

Officer Bob Ladany dresses up each year as Santa and rides his Harley throughout Montgomery County, escorted by Mrs. Claus, his elves and 40 uniformed officers. They were collecting donations for The Children's Inn at the National Institutes for Health.

Potomac ALMANAC



On a Mission

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PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC



Bullis student Ethan Copeland founded “Good-Hearted” three years ago to help the homeless.



Bullis’ Luke Schumacher and his buddy Jackson write a letter to a homeless person.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC



Anna Segal and her buddy George give the project to help the homeless a “Thumbs-up.”

Diener Students and Bullis Buddies Give Back

Project helps the homeless.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

“It’s nice helping homeless people and it really gives me something to smile about,” said Bullis 5th grade student Dillon Malkani. He and his

fellow classmates have served as “Bullis Buddies” since the beginning of the school year to students at The Diener School — a school which serves children with learning challenges.

Bullis students share time and learning projects with their Diener

buddies twice a month. “I love coming over to Diener because I like to hang with my buddy friend and do the activities. It’s so much fun,” said Anna Segal. Diener’s Head of School Lois McCabe said, “The program is a wonderful partnership with Bullis. The Bullis students are extremely invested in our kids and there is a very big

connect. Each 5th grade student is paired with one of our students for the entire year and the relationship nearly always becomes a wonderful, supportive friendship that continues for many years.”

On Wednesday, Dec. 16, “Bullis Buddies” spent the morning helping their Diener buddies understand the value of giving back and doing something for someone who is needy. Each Diener student wrote a letter to a homeless person and helped with filling 40 backpacks with essentials including toiletries, men’s gloves, hats, breakfast bars, water and more. The backpacks were given to Bethesda Cares, a program that is radiating the homeless in Montgomery County. Besides partnering with Bethesda Cares, Bullis is also partnering with “Good-Hearted,” a non-profit founded by Bullis student Ethan Copeland three years ago.

Copeland said, “I was living in California and I couldn’t walk down the street without seeing at least 10 homeless people. I felt a huge sympathy for their hunger and living situations — I and wanted to do something to help them. I started ‘Good-Hearted’ to provide bags of food to those in need. In the last three years, we have helped 400 people.” Copeland addressed the older Diener students and explained how “Good-Hearted” has changed lives and the importance of student service.

“The Bullis Buddies program gives our children the chance to communicate with other children and teaches them how good it feels when someone is nice to you and you are nice back,” said McCabe. “It is a wonderful program that builds self-esteem and teaches how important and accepting even



Peyton Bernard and her buddy Ryan like getting to know one another better.



Dillon Malkani helps his buddy Oliver fill a backpack for the homeless.

a smile can be.”

Bullis student Logan Steren and his buddy William agreed that helping out homeless people is great because it’s really nice to know that they will be getting food and a backpack.

Peyton Bernard and his buddy

SEE PROJECT HELPS, PAGE 4

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Santa and His Elves Ride into Town

Collecting toys for The Children's Inn at NIH.

BY SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Santa came roaring into Potomac Village on Wednesday, Dec. 16 — not on a sleigh pulled by tiny reindeer — but on a Harley surrounded by elves and a bevy of police officers on motorcycles. He was accompanied by 40 uniformed officers from the Montgomery County Police Motor Division. They began their journey through Montgomery County in Germantown and on the way, they stopped at the Potomac Place Shopping Center to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and to collect donations for The Children's Inn at the National Institutes for Health.

The weather was sunny and warm for this journey for the police. They received a rousing welcome in each community as they made their way south through Montgomery County. Officer David McBain said, "All day long, people have come out to greet us. We had an awesome lunch provided by

'Not Your Average Joes' and then the event will finish with a party for the children and families at The Children's Inn. I've been in this event for five years but the police have been escorting Santa for charity for more than 20 years. This is a day that we look forward to every year and we are pleased that we can help this extraordinary charity that provides a home to children and families while they are in treatment."

Officer Bob Ladaney was dressed as Santa Claus and his wife Jackie was Mrs. Claus. He has been playing the role since 2003 and "loves doing it each year."

Laura King, senior director of Volunteers and Community Outreach and Meredith Daley, assistant director of Volunteers and Community Outreach at The Children's Inn were dressed as Santa's helpers.

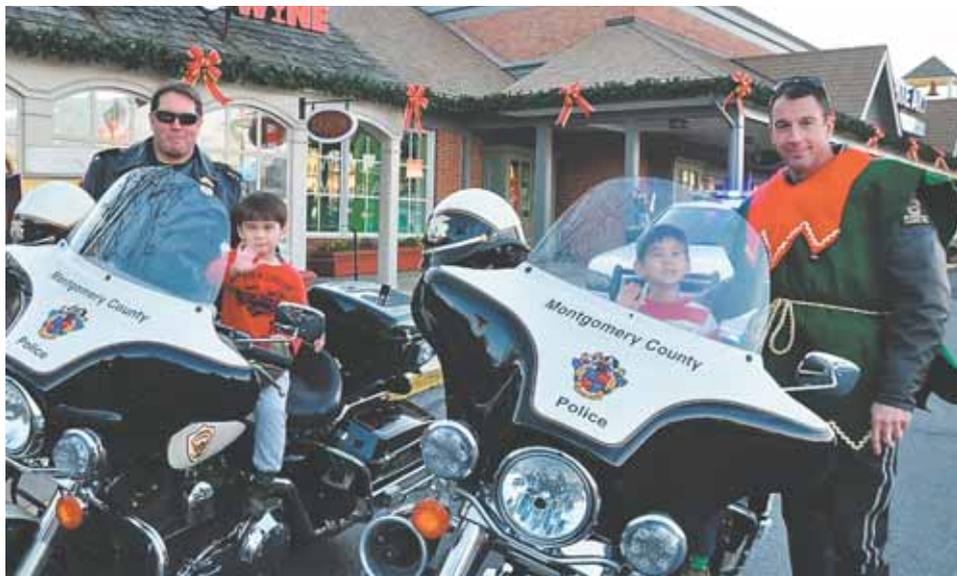
"This has been a fun day," King said. "We've been traveling throughout Montgomery County since 9 a.m. with Santa and

SEE SANTAS, PAGE 4



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Santa, Mrs. Claus and the Elves: Officers John McGaha, Brian Kuykendall, Santa (Bob Ladaney) Mrs. Claus, Jackie Ladaney, David McBain and Tony Hogeback.



