 or visit www.peterpaul.net.



'The Figure ... Four Perspectives'

Bonny Lundy, Anne Snyder, Paul Tooley and Don Srull will present drawings, paintings, watercolors and gestures of the figure at the Yellow Barn Gallery, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 15 and 16, 2012, from noon-5 p.m. An opening reception in the Yellow Barn Gallery will be held for the artists Saturday, Sept. 15 from 6-8 p.m. Contact Yellow Barn Gallery at 301-371-5593 or 301-466-6344 or the National Park Service at Glen Echo, 301-492-6229.

Email community entertainment events to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos and artwork encouraged.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 18

Church Concert. 7:30 p.m. The Ecclesiastical Choir of St Romanos the Melodist from the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of Beirut will perform Byzantine Liturgical Music at Saints Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, 10620 River Rd. To reserve tickets, call 301-765-9188. Donation \$20 per ticket. Children 18 and under are free.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 21

Annual Bazaar. Saints Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church 10620 River Rd. Visit www.peterpaul.net or call 301-765-9188.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 22

Swing Dancing. 9 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$15. One-hour lesson from 8 to 9 p.m. With the Tom

Cunningham Orchestra. At Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Visit www.tomcunningham.com/calendar.

Annual Bazaar. Saints Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church 10620 River Rd. Visit www.peterpaul.net or call 301-765-9188.

Free Workshop: Learning about Your New Dog. Your Dog's Friend Training Center, 12221 Parklawn Drive, 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. An expert trainer will discuss common issues that new dog adopters face. Please leave your dog at home. To register, visit www.yourdogfriend.info or call 301-983-5913.

Puppet Show: "Penguins' Playground." 10 a.m. \$5 for everyone. Reservations strongly recommended. Call 301-634-5380 or visit www.thepuppetco.org. The show will be 30 minutes. Age 0-4.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 23

Annual Bazaar. Saints Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church 10620 River Rd. Visit www.peterpaul.net.

or call 301-765-9188.

Free Gym Classes. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Families and children are welcome to learn more about My Gym classes, parties, camps and more. Deals and specials are available for those who sign up during the Open Houses. Enrolled members welcome at Open Houses with a non-member friend. Socks are required for the grown-ups.

Puppet Show: "Clowning Around." 10 a.m. \$5 for everyone. Reservations strongly recommended. Call 301-634-5380 or visit www.thepuppetco.org. The show will be 30 minutes. Age 0-4.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 27

Frédéric Yonnet, Urban Jazz Harmonicist. 7:30 p.m. Ticket \$30. French-born Yonnet takes the harmonica in unexpected directions, adapting it to gospel, R&B and jazz with nuances of hip-hop. At Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike. Call 301-581-5100 or visit www.strathmore.org.

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PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

IN JULY 2012, 47 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN \$3,275,000-\$410,000.

