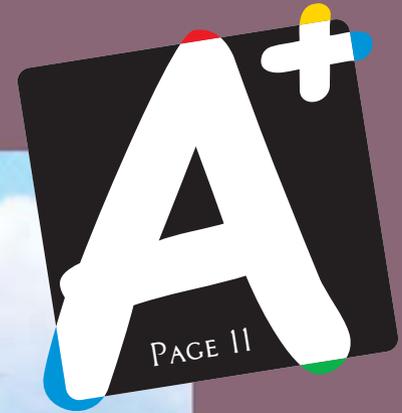
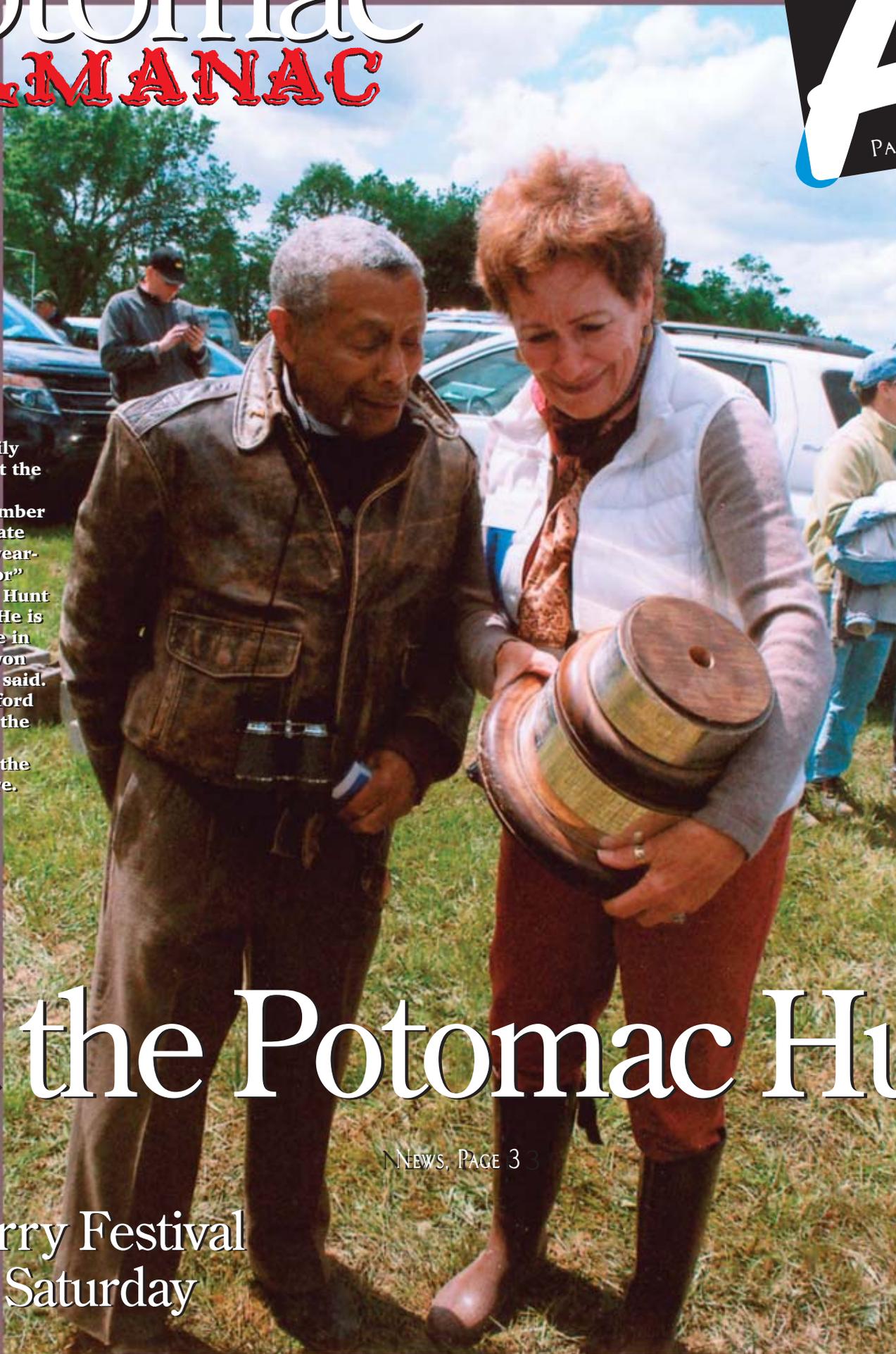


Potomac ALMANAC



The Crawford family had more than just the Potomac Hunt's Preakness Open timber race win to celebrate this year. Their 6-year-old "Senior Senator" won the Maryland Hunt Cup on April 30. "He is the youngest horse in 50 years to have won it," Skip Crawford said. Above, Vicki Crawford shows the base of the trophy to Leonard Proctor, where all the winner's names are.



At the Potomac Hunt

NEWS, PAGE 3

Strawberry Festival
Returns Saturday

NEWS, PAGE 2E 2

An Odyssey to World
Finals in Iowa

NEWS, PAGE 4E 4

Annual Strawberry Festival Returns Saturday

Potomac United Methodist Church hosts fundraiser event.

By SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Spring has arrived and it is once again time for the Potomac United Methodist Church (PUMC) Strawberry Festival. The event will take place on May 21 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Lines form early and once the doors open, buyers nearly knock one another over in their rush to see what Home Treasures, the Chic Boutique, Vendor Alley or the Silent Auction have to offer. Many people come mainly to feast on homemade strawberry shortcake or to gobble down a chocolate-covered strawberry — or two — or three.

Almost 1,000 people attended this event last year, helping the women of Potomac United Methodist Church raise more than \$20,000 to assist local organizations that support women and children. Since 1990 when a group of five women founded the first PUMC Strawberry Festival, the event has become a steadfast tradition in the



PHOTOS BY SUSAN BELFORD/THE ALMANAC

The Potomac United Methodist Church Strawberry Festival will take place on May 21.

Potomac community.

This year, PUMC is partnering with local organizations to make the Strawberry Festival even better. The Bake Sale will be organized by the Potomac Glen Day School, which utilizes the PUMC Parrish Center for their Kindergarten and Pre-School. Byte Back, a D.C. non-profit which received funding from the Strawberry Festival proceeds

last year, will provide information as well as greeters. Byte Back helps low-income residents of the Washington D.C. metro area improve their economic opportunity by providing computer training, access to technology, and career preparation. Founded 18 years ago, the organization has served more than 7,200 residents in the past 7 years. Not only do they support their students with

computer training, but they assist in helping their clients obtain a career that pays a living wage through job readiness training, resume help, cover letter development, interview preparation and job search assistance. They also provide free computers for graduates through their First Time Technology Program. To learn more or to donate,

SEE STRAWBERRY, PAGE 13

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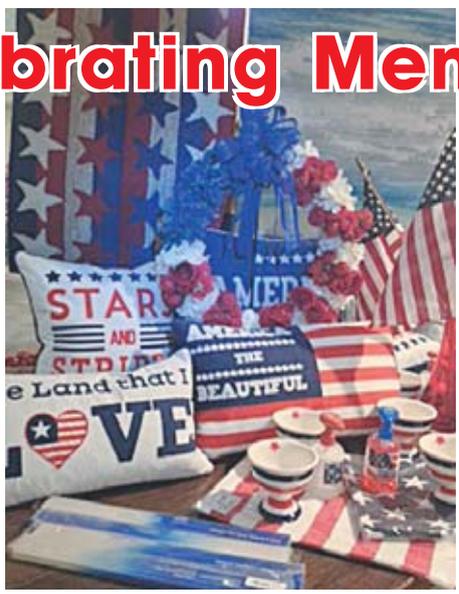



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Wind and Mud Compete at Potomac Hunt Races

Annual event attracts crowd.