Joshua and Samuel Ziglar of Potomac were thrilled to hop onto the police officers' Harleys.



Meredith Daley, Officer David McBain and Laura King were on the road traveling through Montgomery County since 9 a.m.



Officer Orpheus Pierce enjoyed the ride in the unseasonable weather and for a great cause.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Santa roars into Potomac on his Harley on Wednesday, Dec. 16.

Santa on a Mission

FROM PAGE 3

his police escorts. The party at The Children's Inn will feature face painting, holiday crafts — and a gift shop set up for the kids to shop for their families — each child will be accompanied by a police officer to help them choose that perfect gift. Santa and Mrs. Claus will also entertain the children. It is a really wonderful day for our officers, our families and children — and for us.”

The day was exceptionally special for two young brothers from Potomac. Four-year-old Joshua and 6-year-old Samuel Ziglar were invited to sit on the police officers' Harleys and to ask questions from the officers.

Joshua said, “The motorcycles are really big and shiny,” and Samuel said, “I loved sitting on the motorcycle. It was fun and the officer told me that if Santa rode with the policemen, he didn't have to stop at all the lights.”

The Children's Inn is a private, nonprofit,

family-centered residence for pediatric outpatients at the National Institutes of Health. Its purpose is to keep children together with their families during serious illness, reduce families' stress, and facilitate the healing process through mutual support.

Families never pay to stay at the Inn. The Inn is supported by donations from businesses and organizations. In fiscal year 2015, more than 1,500 families came from 50 states and 86 countries to stay at The Inn. These families came to the National Institutes of Health to find treatment, a cure, or a diagnosis for a seriously ill child.

“We hope everyone will donate to this special event,” King said. “Charitable, tax-deductible donations will help The Children's Inn continue to provide much needed services to seriously ill children and their families. To provide a financial donation on-line, please visit our website at www.childrensinn.org, click on 'Donate,' enter your information and indicate that you are giving in response to the 'Santa Police Ride.'”



Officer Bob Ladany, of the Montgomery County Police Motorcycle Squad, has been trading his uniform for the red suit for eight years now. His helpers, Jackie Morcone, of Damascas and Laura King, senior director of Volunteers and Community Outreach, help organize the ride for the benefit of The Children's Inn at the National Institutes of Health.

PHOTO BY CAROLE DELL THE ALMANAC

Project Helps the Homeless

FROM PAGE 2

Ryan like spending time getting to know one another better.

Diener student Tomas said that he was really happy to do this project together with Bullis. “It's good to help out the homeless. Working with my buddy and helping others has helped to build my confidence,” he said.

Amy Freeman, development director for Bethesda Cares was thrilled with the backpacks that will go to the homeless this week. She said, “It is the job of adults in Montgomery County to end homelessness but it is terrific for children to see that they can also become involved in a meaningful activity that will help those who are in need of assistance. They are also learning that small thoughtful deeds can make a difference.”

Bethesda Cares is a community outreach program for the homeless, as well as a safety net for those at risk of eviction or utility shut-off. Regardless of whether the homelessness they are experiencing is temporary or chronic, clients need food, psychiatric help, a bathroom, a telephone and a place where they know they will not be told to “move along.”

Bethesda Cares offers a daily meal program; a Drop-In Center where clients can come out of the weather and find a warm cup of coffee; a clothing closet; a mail service for those with no fixed address; and a weekly shower program. A psychiatrist offers weekly group and individual counseling, as well as limited prescription assistance. To learn more about Bethesda Cares or to donate, go to www.bethesdacares.org.

“It is the job of adults in Montgomery County to end homelessness but it is terrific for children to see that they can also become involved in a meaningful activity that will help those who are in need of assistance. They are also learning that small thoughtful deeds can make a difference.”

— Amy Freeman, development director for Bethesda Cares

NEWS BRIEFS

Bowers Recommends \$2.4 Billion Budget

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Interim Superintendent Larry A. Bowers presented his recommended \$2.4 billion Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget to the Board of Education on Dec. 8. The budget calls for a 4.5 percent increase in new spending. The \$103 million increase Bowers' is recommending will pay for the same level of services for more than 2,500 additional students and includes investments to improve students' literacy and math skills; build the cultural proficiency of staff; foster stronger partnerships with the community and families to support students; and better organize the district to ensure every student is prepared for college and careers.

The budget recommendation also requests the County Council to restore \$24 million in one-time funding used for the FY 2016 budget and an additional \$7.9 million to pay for teacher pension costs that have been shifted from the state to the county. With these two items, the budget increase totals \$134.9 million. The School Board will adopt the budget on Feb. 9, 2016, and transmit it to the County Executive and County Council for their consideration. The council adopts its final operating budget, which includes the MCPS budget, in late May.

Park Service OKs Removing Trees

The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (C&O Canal) will move forward with hazardous tree maintenance at three locations in Montgomery County that include Swains Lock Hiker-Biker Campground, Rileys Lockhouse Day Use Area and Marsden Tract Group Campground. The work will begin as soon as park contractors can be scheduled. The affected areas will remain open with some partial closures. The decision was reached following an evaluation that included onsite public meetings and consultation with a National Park Service hydrologist, landscape architect and certified arborist. Because of the additional evaluation one tree will be pruned rather than removed at the Swains Lock Hiker-Biker Campground.

Some tall stumps of removed trees will remain to serve as wildlife habitat, and the park is planning to restore these areas through a replanting effort in the spring of 2016.

To help inform the public about the park's decision making, the C&O Canal has released a resource brief titled, “Developed Area Vegetation Management,” which outlines treatment of trees and other vegetation within developed areas of the park. The resource brief can be found at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/canalhazardtree>.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THROUGH JAN. 1

Holiday SoberRide. 10 p.m.-6 a.m. Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the annual Holiday SoberRide program will provide free cab rides up to \$30. Call 1-800-200-TAXI.

THROUGH JAN. 8

Deadline for Entries. The Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District is accepting entries from Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia filmmakers for the annual Bethesda Film Fest. Visit www.bethesda.org for more.