July 2012 Top Sales



1 9206 Belmart Road, Potomac — \$3,275,000



2 8805 Twin Creek Court, Potomac — \$2,500,000



3 10839 Pleasant Hill Drive, Potomac — \$2,350,000



12500 Park Potomac Avenue, Potomac

5 #702S — \$1,725,000

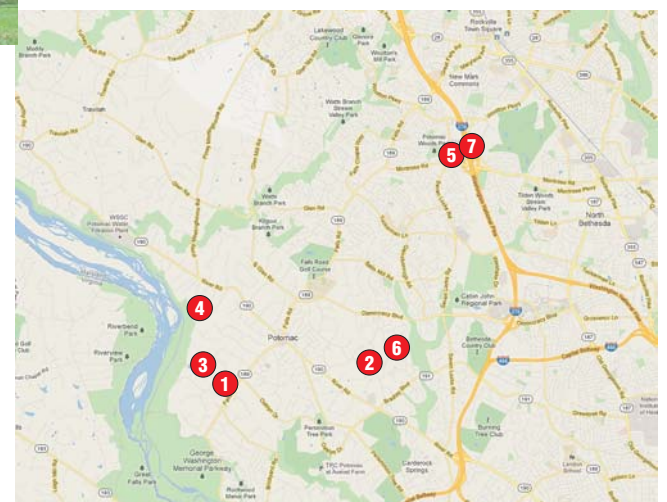
7 #707 — \$1,699,900



6 8605 White Post Court, Potomac — \$1,700,000



4 9900 River View Court, Potomac — \$2,050,000



© Google Map data

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 9206 BELMART RD	5	4	3	POTOMAC	\$3,275,000	Detached	3.30	20854	POTOMAC FALLS	07/30/12
2 8805 TWIN CREEK CT	6	6	3	POTOMAC	\$2,500,000	Detached	2.00	20854	FALCONHURST	07/16/12
3 10839 PLEASANT HILL DR	6	6	1	POTOMAC	\$2,350,000	Detached	2.09	20854	POTOMAC FALLS	07/24/12
4 9900 RIVER VIEW CT	6	7	2	POTOMAC	\$2,050,000	Detached	1.94	20854	MARWOOD	07/09/12
5 12500 PARK POTOMAC AVE#702S	3	3	1	POTOMAC	\$1,725,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		20854	PARK POTOMAC	07/31/12
6 8605 WHITE POST CT	5	4	1	POTOMAC	\$1,700,000	Detached	0.48	20854	MCAULEY PARK	07/10/12
7 12500 PARK POTOMAC AVE#707	3	3	1	POTOMAC	\$1,699,900	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		20854	PARK POTOMAC	07/31/12

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Architect Paul Gaiser's solution adds living space and connectedness to a setting that includes a pool and tennis court. Shingle-style cladding and fine detailing help to curb the massing effect inherent in a large-scale home.

Renovation Transforms Split-Level

Warren of walls and small rooms grows into an open Nantucket Shingle-style home.

BY JOHN BYRD

Converting a "split-level" into a form and style that suits a 21st century family has become one of the more compelling challenges in the recent literature of architectural remodeling. When the style was introduced in the 1950s, it was seen as an intelligent way to organize the basic functions of a home. To contemporary sensibilities, however, its inherent "boxiness" seems notably dated, if not anachronistic. Restricted window size, low-ceilings and too many walls are among perceived limitations.

But what to do? That was the question confronting a Potomac couple after purchasing a circa-1980s

six-bedroom split level on Persimmon Tree Road.

With its sprawling lot, pool and tennis court, the house had much to offer an energetic family of four that included two small sons. Unfortunately, the house itself failed to take advantage of an extraordinary setting, and the interior just didn't serve.

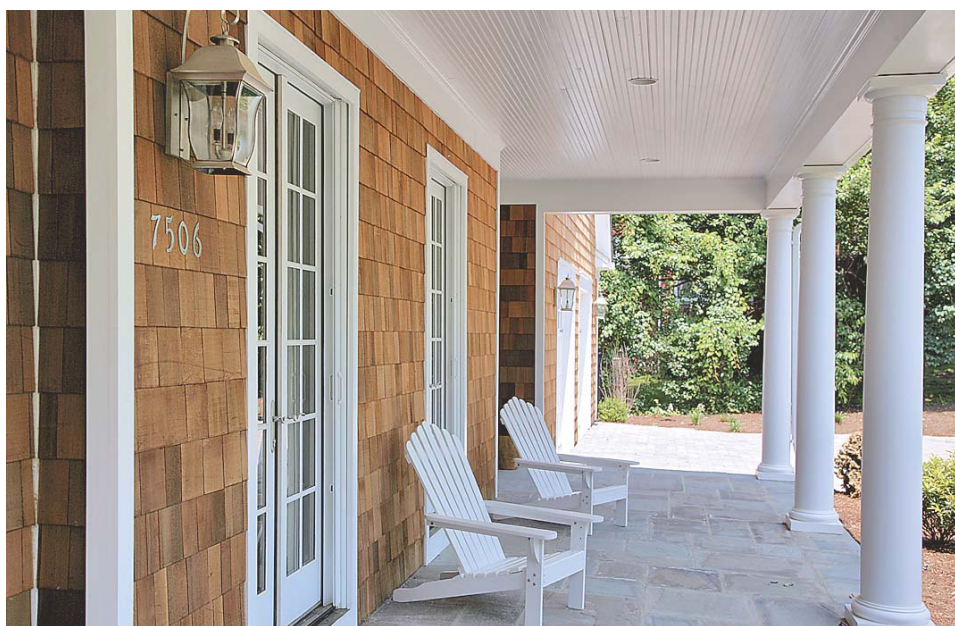
For starters, the existing plan concentrated the main bedrooms on the top level of a two-level front-facing gable located on the far left side of the front elevation.