BY CISSY FINLEY GRANT
THE ALMANAC

If you enjoy mud, incessant wind, scattered clouds and a 58-degree, May 15, temperature you would have loved the 64th annual running of the Potomac Hunt Races last Sunday at the Kiplinger's "Bittersweet" field, Poolesville.

Knight and Anne Kiplinger continued his family's tradition of hosting the event, come rain or shine, and also continue the tradition of presenting the trophy to the winner of the first race, a mile flat event won by Achsa O'Donovan's "West Is Best." Knight's father, Austin, who presented the first race trophy for many years, died last November only three weeks after appearing as the Grand Marshal in the annual Potomac Day parade, wearing formal fox hunting attire, as he was requested to do.

GETTING AROUND

Despite the 15 days of rain prior to the 2016 Potomac Hunt race, the constant wind during the previous day and again during the event helped dry out the field, eliminating most cars and vans from getting stuck, although there were tractors in evidence to help those who might.

The wet fields however may have played a part in the numerous number of "scratches" in the program, leaving the two featured races, the \$7,500 Open Timber and the Open Hurdle with few entries. It was only a three horse race in the Open Timber, three miles and a quarter over fences. However, the crowd, estimated at only half of the 2,000 there in last year's 90-degree heat roared with excitement as the three entries, Vicki and Skip Crawford's "Touchdowntony," Gus Dahl in the saddle; Isabelle Bosley, riding "Tis Relevant" and Barry Foley on "Duc De Savoie" raced toward the finish so close together a king-sized blanket could have covered them.



Anne and Knight Kiplinger awarded the side saddle trophy to Sarah O'Halloran astride her grey horse, "Patrick." The side saddle race between O'Halloran and Robin Somers on "Noble" was an added surprise this year. The Kiplingers said they will sponsor it for the program in 2017.

PHOTOS
CISSY FINLEY GRANT
THE ALMANAC

The Crawford's "Touchdowntony" was declared winner by a half length over "Tiz Relevant."

The old adage, turn about is fair play, was evident. It was recorded in the 2015 same event, "Tiz Relevant" won "by a whisker," ahead of "Touchdowntony."

On the co-featured Preakness Open Hurdle race only one of the original five entries, Randolph Rouse's "Hishi Soar" was not scratched. It was apparent the other entries, those not on the printed program, were offered as a kind gesture to fill out the race program, accommodating the late scratches.

Ninety-nine-year old Randy Rouse was there to see his horse easily gain a half-mile lead in front of the two other entries and maintained it to the finish line with jockey Barry Foley astride. "Alvitude," with jockey Mike Woodson up and "I've Gotta Dance" with Isabelle Bosley astride, placed second

SEE WIND AND MUD, PAGE 12



PHOTO BY CHESLEY HURDLE

Headed toward the finish line in the Preakness Open Timber race is (from left) "Stone Dancer" ridden by Taylor Leatherman, "In Todd We Trust" with Kieran Norris up and "Derwin's Prospector" ridden by Gustav Dahl. "In Todd We Trust" was the winner with "Derwin's Prospector" second.



Skip Crawford, jr. MFH, Potomac Hunt, and Brad Hitchen, son of the late Peter Hitchen, jt. MFH, Potomac Hunt, listen to an announcer cite praise given for Peter Hitchen's many contributions to the hunt and race program.



Skip and Vicki Crawford with their daughter, Camille Finley, celebrate the Crawford's horse "Touchdowntony" winning the Open Timber race.



Denise and Rex Reed were among the many hosting an annual tail-gate party. The camera caught them when they took time out to see a race.

An Odyssey to World Finals in Iowa

Bells Mill students to compete in Odyssey of the Mind World Finals.

By SUSAN BELFORD
THE ALMANAC

Next week, the Rhino Team, composed of seven fifth-graders from Bells Mill Elementary School, will board a plane to Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, determined to capture victory in the 2016 Odyssey of the Mind (OotM) World Finals competition. This team is attending for the third time in three years — and each year they improved their standing among over 70 international teams. In third grade, they came in 24th; in fourth grade, they were 13th. This year, they are hoping to place among the top six teams — edging out favored competitors from as far away as Singapore and Poland.

According to the OotM website, “OotM is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program.”

Bells Mill Elementary, thanks to the support of Principal Jerri Oglesby, has the largest OotM program in Maryland, with 80 students participating on nine teams. In the Maryland/DC State Tournament, four of the Bells Mill teams received first or second place trophies with invitations to attend the World Finals.

The Rhino Team (all the Bells Mill teams are named for animals) members are Audrey Benford, Harrison Benford, Ryan Chernoff, Ilayda Dogan, Leah Freisinger, Sophia Hoffmeyer and Junwoo Kim. These students have been on the same team since



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The Odyssey of the Mind program at Bells Mill Elementary in Potomac is the largest in the state of Maryland. Each year, about 80 students participate.

they were first-graders. Their coaches are Trudi and Dominic Benford.

This year, the team received the Ranatra Fusca award for exceptional creativity, the first time the significant honor has been awarded in Maryland for many years. The judges wrote in their nomination: “This team blew [us] away. Every technical and artistic element was as good as it could possibly be.”

“Our team has worked very hard over the years,” said Dominic Benford. “Trudi and I started as their coaches when these kids were all just 6 years old. We felt it was such a rewarding experience — both for us and for the kids. We have seen such growth in each of them — in their approaches to problem-solving, skill in working as a team and their creativity and free-thinking.”

Parent Rezarta Dogan said, “I have seen such joy in the kids’ faces. They have bonded

and formed friendships — and truly learned to work as a team. It’s really cool to watch them.”

This year, the team presented a solution to the problem “Something Fishy” which required the teams to design and operate a technical solution simulating multiple styles of fishing. A Fisher Character worked from a designated area to “catch” three different objects that were outside of that area. The catch was required to be on the move and to include something expected, something unexpected, and a new discovery. The performance also had to include a change of weather and a humorous character that portrayed a potential catch and avoided being caught by the Fisher. They presented their solution in the form of a play. The team’s performance at the Maryland State Tournament on March 12, was judged on the technical content of the team-created

mechanisms for moving and catching the fish, as well as elements of the performance including style, creativity, and humor.