THROUGH JAN. 15

Montgomery County Recreation invites local sports and fitness professionals/organizations to register as an exhibitor in the County's first HERtime2shine Expo. The event will be held on Feb. 13, 2016, at Westfield Montgomery Shopping Center, 7101 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Registration is free for exhibitors. Call 240-777-6870.

THROUGH FEB. 16

Afternoon Grief Support Group. Tuesdays starting Jan. 12, 1:30-3 p.m. at Faith United Methodist Church 6810 Montrose Road, Rockville. Free. Call 301-921-4400 to register.

THROUGH FEB. 24

Loss of a Child Support Group. Wednesdays starting Jan. 20, 6:30-8 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Free. Call 301-921-4400 to register.

THROUGH FEB. 25

Evening Grief Support Group. Thursdays, starting Jan. 21, 6:30-8 p.m. at Hughes United Methodist Church, 10700 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Free. Call 301-921-4400 to register.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 6

Public Input on FY17 County Operating Budget Forum. 7 p.m. at Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring. The forums are held every year by County Executive Ike Leggett to get public feedback on the upcoming County operating



Snapshot

Participants in the National Capital Adult Equestrian League Horse Show at the Potomac Horse Center.



Nina Dufour, Karen O'Connor, Christine Cadigan-Benonis and Brittany Klein at the NCAEL Horse Show.

PHOTOS BY
DEBORAH STEVENS
THE ALMANAC

budget. The Leggett will release his recommended operating budget on March 15 for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2016. Free. Call 240-777-6507.

TUESDAY/JAN. 5
Drop-In Discussion About Grief and Healing. 1-2:30 p.m. at

Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Free. Call 301-921-4400 to register.

MONDAY/JAN. 11
St. Raphael School and Nursery School Open House. 9:15-10:15 a.m. Nursery School tour, 10:45-11:45 a.m. School tour at 1513

Dunster Road, Rockville. Each open house starts with a presentation, followed by a tour of the facilities. Both schools are enrolling for next year. Visit www.straphaselschoolmd.org.
Public Input on FY17 County

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 6

Usable, Accessible, and Universal Design: What's the Difference?



Most people are familiar with the word design. In fact, we base many of our decisions on design. When things look good we are tempted to choose them over the things that are more useful. But it actually is possible to combine great design with function. Here are three practices that do just that.

Usable Design refers to the act of creating an environment or products that are not only efficient, but also easy-to-use. When talking about usability there are three aspects to consider: Learnability, Consistency and Efficiency.

Accessible Design is a design process in which the needs of people with disabilities are specifically considered. It is about creating an environment that allows for independence and safety in day-to-day life. Curb-less showers are an example of this.

Universal Design is the design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. Grab bars or rollout drawers in the kitchen are popular universal design products.



Russ Glickman, founder of Glickman Design Build, is a Master Certified Remodeler and Certified Aging in Place Specialist. The award-winning Glickman Design Build team has completed thousands of general remodeling and accessible design projects in the Metro DC area and is passionate about the work they do. Their work has been featured in a variety of publications. Visit GlickmanDesignBuild.com or call 301.444.4663 to learn more.

Have a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year with family and friends...

and come join us for coffee

Thursday, Jan. 14, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

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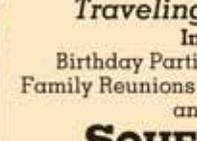






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OPINION

Merry Christmas

We wish you hope, peace, love and joy during this holiday season.

The pages of our newspapers have been full of holiday spirit for more than a month. Menorah lightings, group and individual efforts to help the needy, stories of giving, secular celebrations, religious celebrations. Shopping locally. Giving locally.

Christmas is about the birth of Jesus Christ. Whether you believe the Christmas story literally or in spirit, you know it is the story of joy, hope and love, the promise of redemption.

EDITORIAL

It is also about embracing the teachings of Jesus: to love thy neighbor as thyself; to help the needy; to feed and clothe the poor; to care for those who are sick; to treat others as you would have them treat you.

Matthew 7:12 "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Matthew 25:35-40 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or

thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

So let us share the verse relating the birth of Jesus from the Bible, Luke 2: 4-19:

"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds."

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Editor's Note about the rest of 2015: This is our last regular edition of 2015. Next week, after Christmas, we will publish our annual Children's Almanac, devoted entirely to the artwork and writing of local students. Our next regular editions will publish Jan. 6-7, 2016, with deadline for content and advertising of Dec. 30 (late ads accepted).

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LETTER

Welcoming Refugees from Syria

The Montgomery County Council and County Executive Ike Leggett sent a letter to Robert Carey, the director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, "to affirm Montgomery County, Maryland's policy to be a welcoming community to refugees from around the world, including those from Syria." The County Council and County Executive also signed on to the "Declaration from Metropolitan Regions on Syrian Refugees."

Dear Mr. Carey,

We are writing to you today to affirm Montgomery County, Maryland's policy to be a welcoming community to refugees from around the world, including those from Syria. We are disheartened that many governors have expressed opposition to having Syrian refugees make new homes in their states.

It is our understanding that the vetting process for determining whether a refugee may enter the United States is rigorous and takes from 18 to 24 months. It is initiated through a screening by the United Nations High Commission on Refugees or a United States Embassy (with a few limited exceptions). People who are selected for possible entry are subject to review by the National Counterterrorism Center, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Terrorist Screening Center, the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, and the State Department. Once a refugee is approved to come to the United States,

the State Department works with resettlement agencies to help the refugee find an appropriate state and city/community for relocation.

While refugee assistance is federally funded, we understand that programs are administered in partnership with states, as Maryland's is administered through the Maryland Office for Refugees and Asylees (MORA). Refugees are provided with interim cash and medical assistance, and assistance with securing employment and housing, with a goal of helping them to be self-sufficient. Refugees who want to come to the Washington Metropolitan Area may receive assistance and services through one of the non-profit organizations located in Silver Spring that are part of the public-private partnership with the federal Department of Health and Human Services and MORA: the ECDC African Community Center, International Rescue Committee, and Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area. While the

Suburban Maryland Resettlement Center is in Silver Spring, refugees are free to live in any community they choose.

We are writing to voice our welcome and support for those who are fleeing violence, cannot safely return home, and seek nothing but safety and freedom in America. We also understand how a spirit of welcome at the local level is critical, as the long-term stability and success for refugees and their children comes from the programs and services provided at the local level, through the assistance of local non-profits, and the support of neighbors and volunteers. We are confident that refugees will continue to be appropriately screened and, if they choose to make their new home in Montgomery County, will be valued members of our community.