The arrangement offered the requisite needed privacies, but was also space-restricted with limited natural light. A rear sunroom added in an earlier remodel featured an adjunct side-facing greenhouse — though, curiously, this addendum only further reduced visual linkage to the otherwise enviable lot.

Overall, glazing apertures on the entire rear elevation were less-than-generous, a design characteristic that made the primary living suite — which included a dining room, kitchen and breakfast room — too dark.

More importantly, the interior itself was dated and

SEE WARREN OF WALLS, PAGE 12



Cozy cottage-like spaces set the tone for a welcoming ambiance that develops throughout the new interior.

PHOTOS BY KEN WYNER

OPEN HOUSES IN POTOMAC SEPTEMBER 15 & 16

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 and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times

Bethesda (20817)

8906 Transue Dr.....\$820,000.....Sun 1-4.....Morgan Knull..202-431-9867.....RE/MAX
6428 Hollins Dr.....\$675,000..Sun 1-3:30...Leon Hasnain..240-295-6000.....RE/MAX

Potomac (20854)

9225 Cambridge Manor Ct..\$1,520,000.....Sun 12-3.....Cindy Souza..301-493-9878..Long & Foster
8163 Inverness Ridge Rd.....\$512,500.....Sun 1-3.....Mary DeRose..301-637-9762.....RE/MAX

Rockville (20850)

9908 Sunset Dr.....\$939,000.....Sun 1-4.....Helen Griffins..301-718-4080.....Weichert
104 Wickwood Dr.....\$865,000.....Sat 1-4..Michael Austin..301-548-9700..Long & Foster
3 Eton Overlook.....\$825,000.....Sun 1-4.....Mark Dosik..202-543-7283.....Federal City

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By removing both the floor and the dropped ceiling in the original family room, Gaiser converted an oppressively low 8 feet of head room into a commanding 12-foot expanse. Casement windows and a triple set of French doors allow for ample natural light.



The home's new entrance affords a striking front-to-back focal point centered on the breakfast table and the wide back yard beyond.

PHOTOS BY KEN WINNER

Warren of Walls and Small Rooms Transforms

FROM PAGE 11

undistinguished. The 8-foot “hung” ceiling in a family room four steps down from the foyer made the space feel too closed-in. A warren of adjacent lower level rooms (which included a laundry, an office and two small bedrooms) seemed rambling and poorly rationalized.

“It wasn’t simply that the owners wanted more living area and natural light,” said Paul Gaiser, AIA, the architect whom the couple hired to execute a more contemporary vision, “they were also looking for a more sharply articulated interior, and an indoor/outdoor configuration suitable to both family and entertainment requirements.”

So Gaiser’s first order of business was rethinking the first level footprint and designing an entirely new second level above the main wing.

Overall, the makeover adds 2,320 square feet — 720 to the first level and 1,600 to the second level. More pointedly, the new plan deletes 18 linear feet of rear elevation bearing wall — shifting new second floor loads to discretely integrated structural supports — while adding more than 500 square feet of new living area to the right side of the house

The existing sunroom is, likewise, eliminated — making way for a new footprint that accommodates a significantly enlarged family room, and a sweeping master bedroom suite one floor above.

THE FIRST LEVEL SOLUTION introduces an “open” plan that persistently develops a dramatic indoor/outdoor continuum. Relocating the new foyer into the center of the revised first floor layout, the architect allocated space for two front-facing formal rooms — a dining room and a music room — on either side of a two-level new entrance. Entering the house, visitors are treated to a front-to-back focal point centered on the breakfast table and the wide back yard beyond.



Gaiser removed a bearing wall to introduce an open floor plan. The kitchen, breakfast room and a new sitting room now form a back-of-the-house suite.