The six-month process included the team researching scientific principles for making machines including a pulley system and a hand-cranked piston, creating a realistic surf shack and fishing pier out of recycled pallets and salvaged bamboo, and creating several artful props. All the students were involved in the project, applying their individual strengths to help their team in creating their final project and performance.

Junwoo Kim designed giant taco shells for the production, and also used his skill with power tools to help with the design. Sophia Hoffmeyer and Audrey Benford created a larger-than-life catfish from cardboard, scrap wallpaper, and large amounts

SEE STUDENTS. PAGE 10



This year, the team presented a solution to the problem “Something Fishy” which required the invention of new technical means of fishing, presented in the form of a play.



Here, Junwoo Kim uses a jigsaw to cut out a giant plywood wheel while Ryan Chernoff stands near him.



In 2014, the team performed “It’s How We Rule” as a historical comparison between the era of Queen Elizabeth I and a post-apocalyptic future ruled by two queens.



SerbFest

Saint Luke Serbian Orthodox Church in Potomac hosted SerbFest, Friday-Sunday, May 13-15, with Serbian food, culture, crafts, dance and entertainment.

PHOTOS BY
DEBORAH STEVENS
THE ALMANAC

Nina Lojanica and Vladan Jovicic at the grill



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Ribbon-Cutting for Playground

River Falls Community Center Association Board includes (from left) Ken Markowitz, president; Laura Gwyn; Courtney Gottlieb; Katie Gilbert; Marla Roeser; Sarah Graf; and Meg Press.



Ken Markowitz, president of the River Falls Community Center Association, cuts the ribbon for the new playground on Saturday, May 14.



Graham and Tommy Richmond

PHOTOS BY
DEBORAH STEVENS
THE ALMANAC



Benjamin Brundred



Charlotte Katsaros



Jaxon Duncan



Children play on the new equipment.

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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Newspaper of **Potomac**
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Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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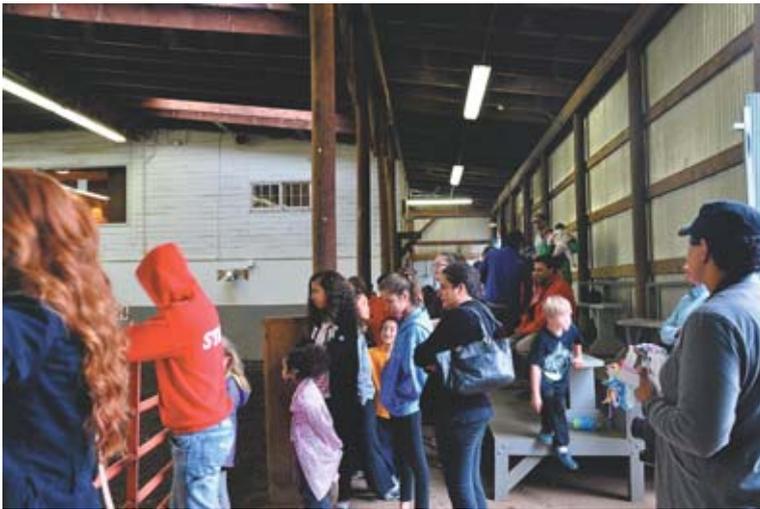
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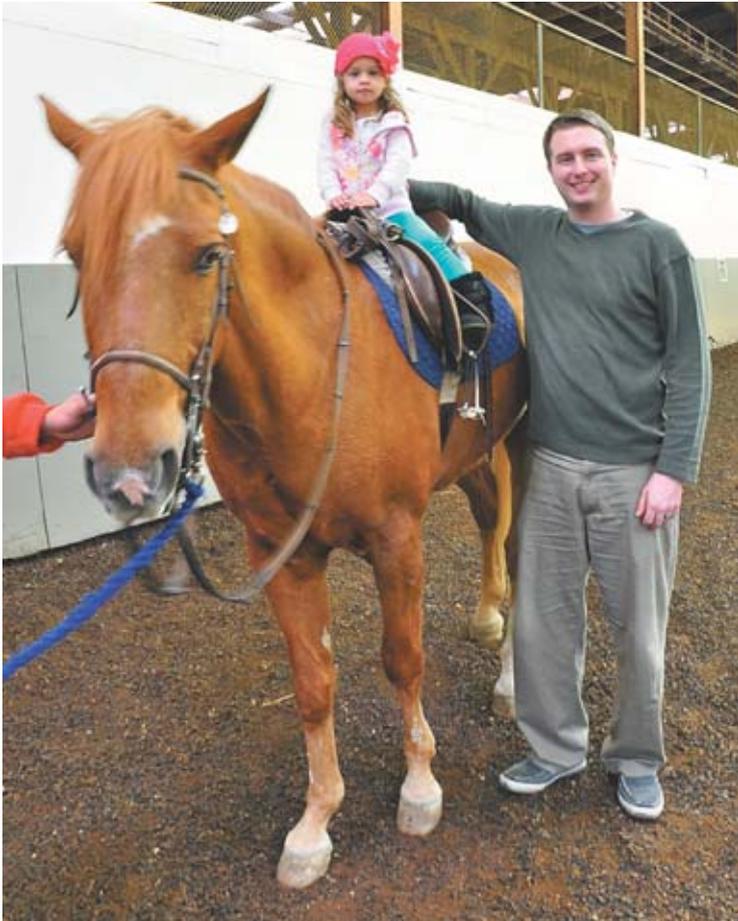
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NEWS



Visitors attend the Potomac Horse Center open house.



PHOTOS BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

Open House

Bianca and Andrew Patton attended the recent open house at the Potomac Horse Center.

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.

4910.

MEMBERSHIP DEAL

Potomac Community Village offers a new membership policy. Anyone who joins after April 14 will have their new membership carry over to PCV's next membership year, which starts July 1, and ends June 20, 2017. Thus the 12-month membership period becomes one of 14-plus months, at no additional cost. Anyone wishing to learn more or to join PCV using this special program may submit a membership form at www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org, or contact PCV at 240-221-1370 or info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 18

Support Group: Loss of a Child. 6:30-8 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 100,

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15

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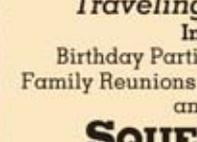