**Montgomery County Council
And County Executive Ike Leggett**

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

Operating Budget Forum. 7 p.m. at Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda. The forums are held every year by County Executive Ike Leggett to get public feedback on the upcoming County operating budget. The Leggett will release his

recommended operating budget on March 15 for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2016. Free. Call 240-777-6507.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 13

Senior Connection Volunteer Training. 10

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 9

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Potomac Almanac is published by Local Media Connection LLC

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FOR THE HOLIDAY



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Napkin holders and serveware from J.T. Interiors in Potomac are ideal gifts for those who entertain frequently.

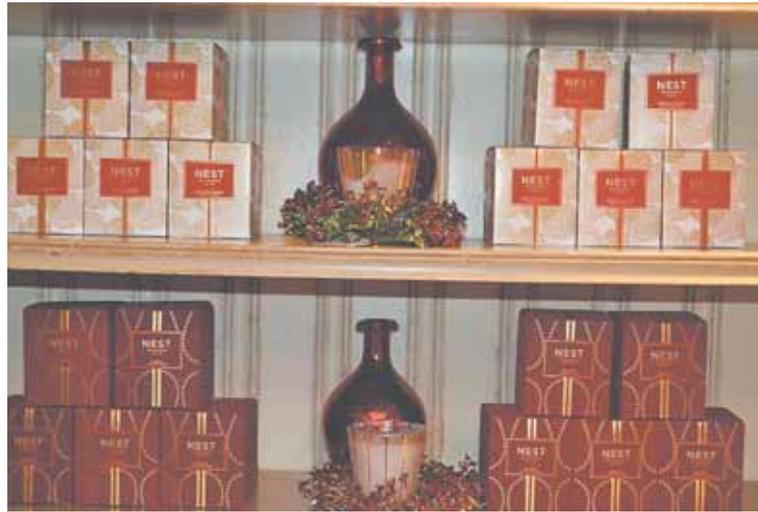


PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Candles such as these by Nest make hostess gifts that are both elegant and practical.

Gifts for the Home

Local tastemakers offer ideas for holiday presents that dazzle.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

Whether shopping for a new homeowner with classic tastes or apartment dwellers who prefer more informal styles, holiday gift giving can be daunting. A few local tastemakers have rounded up a collection of home décor finds to give and receive this year.

Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria suggested “customized cutting boards, unique tissue holders, and one-of-a-kind vintage items for the most particular on your list.”

Patina’s buyers spent the last year curating a collection holiday décor in wide-ranging styles. The designs run the gamut from delicate glass blown ornaments to vintage antlers from Germany.

Scented candles from Nest are among the hostess gifts that Fay Johnson of J.T. Interiors in Potomac, recommends. “Nest is our most popular line and candles make nice hostess gifts,” she said.

Johnson says that napkin rings and serving dishes and utensils are thoughtful gifts for those who enjoy entertaining others. “These are all things that people will use a lot, particularly during the holiday season.”

No powder room is complete without elegant guest towels, advises Johnson. “We have some that specifically speak to our area,” she said referring to a set of towels that are embroidered with the name of local towns.

For those looking to give the gift of luxury this season, embroidered



PHOTO COURTESY OF IVY LANE LIVING

Alashan Cashmere Double-Faced Merino Wool and Cashmere Blend Throw makes a luxurious holiday gift.

cocktail napkins or a wool and cashmere blend throw by Alashan can be found at Ivy Lane Living in Alexandria, Va.



PHOTO COURTESY OF IVY LANE LIVING

Cocktail napkins with gold metallic embroidery add a touch of glamour to holiday gift-giving.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATINA POLISHED LIVING

Buyers for Patina Polished Living spent the last year choosing an assortment of holiday ornaments in an array of styles that will satisfy a range of tastes.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Guest towels add polish to a bathroom, advises Fay Johnson of J.T. Interiors.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Your First Luxury Home

If you've decided to relocate into a luxury home and you've made an excellent choice. But quite possibly, you're wondering where to begin. You may be astounded by the amenities and in need of a guide. Agents who are experienced in the average home market might not be quite suitable for your needs. The luxury home market is different in that there are different things to consider.

Take your time. As a first time buyer of a luxury home, you should ask your agent for their advice. After your REALTOR® has narrowed down the possibilities for you, previewed the homes and is ready to show you what they consider suitable, take your time on the walk through. Focus on the detail. These properties are immense, so be prepared for a walk through that will take at minimum of two hours to properly see all the amenities; it can often take even longer. This is an important decision to make—let your first luxury in your new home be that of time and consideration.

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

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Email community entertainment events to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

Christmas Tree Sale. Cabin John Volunteer Fire Department, Station 10, 8001 River Road. Call 301-365-2255 for more.

Children's Storytime. Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda Listen to employees read children's stories. Free. Visit www.store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/4824850-21.

Adult Single Night. Saturdays, 9 p.m. at Benny's Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. Find a DJ, open dance floor, and other singles. No cover charge. Visit www.bennysbargrill.com.

"VAC Revealed." Through Dec. 26, during gallery hours at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Montgomery County Public Schools Visual Art Center (VAC) will present an exhibition of artwork created by the program's 22 seniors as well as teachers Mygenet Harris and Jane Walsh of the MCPS Visual Art Center Program at Albert Einstein High School. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org for more.

Glenview Mansion Holiday Open House. Sundays, through Dec. 27, 1-4 p.m. at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. Watch live music performances, view art, and more. Free. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/glenview for more.

"The Nutcracker." Through Dec. 27, various times at Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center Montgomery College Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Join the Maryland Youth Ballet for the 26th season of the full-length classic choreographed by Artistic Director Michelle Lees. Tickets are \$26-36. Visit www.marylandyouthballet.org for more.

The Puppet Co. "The Nutcracker." Through Dec. 30, 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays-Fridays, 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Attend a puppet interpretation of "The Nutcracker." Tickets are \$12. Visit www.thepuppetco.org for more.

"A Lump of Coal for Christmas." Through Dec. 31, various times at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Traditionally the dreaded stocking stuffer for children on the Naughty List, this Lump turns one child's worst nightmare into a dream come true. Tickets are 21.50. Visit www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org for more.