Details

Paul Gaiser is architect and team leader at Landis Construction. The firm periodically provides workshops on home remodeling topics. Call 202-726-377 or visit www.landisconstruction.com.

The new rear suite of rooms — kitchen, breakfast room and den — are nicely delineated, yet visually interactive, an arrangement that draws dramatic power from the rolling landscape.

The kitchen/breakfast suite, in turn, segues to the skillfully re-designed family room, which is generously expanded both up and out.

By removing both the original floor and the dropped ceiling, Gaiser converted an oppressively low 8 feet of head room into a commanding 12-foot expanse — coaxing the eye upward with accentuated molding and a triple set of French windows that now

open onto an elegantly covered porch.

As a design statement, the new interior is spacious, yet warm — flanked by a winning backyard view, and a floor-to-ceiling flagstone hearth set off by casement windows.

A mid-house interior hallway — bypassing the kitchen suite — enables family and guests to access front rooms without disturbing the peace of rear-house gathering spots. On the other hand, the plan readily supports traffic requirements for a fete of almost any size, providing cozy spots for an out-of-the-way sit-down that, at one’s discretion, easily re-engage into the mingle.

ALONG THESE LINES, the home’s wholly new second floor increases privacy potentials exponentially, a luxury fully supported by the inclusion of a new back stairway linking the children’s half of the top floor to

the kitchen and a back exit to the pool.

The top level of the original two-level block, in turn, now features a rear-facing master bedroom suite that includes a dedicated balcony visually linked to the 18th hole at Congressional Country Club. One can enter a 250-square foot walk-in closet from the bedroom or the master bath, which includes a walk-in shower and a whirlpool bath on a raised marble platform.

Architecturally, Gaiser evoked details often associated with older shingle-style homes found in Nantucket and Long Island. Despite a considerable increase in mass, the new home seems intimate, cozy, traditional. A screened porch on the west side of the redesigned rear elevation functions as an “away room,” Gaiser said — a perfect indoor/outdoor transitional zone and a very popular gathering place weather permitting.

Event Supports Dystonia Research

FROM PAGE 3

two airline tickets to a U.S. destination, two nights at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas with tickets to Shania Twain (recently diagnosed with Dystonia in her vocal chords), vacations in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, Hollywood, Fla. and Ft. Myers, a wine auction and rugs by Parvizian. Creative gift baskets have been donated by corporations and supporters. People who cannot make the golf/tennis event are encouraged to come for the dinner and festivities.

Dr. Mark Hallett, senior investigator at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will be presented with the Humanitarian Award. Hallett is currently chief of the Medical Neurology Branch and chief of the Human Motor Control Section. Hallett's award-winning research into Dystonia has included clinical trials and the search for physiological insights into therapies.

According to Janet Hieshetter, executive director of DMRF, "The Dystonia Medical Research Foundation is pleased to honor Dr. Hallett and recognizes the contributions of this very special man who has not only been a major contributor to dystonia research, but who is one of the most compassionate, caring physicians working in this community." Hallett was one of the first doctors to help Donna Driscoll after her initial diagnosis. He is world-renown in the area of movement disorders.

According to the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation website www.dystonia-foundation.org: "Dystonia is the third most common movement disorder following essential tremor and Parkinson's disease. It is a disorder that causes the muscles in the body to contract or spasm involuntarily. These muscle contractions force the body into twisting, repetitive movements and abnormal postures. It may affect a specific part of the body such as the legs, arms, neck, face, eyes and vocal cords or affect several major muscle groups simultaneously. There are multiple forms of dystonia and dozens of diseases and conditions include dystonia as a major symptom. It affects



Tom and Donna Driscoll

no fewer than 300,000 men, women and children in the U.S. and Canada."

Donna and Tom Driscoll want to be certain that the public is aware that they can sponsor a wounded warrior to play in the tournament. Donna Driscoll said, "Our servicemen and women are returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with traumatic brain injuries. Dystonia is brought on by trauma to the brain – and now the Department of Defense realizes that more and more servicemen and women are returning with this disorder. Golf is healing to our servicemen and women, so we are hoping that people will step up to sponsor a wounded warrior to play."