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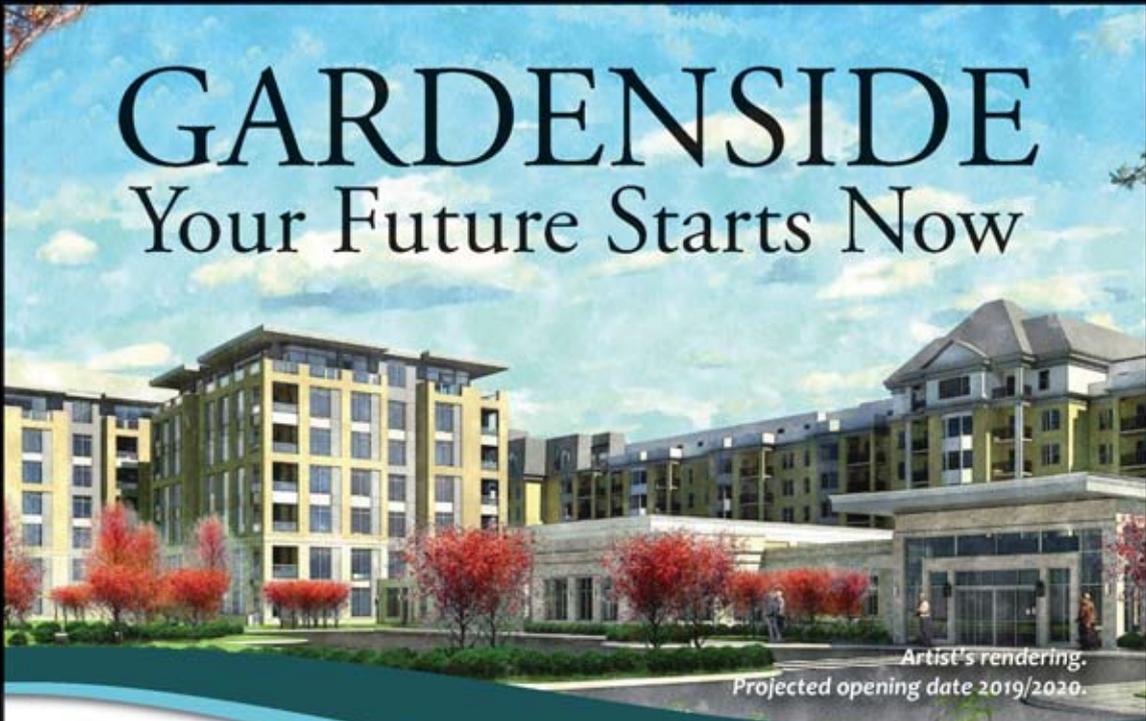



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ENTERTAINMENT

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

"Looking for Roberto Clemente."

Through May 22, 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. A fly ball transforms Sam into a Little League pitching star. His friend Charlie is rejected from the team because she's a girl, so she forms her own team. As their baseball season winds down, the friends learn about heroism through the off-the-field actions of their baseball hero, Roberto Clemente. Tickets are \$12-35. Visit www.imaginationstage.org for more.

Mirror to the World Documentary Exhibit.

Through May 29, 1-4 p.m. Saturdays, 1-8 p.m. Sundays at Glen Echo Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Glen Echo Photoworks' eighth annual "Mirror to the World" exhibition of documentary photography features work by five area photographers who have traveled the world to capture stories of people and their environments. Free. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org for more.

"Sleeping Beauty."

Through May 29, 10:30 a.m. Thursday-Friday, 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday-Sunday at The Puppet Co., Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Told with rod puppets and special effects. Tickets are \$12. Visit www.thepuppetco.org.

"The Emperor's Nightingale."

Through May 30, various times at

Adventure Theatre MTC, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Adventure Theatre MTC presents The Emperor's Nightingale, a world premiere play directed by Natsu Onoda Power. This project is funded in part by The National Endowment for the Arts and features an all-Asian-American cast, playwright, director, choreographer, lighting designer, costume designer Hana Sooyeon Kim. Tickets are \$19.50. Visit www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org for more.

Photo Exhibit: "Solitudes."

Through June 4, gallery hours at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway. "Solitudes" is an exhibition about urban isolation. Sarah Hood Salomon utilizes camera motion and slow shutter speeds to add a layer of anonymity to the subjects. Free. Visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com for more.

Kaleidoscopes: 200 Years.

Through June 4 at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville. The Brewster Kaleidoscope Society (BKS) returns to Strathmore. The BKS's juried exhibition celebrates 200 years since the tube's invention and features kaleidoscope designers. Admission is free. Visit www.strathmore.org for more.

Thursday Evening Concerts.

May-July, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. at Veterans Park, 7800 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda. The concerts offer a diverse range of music including rock, funk, jazz, swing, and reggae. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org for more.

Canal Boat Excursions.

April-Oct., Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. at Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National

Historical Park, 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. Go on a 19th-century mule-drawn canal boat excursion. Hear tales of what life was like for the families who lived and worked on the canal. Tickets are \$8 for adults (ages 16-61), \$6 for seniors (ages 62+), and \$5 for children (ages 4-15). Call 301-767-3714 for more.

THURSDAY/MAY 19

Laugh Riot for MobileMed.

6:30-9 p.m. at Hyatt Regency Bethesda Ballroom, 7400 Wisconsin Ave. MobileMed is a nonprofit community health center that provides high-quality, multicultural primary and preventive care to more than 4,000 low-income, uninsured and underinsured Montgomery County residents. Bengt Washburn and Robert Mac perform stand-up comedy. Tickets are \$60. Visit www.mobilemedicalcare.org for more.

Linking the Interrelated Arts with Buddhism.

7-9 p.m. at The Bolger Center's Franklin Building, 9800 Newbridge Drive, Potomac. Potomac Community Village's May meeting showcases the impact of music, drama, dance and the visual arts with Buddhist teachings. In her talk, "Communicating Through the Language of the Arts — in the Himalayas," Nancy Nahm Kessler, a Kundalini Yoga Teacher, and retired from 22 years of teaching in the Montgomery County School System, discusses how she brought her teaching expertise and knowledge of the visual arts to Tibetan nuns in Northern India, giving them a new way of expressing the world around them. Free. Visit www.potomaccommunityvillage.org for more.

FOOD & DRINK

Potomac Village Farmers Market. Thursdays, 2-6:30 p.m. at Potomac United Methodist Church, at 9908 S. Glen Rd. Visit www.potomacvillagefarmersmarket.net for more.

Bethesda Farm Women's Market. Year-round, every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., at 7155 Wisconsin Ave. Visit www.farmwomensmarket.com for more.

Bethesda Central Farm Market. Sundays, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Bethesda Elementary School, 7600 Arlington Road, Bethesda Shop for a range of fresh and local products from over 60 vendors. Free. Visit www.centralfarmmarkets.com.

Pike Central Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., near the Shriver Aquatic Center in the bus parking lot at the intersection of Old Georgetown Road and Executive Blvd. Visit www.centralfarmmarkets.com for more.

Kensington Farmers Market. Year-round on Saturdays, 8 a.m.-noon. at Kensington train station parking lot on Howard Avenue. Visit tok.md.gov/events/farmers-market for more.

Winery and Market. Thursday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sundays 12 p.m.-6p.m. Rockland Farm Winery and Market, 14525 Montevideo Road, Poolesville. Offers fruit, vegetables, pasture-raised meats, wine tasting and tours. Visit www.rocklandsfarmmd.com or call 301-825-8075.

FRIDAY/MAY 20

Concert. 11 a.m. at Strathmore Mansion, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Nate Foley, soul guitarist, performs. Tickets are \$17. Call 301-581-5100 for more.