Winter Lights Festival. Through Dec. 31, Sunday-Thursday, 6-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 6-10 p.m. at Seneca Creek Park, 11950 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg. Winter Lights is a 3.5-mile drive through a holiday light show at Seneca Creek Park with more than 360 illuminated displays. Additional events include Wine Under the Lights, Run Under the Lights, Leashes 'n' Lights, and S'More Lights & Trolley Rides. Visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov/leisure/special-events/winter-lights-festival.

"Creating Inclusion." Through Jan. 2, 12-4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, Saturday-Sunday, 12-8 p.m. on Friday at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Artists Matt Sesow, Christine Pearl, Madison Prince, Charles Meissner, Sarah

Sater-Murray, Sammy Collings, Joe McFadden, Tony Labate, and Emily Kim identify as people with disabilities. Free. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org for more.

Waverly Street Gallery Holiday Show. Through Jan. 2, 12-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Attend this group show to celebrate the holidays through the influence of the color red. Free. Visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com for more.

"Garden of Lights." Through Jan. 3, various times at Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Silver Spring. More than a million colorful lights are shaped into hand-crafted, original art forms of flowers, animals and other natural elements. Stroll from garden to garden enjoying twinkling tree forms, fountains, sparkling snowflakes overhead and more. Tickets are \$25-30 per vehicle. Visit www.montgomeryparks.org for more.

Gloria Montiero Rall: "A Retrospective." Through Jan. 5, during gallery hours at Open Gallery, 930 King St., Silver Spring. Gloria Monteiro Rall: "A Retrospective" is a survey of Monteiro Rall's work from 1955-2000. Influenced by the Washington Color School, Rall's paintings examine the interaction of light and color. Rall is a Dean Emeritus at Montgomery College, and exhibited worldwide during her 40-year exhibition career. Free. Visit www.montgomerycollege.edu for more.

Brian Davis: "Uncoupled." Through Jan 10, during gallery hours VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St. Brian Davis' exhibition investigates the complexities of togetherness and separation with video, photography, sculpture and interactive installation. Free. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org for more.

Holiday Art Show & Sale. Saturday-Sunday, through Jan. 10, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at Glen Echo Park-Popcorn Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Browse and buy fine art. Free. Call 301-634-2222.

"A Year with Frog and Toad." Through Jan. 10, various times at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. This play is based on the children's book by Arnold Lobel featuring a frog and toad with very different personalities. Tickets start at \$10. Visit www.imaginationstage.org for more.

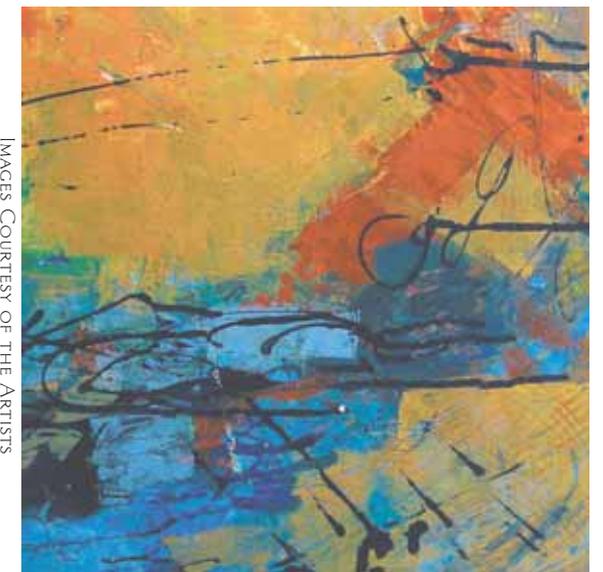
"Reflections on Jerusalem." Through Jan 11, during gallery hours at Photoworks at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Photographer Chip Kahn displays his work. Free. Visit www.glenechphotoworks.org for more.

"Organic Elements." Through Jan. 17, during gallery hours at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. A group exhibition featuring the abstract work of local artists Lisa Bohrer, Susan Carey, Maruka Carvajal, Lesley Clarke, Katie Joselow, and Kay Walsh. Free. Visit www.writer.org/programsart-on-view.

"Wake Up, Brother Bear." Through Jan. 31, various times at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Brother and Sister Bear explore all four seasons in this interactive children's play. Tickets start at \$10. Visit www.imaginationstage.org for more.

SUNDAY/DEC. 27

Argentine Tango. 6:30 p.m. at Back Room Annex-Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Tango Brillante DC offers dance classes



IMAGES COURTESY OF THE ARTISTS

'Wind From The East' To Open in January 2016

Painter Michiyo Mizuuchi will display her Japanese Zen-inspired acrylic work alongside the wood-fired and soda/gas-fired ceramics of Yang-ja Lee at the Waverly Street Gallery beginning Jan. 5 through Feb. 6. The opening reception will be held on Friday, Jan. 8 at 6 p.m. Waverly Street Gallery is located at 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com for more.

followed by a "Milonga." Admission is \$15 for the lesson and milonga, \$10 without the lesson. Email rene_f_davila@yahoo.com.

MONDAY-THURSDAY/DEC. 28-31

Winter Craft Days. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Children aged 5-12 are invited to enjoy ice-skating, hot chocolate, and winter-themed craft projects. This session is \$350. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org for more.

TUESDAY/DEC. 29

The Roots. 8 p.m. at the Fillmore Silver Spring, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Hip-Hop, neo-soul ensemble featuring well known musician Questlove will perform. Tickets are \$65. Visit www.fillmoresilverpring.com for more.

FRIDAY/JAN. 1

Wale & Friend 5th Annual New Year's Day Show. 9 p.m. at the Fillmore Silver Spring, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Live music. Tickets are \$39.50. Visit www.fillmoresilverpring.com for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 2

Fillmore Flashback. 8 p.m. at the Fillmore Silver Spring, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Rapper Biz Markie headlines an '80s and '90s dance party featuring Here's to the Night and The New Romance. Tickets are \$15.50. Visit www.fillmoresilverpring.com for more.

SUNDAY/JAN. 3

Waltz Dance. 2:45-3:30 p.m. workshop, 3:30-6 p.m. dance at the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Karen Collins & The Backroads Band will provide a mix of waltzes with a country and western influence. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.waltztimedances.org for more.