Some of the funds from this year's event will be dedicated to sending a family with a child diagnosed with Dystonia to Children's Advocacy Day in Chicago, sponsored by the DMRF. Registration for the golf tournament will begin at 10 a.m. and for the tennis tournament at 1 p.m. The awards reception will be held at 5 p.m., and the banquet will begin at 6 p.m. The cost for golf is \$250, tennis, \$110 and banquet/entertainment \$100. For more information or to register, contact Tom Driscoll at 202-285-9103, by email tom_driscoll2@verizon.net, or go to www.dystoniagolfclassic.com.

Brickyard

FROM PAGE 7

\$160,000 on legal fees. Now is the right time for the Board of Education to end this situation, take back the land and start over with a transparent process to decide the best use if any, for the site. A process that includes the public and actually furthers the kind of education that aligns with State priorities, including the Agricultural Literacy Program and the Farm to

School Program. Let's take seriously the requirements of "No Child Left Inside." Let's consider something that honors the 30-year building of organic soil. And please, let's do it before any more expensive, ugly and damaging lawsuits are filed.

Ginny Barnes is Environmental Chair and President Elect of West Montgomery County Citizens Association (WMCCA), which is an organizational member of the Brickyard Coalition. She attended the meeting on Aug. 6 with Governor O'Malley and others that led to his letter supporting the Brickyard Educational Farm vision.

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Trip Without a Fall



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Recently, for the first time in nearly two years, I took a trip without having my car. Significant to me in that not "having my car" meant not being able to transport/have all my cancer things. And by "things" I mean all the not-prescribed-by-my-oncologist supplements I have assimilated into my treatment regimen. "Things" that are not particularly well-suited or even allowed on an airplane; impractical, but allowed on most other public conveyances, however. Specifically, I refer to gallon containers of my alkaline water (100 oz. per day), pureed asparagus which I refrigerate and "tablespoon" eight portions of a day, organic apple cider (32 oz. bottle) from which I mix a tablespoon in with my alkaline water twice a day, Green Tea extract – another liquid from which I "drop" 4 mL per day, and baking soda (I don't want to bring white powder onto a plane) which I mix with my alkaline water once a day, typically washing down my 10 raw almonds and pancreatic enzyme pill. All part of a routine I have maintained rather assiduously ever since I was diagnosed with stage IV non-small cell lung cancer back in late February, 2009.

Given the fact that I am alive and still writing three and a half years after receiving a "13-month to two-year prognosis," it is a routine which presumably has contributed something (along with the standard "lines" of chemotherapy with which I have been infused and now on to an oral medication) to my amazing survivability (median life expectancy for my type of cancer is eight months; 10 percent survive beyond 5 years). And so, any time the opportunity or even suggestion has been made for me to travel away from home, where the logistics of getting to and from would have prevented me from being able to have my cancer "things," it has been met with very little enthusiasm – by yours truly. I don't know which I've feared the most: starting chemotherapy in early March 2009 or stopping any of the routine I described in the previous paragraph, a routine I truly believe has contributed positively to my overall health. (And there will be no backsliding, either. Perhaps a few modifications. I do remain open to suggestions.)

Nevertheless, a unique set of circumstances presented themselves in July (an invite, actually) and so I decided to fly with my wife, Dina, to Bozeman, Mt. to spend a weekend with a family – the Knights (former teachers from her high school, along with their three sons,) and a close friend, Jeff (from Pensacola, FL who was traveling with his wife, Sherril), all of whom (save for Sherril) have been major influences in Dina's life, but due to time and distance had rarely been seen over the years. I certainly didn't anticipate dying on the trip simply because I wouldn't be able to drink my normal 100 oz. of alkaline water, with or without all my magic ingredients. However, breaking my routine does give me pause.

And this was the first 'pause' in a long time. And I was anxious, and afraid. But no, I wasn't second-guessing myself. However, I was looking forward to returning home afterward and resuming my drinking (you know what I mean). But given what the reunion (of sorts) meant to Dina, and knowing – from previous first-hand experience, the quality of the individuals involved, we bought the tickets and away we went.