Grand Finale with Creative Goldsmiths. 6-9 p.m. at Gallery B, 7700 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda. Learn about design and gems. Bring a special jewelry piece for a verbal appraisal. Serving samples of Chouquette Chocolates, wine, and other gourmet delights. Free. Email Karen@Seibergroup.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 21

Snakehead Fishing Derby. 9 a.m. at Pennyfield Lock, C&O Canal Park,

1850 Dual Highway, Hagerstown. The "Stop the Snakehead" Fishing Derby will raise awareness and reduce the negative impact of snakeheads in our ecosystems. Snakeheads have spread beyond the Potomac River and throughout many tidal rivers in the Chesapeake Bay. In 2015 the species was found reproducing in the C&O Canal. Free. Visit dmr2.maryland.gov/fisheries/Pages/snakehead-derby.aspx to register.

Strawberry Festival. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Potomac United Methodist Church, 9908 S. Glen Road. This event will feature vendors selling jewelry, food, home goods, clothing and more. Also find numerous strawberry desserts at the 26th annual Strawberry Festival. SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9

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Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

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6/8/2016..... HomeLifeStyle
6/15/2016... A+ Graduations & Summer Learning
6/15/2016..... Father's Day Dining & Gifts
Father's Day is June 19

6/29/2016..... Connection Families

JULY

7/6/2016..... Wellbeing
7/13/2016..... HomeLifeStyle
7/20/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools
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ENTERTAINMENT



Imagination Bethesda Festival Returns in June

The 22nd annual Imagination Bethesda, a children's street festival celebrating children and the arts, is scheduled for Saturday, June 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in downtown Bethesda at Woodmont Triangle. Organized and managed by the Bethesda Urban Partnership, the festival will host 20 local businesses and arts organizations that will provide a variety of hands-on art and craft activities to entertain and energize the 12-and-under crowd. Additionally, the festival will feature face painters, balloonists, a stilt-walker, free giveaways and more. This is a free event. Visit www.bethesda.org for more.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

FROM PAGE 8

Free. Visit www.potomac-umc.org for more.
“Clara Barton: Red Cross Angel.” 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. at The Spanish Ballroom – Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Join the National Park Service for an actor's portrayal of Clara Barton. The play, “Clara Barton: Red Cross Angel,” is a solo production by actress Mary Ann Jung celebrating the 135th anniversary of the founding of the American Red Cross. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/gwmp for more.

Park Potomac Spring Festival. 1-5 p.m. at 12505 Park Potomac Ave., Potomac. Live music from Lovely Rita, Squeals on Wheels petting zoo, face painting, balloon twisting, My Gym, beer garden with seven local breweries, food samples from our restaurants, food trucks, and more. Free. Visit www.parkpotomac.com.

Lecture: “It Must Be Magic.” 1:30-3:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 6030 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda. Learn tips for dogs that may save time, money, and stress. Free. Visit www.yourdogsfriend.org for more.

Vintage Jazz Age Dance. 5 p.m.-12 a.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Dance teach Walter Nelson will survey the foxtrot, the most popular and easy-to-learn social dance of the Jazz Age. Dance instruction in the 1920s form of the foxtrot included. Dancing follows with David Sager's Pie in the Sky Jazz Band. Lecture is free, \$18 for lesson & dance, \$14 for students. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 22

Dixieland Jazz Jam Session. 3-6 p.m. at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road, Potomac. Potomac River Jazz Club will hold its monthly traditional jazz jam session. Bring your instrument and sit in with the Conservatory Classic Jazz Band during the first set, or just drop in to listen to classic jazz, Dixieland, and swing. Admission is \$10, free for musicians and students. Call 301-762-3323 or visit www.prjc.org for more.

MONDAY/MAY 23

Terrific Trees. 5:30 p.m. at Locust Grove Nature Center, 7777 Democracy Blvd. Take a walk to learn about different trees and why they are important, followed by a leaf rubbing craft. Tickets are \$6. Call 301-765-8660 for more.

Author Event: Nazila Fathi. 7 p.m. at Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda. Iranian Journalist Fathi signs copies of her book “The Lonely War.” Free. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/bethesda.html.

SATURDAY/MAY 28

Artist's Talk: “Solitudes.” 1-2 p.m. at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway. “Solitudes” is an exhibition about urban isolation. Sarah Hood Salomon utilizes camera motion and slow shutter speeds to add a layer of anonymity to the subjects. Free. Visit www.waverlystreetgallery.com for more.

SATURDAY-MONDAY/MAY 28-30

Hometown Holidays. 2-10 p.m. at Rockville Town Center, 30 Maryland Ave., Rockville. This is a Memorial Day festival and parade in the City of Rockville with concerts, children's crafts and games. Free. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov.

SUNDAY/MAY 29

CityDance: The Conference of The Baby Birds. 11 a.m. at The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. The young talents of CityDance will showcase the techniques they have mastered throughout the year on the main stage at Strathmore for an exciting afternoon of dance. Tickets are \$15. Visit www.strathmore.org for more.

Waltz Dance. 2:45-3:30 p.m. lesson, 3:30-6 p.m. dance at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Dance to a mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.waltztimesdances.org for more.

MONDAY/MAY 30

Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Rockville Town Center, 30 Maryland

Ave., Rockville. The ceremony, located in Rockville Town Square includes music by the Rockville Concert Band and the Rockville Chorus, a traditional wreath laying led by American Legion Post 86, and a 21-gun salute and presentation of colors by American Legion Post 86 Color Guard and Rockville City Police Department Honor Guard. The City of Rockville's 72nd Annual Memorial Day Parade will top-off a weekend long celebration with more than 70 parade units including marching bands, drill and majorette units, floats and more. Free. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov.

THURSDAY/JUNE 2

Great Decisions: Korean Choices. 12:30 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac. Great Decisions is a program of the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association in which local groups gather monthly to discuss U.S. foreign policy topics. Topic for June: Korean Choices. At the end of World War II, Korea was divided in two. The northern half of the Korean peninsula was occupied by the Soviet Union, the southern by the United States. Today, North and South Korea couldn't be further apart. Free. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/branches/potomac.html.

FRIDAY/JUNE 3

Art & Soul Charity Auction. 6:30 p.m. at Silver Spring Civic Center, 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring. This year's theme, Art and Soul: “Life as Art,” embraces the philosophy that art heals, and when children and families participate in creating beauty, they feel valuable. Highlighting the event is recently signed Redskin Vernon Davis, an artist, philanthropist, and athlete. Tickets are \$75. Visit www.nccf-cares.org for more.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 3-4

URBNmarket. 3:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday at Park Potomac Market, 12500 Park Potomac Ave., Potomac. Shoppers will find local vendors selling items including home decor, pet accessories, jewelry, toys, clothes, bath and beauty products, and gourmet food. There will be a beer garden Friday and live music both days. Free. Visit www.urbnmarket.com for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 3-5

Herbert Hoover Middle: “Into The Woods Jr.” 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Herbert Hoover Middle School, 8810 Postoak Road, Potomac. Herbert Hoover Middle School presents the popular fairytale musical “Into the Woods Jr.,” directed and choreographed by Patricia B. Groisser. Tickets are \$10. Visit www.hoovermspta.org or email Karla Yager at Karla_Yager@mcpsmd.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 4

Imagination Bethesda. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle. Activity tents line the streets, face painters bring butterflies and pirates to life and find a stage of live entertainment. Free. Visit www.bethesda.org for more.