Salute to Vienna. 3 p.m. at the Music Center at Strathmore, 10710 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Singers and dancers team up with a 50-piece orchestra for a New Year's concert paring tribute to Vienna. Tickets are \$49. Visit www.strathmore.org for more.

JAN. 5-FEB. 6

"Wind From the East." 12-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Painter Michiyo Mizuuchi will display her Japanese Zen-inspired acrylic work alongside the wood-fired and soda/gas-fired ceramics of Yang-ja Lee. Free. Visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 8

"Wind From the East." Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m. at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Celebrated the opening of this exhibit featuring painter Michiyo Mizuuchi's Japanese Zen-inspired acrylic work alongside the wood-fired and soda/gas-fired ceramics of Yang-ja Lee. Free. Visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 9

Winter Hike. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. starting at Rockville REI, 1701 Rockville Pike, Rockville. Hike Catoctin Mountain Park. Tickets are \$60 for members, \$80 for nonmembers. Visit www.potomac.org for more.

Pianist Brian Ganz. 8 p.m. at The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. The National Philharmonic will present pianist Brian Ganz for his sixth all-Chopin recital. Tickets are \$29, free from children ages 7-17. Visit www.nationalphilharmonic.org for more.

Tribute to The Doors. 9 p.m. at the Fillmore Silver Spring, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Wild Child performs The Doors cover songs. Tickets are \$17. Visit www.fillmoresilverpring.com for more.

MONDAY/JAN. 11

Summer Camp Fair. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Cabin John Mall Atrium, 11325 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. Free. Visit www.shopcabinjohn.com for more.

FRIDAY/JAN. 15

Potomac After Hours. 9:15-11 p.m. at Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Middle schoolers (6-8th graders) are invited to attend "inflatable night." Find balloon games, jousting, and

more. Admission is \$5. Visit www.activemontgomery.org and use code #11951 to register.

SATURDAY/JAN. 16

Winter Wonderland Canal Walk. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Third Parking Area, Carderock Recreation Area-C&O Canal Towpath, Cabin John. 10km trail, with a 5km option, rated 1B. Free. Visit www.sugarloafers.org for more.

Ukulele Phil & The Hula Kids. 10:30-11:15 a.m. at Cabin John Mall Atrium, 11325 Seven Locks Road, Potomac. Children-friendly live music. Free. Visit www.shopcabinjohn.com for more.

Bach's Violin Concerto No. 2. 8 p.m. at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. The National Philharmonic, led by Music Director and Conductor Piotr Gajewski, will feature concertmaster Colin Sorgi in a performance of Bach's Violin Concerto No. 2 in E Major. Tickets are \$29-89 and free from children 7-17. Visit www.nationalphilharmonic.org.

SUNDAY/JAN. 17

Waltz Dance. 2:45-3:30 p.m. workshop, 3:30-6 p.m. dance at the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The Taylor Among Devils ensemble will provide music for folk waltzes including the Hambo, Schottische and more. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.waltztimedances.org for more.

Lamb of God. 7 p.m. at the Fillmore Silver Spring, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. Rock group Lamb of God shares stage with Anthrax, Deafhaven, and Power Trip. Tickets are \$38. Visit www.fillmoresilverpring.com for more.

Christian Scott Concert. 8 p.m. at AMP by Strathmore, 11810 Grand Park Ave., North Bethesda. Scott's jazz has received a Grammy nomination and multiple Edison Awards. Tickets are \$30-40. Visit www.ampbystrathmore.com.

MONDAY/JAN. 18

Winter Craft Day. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at VisArts at Rockville, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Children ages 5-12 are invited to enjoy ice-skating, hot chocolate, and winter-themed craft projects. This session is \$100. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org for more.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

a.m. at Holiday Park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Silver Spring. Senior Connection volunteers provide a variety of services so that Montgomery County seniors can remain independent and stay in their own homes. Volunteers drive senior clients to medical and other appointments, help with grocery shopping and assist with monthly bill paying. Email volunteer@seniorconnectionmc.org or call 301-942-1049.

TUESDAY/JAN. 19

Public Hearing. 1:30 p.m. at Third Floor Hearing Room of the Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville. The Montgomery County Council will hold a public hearing on Expedited Bill 53-15 regarding taxicab credit card transactions. Bill 53-15 would limit the amount a licensee may charge a driver or affiliate for processing a credit card transaction; amend the requirements for credit card processing systems in taxicabs; and generally amend County law concerning taxicabs. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 20

Public Input on FY17 County Operating Budget Forum. 7 p.m. at Silver Spring Civic Center, One Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring. The forums are held every year by County Executive Ike Leggett to get public feedback on the upcoming County operating budget. The Leggett will release his recommended operating budget on March 15 for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2016. Free. Call 240-777-6507.

Senior Connection Volunteer Training. 7 p.m. at Holiday Park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Silver Spring. Senior Connection volunteers provide a variety of services so that Montgomery County seniors can remain independent and stay in their own homes. Volunteers drive senior clients to medical and other appointments, help with grocery shopping and assist with monthly bill paying. Email volunteer@seniorconnectionmc.org or call 301-942-1049.

THURSDAY/JAN. 21

Public Input on FY17 County Operating Budget Forum. 7 p.m. at Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring. The forums are held every year by County Executive Ike Leggett to get public feedback on the upcoming County operating budget. The Leggett will release his recommended

operating budget on March 15 for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2016. Free. Call 240-777-6507.

FRIDAY/FEB. 12

Bereavement Workshop: "Forever Yours." 1-2:30 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. This workshop is for widows, widowers and life partners who want to honor and remember their loved ones on Valentine's Day. Free. Call 301-921-4400 to register.

PUBLIC INPUT WANTED

Planners to Present Concepts on Downtown Bethesda. On Thursday, Dec. 11, county planners will present their concepts to the Montgomery County planning board on the future of downtown Bethesda. Will be available online. The feedback loop will be up Dec. 8-19 and accessible 24/7 via computer, mobile device or laptop. Visit www.montgomeryplanning.org.