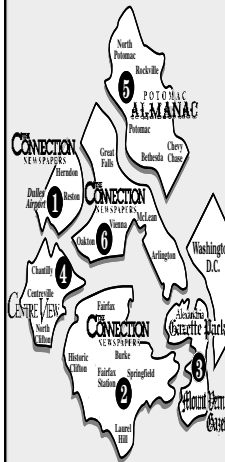
To say that the trip exceeded my expectations would be disparaging to any and all "expectations." I had a great time. My wife, Dina, had a great time. And most importantly, Kenny-with-cancer (one of my handles, unfortunately) had a great time, one I will remember for years to come. The Knights were beyond gracious and hospitable. Jeff, Dina's friend from high school and his wife were super cool. Montana was magnificent and my routine wasn't so routine. I survived just fine. I suppose now I'll have to live with the consequences of my actions. In fact, I'm counting on it.

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

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Jonathan Lee is in his first season as the Churchill football program's starting varsity quarterback.



Blake Dove carries the ball for the Churchill football team against Whitman on Sept. 7.



Malik Harris and the Churchill football team defeated Whitman on Sept. 7.

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Lee Takes Over at Quarterback for Churchill Football Team

Bulldogs improve to 2-0 with victory against Whitman.

BY BEN FOX
FOR THE ALMANAC

The Churchill football team has gotten off to a great start this season, with two commanding wins over Kennedy, 34-0, and division rival Whitman, 33-9. Though the wins have largely been a team effort, senior quarterback Jonathan Lee, who replaced the now-graduated Lansana Kieta, made his presence especially felt in the first two games of 2012.

According to Lee, who was the backup QB last season as junior, there are both advantages and disadvantages to being a starter.

"It feels great to be the starting quarterback, but there's also the added pressure of having to run the offense efficiently and lead the team to a victory," Lee said. "Now that I am starting I have to be more attentive during film sessions and more serious during practices."

Lee seems to have handled the pressure

well so far, and has proven to be a threat in both the running and passing games. The quarterback rushed for 117 yards on 10 attempts in Churchill's Aug. 31 season opener against Kennedy, scoring two touchdowns and leading all Bulldogs in total rushing yards.

"We run a triple option offense, so it allows the quarterback to be able to get a chance to run the ball," Lee said. "Because of the way Kennedy played their defense, I was able to run the ball for a lot of yards."

Lee's success continued into the Bulldogs' Sept. 7 game against Whitman, this time through the passing game.

He threw for 145 yards and two touchdowns, one to junior running back Malik Harris and the other to senior wide receiver Dominique Williams. Lee also ran for one

touchdown.

"I depend on Dominique most during the games because he's experienced, having been on varsity for three years, and he's one of the biggest playmakers we have on the team," Lee said.

"We definitely have a chance to make it [further] in the playoffs this season because on offense we have much more talent than we did last year. Our defense, which was one of the top defenses last year, is just as good, if not better, than last year's."

— Churchill quarterback Jonathan Lee

Though a strong quarterback is key in football, it is not the only thing that leads to success. According to senior wide receiver and defensive back Joe Nolan, who picked off a Whitman pass for Churchill's first score of the game, team chemistry has played a major role in their

early season accomplishments.

"Last year we were more a collection of individuals than a team," Nolan said. "We had a lot of talent and size on the line, but I think what held us back was individuals playing for themselves, not the team. This

year we are smaller, but that has only made us meld together as a team more, and because of this we are much more intense and focused."

Though last year the Bulldogs lost in the regional finals after a close game with rival Quince Orchard, Nolan thinks that this year's team can go much further.

"Though our offense has started off a little slow, when it all comes together and becomes second nature to us, the combination of our offense and impenetrable defense will be unstoppable," Nolan said.

Lee believes playoff success will be because of improvements on offense and continued excellence on defense.

"We definitely have a chance to make it farther in the playoffs this season because on offense we have much more talent than we did last year," Lee said.

"Our defense, which was one of the top defenses last year, is just as good, if not better, than last year's."

This mentality is also present outside the Bulldogs' locker room. Opposing teams and coaches, including Whitman coach Jim Kuhn, have noticed the Churchill squad as one to watch out for this season.

"They're a very young, talented team," Kuhn said. "They had a great season last year, and it looks like they're trying to continue that this year."

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