National Philharmonic Performs

Tchaikovsky. 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, performs Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6 (“Pathétique”). The concert will also feature the National Philharmonic's nearly 200 voice all-volunteer chorale performing Brahms' Gesang der Parzen (Song of the Fates) and Nänie. Concert tickets start at \$29 and are free for children ages 7-17. Visit www.nationalphilharmonic.org for more.

Washington Balalaika Society's “Musical Strings.” 8 p.m. at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre–Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville. Washington Balalaika Society presents an afternoon with Peter Omelchenko, domra virtuoso with Moscow's Osipov Folk Orchestra. Conductor Svetlana Nikonova leads the 55-musician orchestra, including Washington Balalaika Concertmaster Andrei Saveliev, in a performance of the music of Russia and Eastern Europe. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors, \$15 for students. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov for more.

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LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Techno Luxury

The homebuyer of today is definitely concerned with keeping up—not with the Joneses, perhaps, but with the ever-changing face of technology. A fully appointed den or media room used to be an important selling point in a home—today, these things are de rigueur, standard in nearly every home on the market. In order to increase the market appeal of your home and be competitive with other homes of comparable structure, size and amenities for sale in your area, the new key selling point of a property is the home office. Once a rarity, the home office has evolved into the home's hub and center of operation and activity, often controlling every technological amenity of the house from one room. Modern home automation systems link lighting, heating and air conditioning systems, as well as audio-visual equipment, security systems and the scheduling of television, recording systems, stereo equipment and lighting fixtures. The modern home office isn't just for business professionals, technological connoisseurs, or the higher-earning set, either. Today's home technology features are high-end home amenities that are available across a wide range of budgets, turning an average home into an above-average home when it hits the market, giving tech-savvy dwellings a competitive market edge. Take a look at your home's wiring, routing and see what simple upgrades you could implement that would simplify your day-to-day living while you're in the home, and that could add top-dollar value to your home when it comes time to put it on the market. Ask yourself: Is your home techno-ready?

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NEWS



In 2015, the team presented "Pandora's Box" as an updated version of the Greek myth as a video game.



Ryan Chernoff cuts wood blocks for a fish-moving mechanism while Leah Freisinger hones the plywood using a Dremel grinder.

Students To Compete in Odyssey World Finals

FROM PAGE 4

of duct tape and hot glue.

Ilayda Dogan used old socks and tights to produce a "Sockness Monster."

Ryan Chernoff helped design the fish-moving mechanism while Leah Freisinger honed plywood using a Dremel grinder and used her acting skills to play the main character in the performance. A fish-moving mechanism based on a camera slide was created and assembled from scrap wood and PVC pipe by Ilayda Dogan

and Audrey Benford. "I did a lot of the script writing," said Harrison Benford. "But putting together the bait shack from individual bamboo leaves and cardboard took a lot of time — and we probably burned ourselves on the hot glue gun 60 times."

The team will spend four days in the dorms at Iowa State. One of the team's favorite activities is to exchange team pins with the other youths from everywhere in the U.S. as well as from foreign countries. Every team has its own

pin — last year's team pin was a Dragon. Audrey Benford said, "It was one of the most popular — everyone wanted it so bad."

The students are hoping to continue OotM when they move on to middle school next year. They are each involved in a myriad of activities from swimming to competitive Scrabble, from gymnastics to playing musical instruments — but all are hoping they will be able to stay together as a team and compete again next year in the 2017 OotM World Finals.



Sophia Hoffmeyer (left) and Audrey Benford craft a larger-than-life catfish using cardboard, scrap wallpaper, duct tape and hot glue.

Among the artistic creations were the catfish and a "Sockness Monster," produced from old socks and tights; holding their creations are (from left) Audrey Benford, Sophia Hoffmeyer, and Ilayda Dogan.

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POTOMAC ALMANAC

Language Immersion for Young Children

Experts tout the benefits of an early start.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

When Martha Davis' daughter Alice was ready for kindergarten, she decided to enroll her in a Spanish language immersion program. Davis, who is the assistant dean for World Languages at Northern Virginia Community College chose Mt. Vernon Community School in Alexandria.

"I know personally the benefits of knowing a second language and I wanted my daughter to experience that," she said.

Davis, also a Spanish professor, says that the benefits of such immersion programs range from boosting cognitive functioning and confidence to accent acquisition and social skills development. "Speaking with a native or near-native accent significantly eases communication, particularly with



PHOTO COURTESY BY CHRIS REYNOLDS

Martha Davis reads a book written in Spanish with her daughters, 6-year-old Alice (right) and 4-year old Jane. Alice is in a Spanish immersion program at Mt. Vernon Community School in Alexandria.

people unaccustomed to interacting with non-native speakers," said Davis. "This in turn can help boost the confidence of the non-native speaker and can provide the encouragement needed to continue language study."

Numerous studies suggest the brain-boosting power of early exposure to a sec-

ond language as another benefit of immersion programs for young children, says Ana Lado, Ph.D., professor of Education at Marymount University in Arlington.

"Cognitively, kids who learn two languages in preschool and really young children tend to score better on abstract thinking all the way into high school," said Lado. "If you know that in one language there is one word for chair and it includes foot stool and sofa chair and lounge, and in another language you have three different words it makes your brain think more abstractly."

The sooner children gain exposure to a second language, the easier it is to acquire, says Davis who contrasts her daughter's feelings with those of some of her adult students, "who feel that speaking another language is strange or foreign," which impedes their language acquisition," she said.

"I have found that if students can iden-

tify themselves as a speaker of the language of instruction, regardless of their level of proficiency, they enjoy learning the language more and acquire it more easily," said Davis. "This year Alice has begun to sign her name 'Alicia' on her Spanish homework."

Local language immersion programs offer classes for children as young as 10 months old. They use songs and games to teach language in a way that is pleasurable for students. "Starting when they're young helps language develop organically and naturally," said Amanda Michetti of Language Starts, which offers classes to children in Alexandria, Fairfax, Arlington, Reston and Bethesda. "The classes are conversation based with a little bit of reading and writing."

Hilary Javier has three children, ages two, three and four, who take Mandarin Chinese at Language Starts. She wants them to be citizens of the world, and believes exposure to a second language is important in achieving that goal. "You don't have to translate anything into English," said Javier. "They really do understand from picking it up naturally in the immersion setting. There is this special window when they are young to expose them to different cultures they would not never been exposed to, even noticeable in their mannerisms in the classroom."

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Wind and Mud Compete at Potomac Hunt Races

FROM PAGE 3

an third. They ran seemingly as a pair around the two-mile course.