GUIDE DOG FOSTERS NEEDED

Guiding Eyes for the Blind – Montgomery Region is looking for volunteers to foster and train future guide dogs. Volunteers will foster a specially bred guide dog for 14 months, attend bi-monthly training classes, and teach the pup house manners, people skills and socialization within the community. Dog crates, training equipment and monthly medications are provided. Contact Margie Coccodrilli at 301-869-2216 or gebraiser@comcast.net or visit www.guidingeyes-md.org.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Suicide Grief Support Group. At JSSA, 6123 Montrose Road, Rockville. This ongoing bereavement support group is for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. This group meets every first and third Monday. No charge. Pre-registration is required. Call 301-816-2708.

Because I Love You is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting parents of troubled children of any age. The group helps parents deal with drugs, runaways, truancy, verbal abuse, physical abuse, curfew violations and other misbehavior, as well as help parents deal with themselves, to manage and live their own lives without obsessing over their child's behavior. The group meets 7:30-9:30 every Thursday at Bethesda United Methodist Church Room 209, 8300 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. Visit www.becauseiloveyou.org, email hbrite1@netzero.com or call 301-530-3597.

Adult Bereavement Groups. Dates and times vary depending on group

members. Hospice Care, 518 S. Fredrick Ave., Gaithersburg. Peer driven support groups in those in need of support. Free. Contact Penny Gladhill at 301-990-8904, or Pennyg@hospicearing.org.

ONGOING

Montgomery Parks is launching a new registration system, ActiveMONTGOMERY. The new system replaces ParkPASS and RecWeb, the two separate registration systems currently used by Montgomery Parks and Montgomery County Recreation, respectively. ActiveMontgomery provides one location, with just one username and password, for people to register for classes from either organization. Visit www.ActiveMontgomery.org.

ChildLink is a free County service provided by the Department of Health and Human Services, Early Childhood Services, which provides information, resources and referrals to residents with young children. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/childlink.

Reservations for **Carderock Picnic Pavilion and Marsden Tract Group Campsites** are now available online. Visit www.recreation.gov.

Master Gardener Plant Clinics. Montgomery County Master Gardeners are available to answer gardening questions at walk-in plant clinics. Bring plant and insect samples, garden problems and questions. Drop off plant and insect samples, Monday-Friday, year-round, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at 18410 Muncaster Road, lower level, Ballard Phone Room.

English Classes. The Literacy Council of Montgomery County is offering free day and evening English classes (beginning, intermediate and advanced levels) to adult county residents at several locations. Prospective students must attend a 3 1/2 hour orientation in Rockville. The Literacy Council is always looking for volunteers. Email info@literacycouncilmd.org or call 301-610-0030.

Montgomery County's Winter Guide for Recreation and Parks. Montgomery County Recreation Administrative Offices, 4010 Randolph Road, Silver Spring. Registration for programs and classes is now open. The guide features hundreds of activities and programs that make it easy to enjoy a healthier and more active lifestyle, including sports, therapeutic recreation services and active adult senior programming. Print copies are available at recreation center, park facilities, aquatic and senior centers and public libraries. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec.

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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

JANUARY

1/6/2016..... Wellbeing, Renewal, Resolutions
1/13/2016..... HomeLifeStyle
Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Jan. 18
1/20/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools
1/27/2016..... Community Guide
1/27/2016..... Winter Fun, Food, Arts
& Entertainment; Valentine's Preview

FEBRUARY

2/3/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts I
2/3/2016..... Wellbeing – National Children's
Dental Health Month
2/10/2016..... HomeLifeStyle
2/10/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts II
2/17/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools
2/24/2016..... Pet Connection

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- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

BUSINESS NOTES

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

Teaching Strategies, a developer of early childhood education curriculum and assessment resources, is relocating from Wisconsin Avenue in Bethesda and expanding its headquarters to a new location on East-West Highway, also in Bethesda.

Glickman Design Build has earned two awards from the Remodelers Council of the Maryland Building Industry Association.

The Potomac location of **LearningRx** is collecting "brain-building" toys for the Salvation Army. Visit learningrx.com or magictoybox.org.

Weichert Honors King

Sales associate Helen King of the Potomac office of Weichert, Realtors, was individually recognized for her industry success during the month of November.

A top producer, King led the region, which is comprised of locations throughout Montgomery and



Prince George's counties as well as surrounding areas in the District of Columbia, for resales and resale dollar volume.

King can be reached in Weichert's Potomac office at

7821 Tuckerman Lane, or call 301-718-4100 for more information.

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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Last week I was "naive and delusional." This week, not so much. Meaning: I'm well aware of my circumstances and not minding what usually matters. To that point, there's no doubt there are days/weeks that are more challenging than others. And even though I'm a veteran of the cancer wars, seven years and counting come this Feb. 27, I have been to have been blessed with the proper temperament and attitude for the task at hand: enduring the stress and strain of dealing with a cancer diagnosis and all its effects and affects and not going negative/dark in the process. It's not as if cancer has become my new best friend, more like a roommate I've learned to accept — who's not moving out any time soon, but I have learned to manage, mostly. (I am a Libra after all, and balance is my symbol.)

Still, over time, you do get used to the demands. You find a way to ignore the symptoms, not so much that it risks your health, but enough so it doesn't "anguish" your daily life. Because there's definitely no future — or rather not much of one, when every day becomes an emotional battle to the hopefully-not, death, so to speak. I don't want to give cancer too much credit but, it's a fairly powerful adversary and contributing to its strength serves no purpose and creates no advantage. It doesn't need any help doing all the harmful physical, emotional and spiritual, things it does. Granted, nipping it all in the bud is much easier in the garden than it is in the doctor's office/infusion center, but unless you become the master of your domain, the king of the castle, the lord of the manor, the more difficult your cancer experience will be.

This is not to imply that a positive attitude cures cancer. (But I doubt it hurts.) This is more to say that being miserable, feeling sorry for yourself or "woeing" is me, though understandable under the circumstances is boring and as Prince Kuragin (a character from Downton Abbey) said: "Nothing is more tedious than other person's misfortunes." And I certainly don't want to be tedious and boring. As a matter of fact, I'll make the extra effort — even when I don't feel like it, to avoid being thought of as anything but healthy and dare I say, normal. The more positivity I can exude, the more positivity I likely will receive in turn. It's not exactly chemotherapy, targeted treatment or immunotherapy, but "Good Vibrations" is more than just a Beach Boys classic. It's a way to my heart and soul, and hopefully to my lungs as well.