Following the race, Rouse welcomed many friends who came from the sidelines to congratulate him on the win and say how happy they were to see him looking well and weathering the chilly wind while sitting in a golf-like cart. The well-known popular Virginia fox hunter will be 100 years old on Dec. 30. The U.S. Postal Service had better prepare for an

onslaught of birthday cards. During the half-hour break between each of the seven races, including the pony event, there were hundreds of tailgate parties in action where thousands of deviled eggs and fried chicken legs were included. Bob Hanson, who recently celebrated his 92nd birthday, prepared his own tailgate feast for his guests as he has in many past years. Also among those hosting tailgates on the rail were Camille and Fritz Finley, her parents Skip and Vicki Crawford, "Junior" Magassy, Luttie Semmes, and Denise and Rex Reed, all providing for friends and relatives on one side of the course while on the opposite side jt.MFH Beverley Bosselmann and her husband, Rainer, held forth with four tailgate spaces. They traditionally sponsor the pony race event in honor of their son, the late Cpl. Kirk Bosselmann.

Devereaux Raskauskas, Kaja and Bubba Farnsworth the Dan Crowleys, and truly hundreds of others lined up on both inside and outside rails for open air dining and watching the races.

At least there was one person not totally concentrating on the races. Kevin Dickerson of Poolesville took a few minutes to get down on his knees, yes, in the mud, and propose to Morgan Fields, also of Poolesville. Morgan later said, while showing off a lovely engagement ring to friends, "I have been coming to these races for 23 years." She didn't have to add that this experience was a first. When asked when was



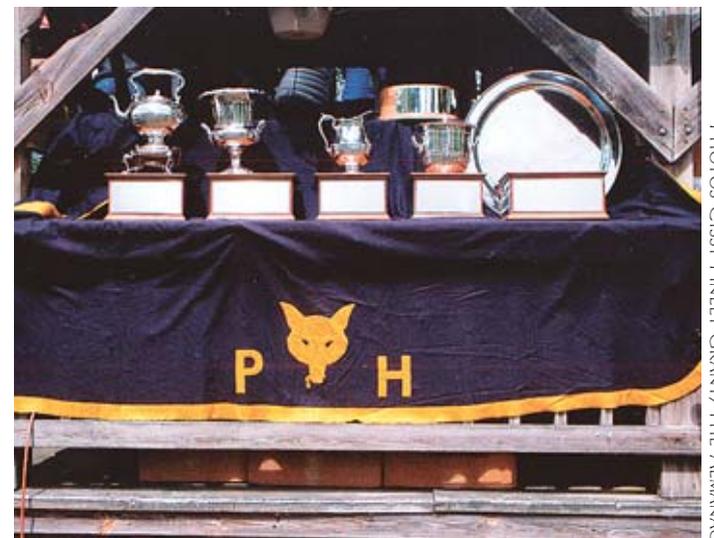
Jockey, Barry Foley, paid a visit to Randolph Rouse, (front) center following Rouse's horse, "Hishi Soar" winning the Preakness Open Hurdle with Foley in the saddle.

the wedding date she replied, "I have no idea." Obviously they didn't take the time just then to sort that out. There were races to be seen.

Ladies hats were also seen. Everywhere. They weren't worn for style, but to keep the hair from blowing in all directions and to hopefully add a little bit of warmth. Scarves and wool jackets were in abundance especially for those riding in the tractor driven-vehicle operated by Andy Marchwicki. He circled the entire course throughout the afternoon, primarily with youngsters on board.

The two weeks of rainy weather may have caused a muddy race course but it surely didn't prevent a day of good racing. It came straight from the horses' mouth, "It was a good day."

Racing to the finish are #10 "Kiss My Sass" ridden by Abigail Murphy, #5 "Splash" ridden by Brooke Leatherman and #6 "Jigsaw" ridden by Colin Smith.



Lined up and waiting are Potomac Hunt race trophies: "To the winners, go the spoils."



PHOTOS CISSY FINLEY GRANT/THE ALMANAC

PHOTO BY CHESLEY HURDLE



Potomac Huntsman Brian Kiely served as an outrider for the day's racing event at "Bittersweet Field," Poolesville.



Waiting and ready to race in The Surrey sponsored "Stick Race" are (from left) Viven, Ella, Daphne, Alex, Mathew, Alex, Hannah, Aspen and Lina.



Heping out at previous strawberry festival at the church were Kathy Ku ...



... and Katie Clark.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Strawberry Festival Returns Saturday

FROM PAGE 2
visit www.byteback.org.

Vendors Alley is one of the most popular rooms for beginning a shopping spree. Buyers can shop for trendy fashions, whimsical yet utilitarian pottery, watercolor stationery, handbags from England, fashionable jewelry, items from Tibet, children's tutus and bows and small-batch olive oils. Handmade bath products and chemical-free skincare items as well as free-trade chocolate and tea will also be available.

Vendor Renan Kennedy, who owns SansSkincare.com, said, "I love doing these shows, talking to customers and meeting people in general. But what I'm most passionate about is the opportunity to educate people about the benefits of natural products. All of our products are made from plants and there is not a synthetic ingredient in any of them. We use plants in our products because plants

are healing, and they are good for us regardless of how we take them in. Our bodies need plants and plant nutrition because plants are living substances and contain a vital life energy. I hope everyone comes by the Strawberry Festival or at least visits our website at www.SansSkincare.com."

Shoppers love the Home Treasures area, which features a collection of estate sale items and "nearly-new" home furnishings at discounted prices. This is the place where one might find the perfect item for their home — or for a gift.

The Chic Boutique is a place for delving into vintage and "nearly new" clothing for women and children. The patient shopper can often locate designer clothing as well as brand-name fashions for a fraction of their original price.

Head to the Silent Auction to bid on sports tickets, travel destinations, vacation homes, a variety of experiences and restaurant certifi-

cates donated by members of the PUMC community. Each of the vendors has also donated an item for the silent auction too.

Don't leave the children at home. Bring them along to play in the Kid's Game Room with teens to watch over them while they lead them in all kinds of games.

By the time one has "shopped for a cause," had the freedom to shop for oneself — bid on a family vacation or two — and maybe even won a raffle prize, it will be time for lunch and dessert. The men of PUMC will be serving a lunch of pulled pork sandwiches, hamburgers and hot dogs. Top this lunch off with a strawberry dessert.

The Strawberry Festival will open its doors at 10 a.m. on the morning of May 21 and will close at 4 p.m. Potomac United Methodist Church is located at 9908 South Glen Road, Potomac — at the intersection of Falls and Democracy Blvd.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Work with Victims of Sexual Assault. Volunteers are needed to assist sexual assault victims and their families through the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP) of the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Volunteers provide 24-hour crisis counseling and companion services at Montgomery County hospitals and police stations

for victims of rape, sexual assault, and domestic violence. Bi-lingual volunteers are encouraged to apply. All potential volunteers must attend a training program. Call 240-777-1355 or go to montgomerycountymd.gov/vasap.

Potomac Community Village is seeking volunteer drivers to take Potomac seniors to doctor's appointments, physical therapy,

social activities and other life-enriching engagements. Potomac Community Village's volunteer drivers use their personal vehicles, receive training, get free supplemental auto insurance coverage, and don't need to live in Potomac or be PCV members. Flexible volunteer scheduling. Contact Jill Phillips at 703-424-0494 or jill.phillips@gmail.com.