When it comes to being a cancer patient, I know what I know/what I feel, and more importantly — in my mind, anyway, I know what I don't know. Facts, figures, protocols, drugs, clinical trials, I don't know. As my wife's deceased, maternal grandmother, Franny would say: I'm as "dumb as a post." For me, ignorance is sort of bliss. I don't worry about what I don't know; I already have enough trouble worrying about what I do know.

Ergo my strategy: take the good with the bad — which is easy, and when there is bad, compartmentalize it somehow; put it in "the vault." To summarize; and with all credit and respect to Bing Crosby (singing in "White Christmas"): I must "Accentuate the positive. Eliminate the negative. Latch on to the affirmative." Moreover, I have to believe if I want to feel good, I have to think good — thoughts that is. And the more humor and normalcy I have in my life, the better I'll feel and think. I don't know if my future will be any better because of it but my present sure will be.

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

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PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE ALMANAC

The Whitman girls' basketball team won its second region title in three years.



Louis Dubick, a 2015 Churchill High School graduate, ended his high school career as Maryland's all-time leader in points, goals and assists.

PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE THE ALMANAC

Top Potomac Sports Moments from 2015

Records and repeats make up 2015 highlights for Potomac high school sports.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE ALMANAC

Potomac-area high schools captured multiple region and state championships during the year 2015. The following is a look at some of the top moments from the last year.

Whitman Girls Win 2nd Region Title in 3 Years

The Whitman girls' basketball team defeated Wootton 73-60 in the 4A West region championship game on March 9 at Paint Branch High School, giving the Vikings two region titles in the last three years.

Whitman's Marie Hatch scored 23 points in the region final before suffering a fractured ankle. Abby Meyers finished with 17 points for the Vikings.

The victory improved Whitman's record to 23-0, but the Vikings' season ended three days later with a 48-30 loss to Eleanor Roosevelt in the state semifinals.

Whitman's record during the three-season stretch was 65-9, including a 46-31 victory over Gaithersburg in the 2013 region championship game.

Wootton Field Hockey Makes Another State Final Appearance

The Wootton field hockey team defeated

Bethesda-Chevy Chase 3-0 to win its second region title in three years. The Patriots followed with a 1-0 win over Delaney in the state semifinals, earning the Patriots their second state final appearance in three seasons.

Each time, however, Wootton lost to Severna Park.

In 2013, Wootton finished 15-1, with its only loss coming against Severna Park, 4-1, in the state final. In 2015, the Patriots produced a 15-3 record and lost to Severna Park 2-0 in the championship game.

Wootton has a 58-7-1 record over the last four seasons.

Churchill's Dubick Re-Writes Maryland Lax Record Book

Louis Dubick's stellar four-year lacrosse career at Churchill High School ended with the 2015 graduate owning three major state records.

A Dubick goal against Einstein on March 26 gave the then-senior 381 career points, breaking the previous record

of 380 set by 2014 St. Paul's graduate Mikey Wynne, according to laxrecords.com. Dubick finished his career with 498 points. He also set records for career goals (244) and assists (254).

Dubick, now a freshman on the University of Maryland men's team, helped Churchill win three region championships during his four varsity seasons. In 2015, the Bulldogs defeated Quince Orchard 10-9 in double overtime in the region final on May 13. Three days later, the Bulldogs beat Delaney 11-8 in the state semifinals, securing Churchill's first-ever state final appearance.

Churchill lost to Howard 14-6 in the state championship game on May 20. The Bulldogs ended the season with a 17-2 record.

Churchill Golf Wins Title, Sets Record

The Churchill golf team won the 2015 state championship and broke its own scoring record by 24 strokes, carding a two-day 572, according to mpssaa.org.

Churchill's Adam Gray captured the individual state title with a 139, winning in a two-hole playoff with Whitman's Graham Hutchinson.

Oliver Whatley (142), Lena Capoccia (144) and Dylan Rotter (147) also competed for the Bulldogs.

Churchill Girls' Swim Team Wins State Championship

The Churchill girls' swim team won the 2015 state championship with a score of 288.5, 38.5 points ahead of runner-up Sherwood.



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE ALMANAC

The Wootton field hockey team, seen during the regular season, made its second state final appearance in three seasons.

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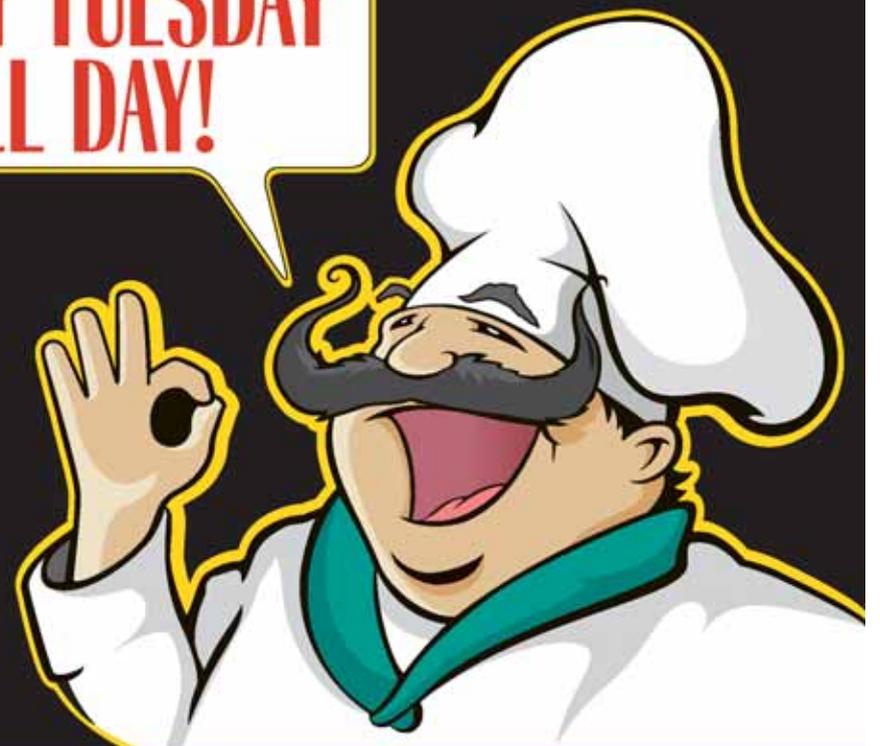
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