Help clean up the C&O Canal for Spring. As the warm weather approaches, the C&O Canal Trust is hitting the towpath for some spring cleaning and they need help. Clear debris, paint shelters, exhibits, and benches, help maintain trails, and more. Gather family and friends and come help out. Choose from one of three Canal Pride events and sign up at canaltrust.org/trust/



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PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

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



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Clutter



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Either it's the cancer/seven-plus years of chemotherapy, or it's my age. Regardless, information retention and recall is not quite what it used to be. What goes in doesn't exactly come out, or if it does, it's somewhat after the fact. I wouldn't say it's embarrassing yet, and it hasn't led to any speech impediment-type of hemming and hawing. But it has led to something, other than this column, that is.

I haven't quite resorted to index/flash cards, nor am I avoiding human interaction as a way to minimize the awkwardness. I am still going about my normal business – or lack thereof, and wondering if time is on my side or has it been usurped by powers greater than me. And since there's no real definitive answer, I'll try to stop questioning whether what I think I'm experiencing is inevitable or am I, as any Three Stooges aficionado would appreciate: simply "a victim of circumstance."

Granted, I may not be the sharpest knife in the drawer, but if we're invoking utensils here, neither am I a spoon. I can accept the fact that in the knife category, I'm closer to a butter knife than I am to a steak knife; meaning I get the job done, probably with less haste, but likely with more waste. Nevertheless, the job gets done and more often than not, it's without further ado. And while I'm using *ado/adiou*, I don't feel as if this lack of recall/retention is indicative of me bidding adieu. However, it does give me pause about my status as a long-time (in the stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer world, when one's prognosis was originally "13 months to two years," seven-plus years is a long time) survivor. Maybe I'm simply experiencing what any person nearing the age of 62 does. It's not the cancer, it's dare I say/hope: middle age. Although I'll admit I may be on the downside of it, and approaching what I'll call "older" age (not "old" age).

But let's be honest here, when an oncologist advises you at age 54 and a half that your prognosis is at best two years and that he can "treat you but can't cure you," and that perhaps, "you should take that vacation you've always dreamt of," not only does your middle age (or what's left of it) rapidly disappear, so too does your "older"/"old" age.

Quite unexpectedly then, given your prior good health and no history of cancer in your immediate family, your mind/brain quickly gets overloaded with facts, figures, feelings and fears it had never considered before. Ergo the clutter. Not that there's a limited amount of space in your head for all this new/never-expected information, but it does seem to crowd out more familiar, less impactful stuff. At least that's my story/ rationalization and I'm most definitely sticking to it.

But my reality is: I am stuck with it, unfortunately. No cure doesn't exactly conjure optimism. Nevertheless, as a long-suffering Boston Red Sox fan (until 2004, that is, when "the curse" was finally broken as the Bosox won their first World Series in 86 years), hope springs eternal, and so I remain ever hopeful. It's just that occasionally, I have difficulty remembering/articulating that hopefulness – among other things. No worries though. I know the information is still in my head, somewhere. I'm sure I'll get it out, eventually.

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

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Churchill Lax Will Host Championship Doubleheader

The Churchill girls' and boys' lacrosse teams will host 4A/3A West region championship games on Wednesday, May 18.

Both teams will face Urbana, with the girls playing first at 5:15 p.m. at Churchill High School. The boys' game will follow at 7:15.

The Churchill girls, seeded No. 2, knocked off No. 1 Whitman 10-6 in their section final on Monday. The Bulldogs improved to 11-4 this season, including a 9-8 win over the Vikings on April 14 during the regular season. The Churchill girls last won a region title in 2012.

The Churchill boys beat rival Wootton for the second time this season, 9-5, on Monday in the section final. The Bulldogs improved to 15-1, with their only loss coming against private school power Landon.

Churchill has won 32 of its last 35 games dating back to the start of the 2015 season.

The Bulldogs have won three of the last four region championships.

Whitman Baseball Falls in Section Semifinals

The Whitman baseball team lost to Blair 5-4 in the section semifinals on Monday, ending the Vikings' season. Whitman finished the year with a 14-5 record.

Wootton Softball Upsets Northwest

The Wootton softball team knocked off



Reed Moshyedi and the Churchill boys' lacrosse team will host Urbana in the 4A/3A West championship game on Wednesday, May 18.



Meredith White and the Wootton softball team will face Clarksburg in the section final at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18 at Clarksburg High School.

PHOTOS BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Northwest, the No. 1 seed in Section II of the 4A West region, 5-4 on Monday in the section semifinals.

Wootton, seeded No. 4, beat No. 5 Gaithersburg 6-5 in the opening round on

May 12 before upsetting Northwest, which entered the contest with a 12-1 record.

The Patriots will travel to face Clarksburg in the section final at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 7

Rockville. For parents grieving the death of a child of any age, a six-week group led by Montgomery Hospice professional counselors. Registration required, 301-921-4400.

THURSDAY/MAY 19

Grief Support Group. 6:30-8 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. For anyone grieving the death of a loved one, a six-week group led by Montgomery Hospice professional counselors. Registration required, call 301-921-4400.

Support Group: Loss of a Parent. 6:30-8 p.m. at Mother Seton Catholic Church, 19951 Father Hurley Blvd., Germantown. For adults who have experienced the death of one or both parents, a six-week group led by Montgomery Hospice professional counselors. Registration required, call 301-921-4400.

FRIDAY/MAY 20

Bike to Work Day 2016. Join more than 17,000 area commuters for a celebration of bicycling as a fun, healthy and environmentally-friendly way to get to work. Register or locate specific start/end times for all pit stops at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 22

Community Eye Health Day. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Birch Auditorium, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, 9901 Medical Center Drive, Rockville. Vision Matters 2016: Community Eye Health

Day will feature resource exhibits, eye screenings and lectures. Light refreshments will be served. Free. Visit youreyes.org/events/details/360-vision-matters-2016 for more.

Celebrate Women's Lives on the Canal. 11 a.m. The Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park is located at 11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac. The Chesapeake and Ohio National Historical Park will be commemorating women's stories on the canal with free public programming hosted at the Great Falls Tavern in Potomac. The day's program, "Never Done!," begins with a historic laundry demonstration. Call 301-767-3714 or visit www.nps.gov/choh for a schedule of events.

TUESDAY/MAY 24

Employment Seminar. 8 a.m.-noon at the Silver Spring Civic Building, 8525 Fenton St. The County, State, and Federal Employment Law Updates & Information Breakfast will provide participants information about new and emerging employment laws at every level with special emphasis on state and federal fair employment laws. There will also be some updates about new county laws. Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, and preferably three days prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate, call 240-777-8454, TTY users can use Maryland Relay or email anis.ahmed@montgomerycountymd.gov. Deadline to register is May 20 at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights or by contacting Beverly Marshall at 240-777-

8479 or Beverly.marshall@montgomerycountymd.gov. A complimentary continental breakfast will be served.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 25

Volunteer Training. 7 p.m. at the Holiday Park Senior Center at 3950 Ferrara Drive, Silver Spring. Senior Connection is in great need for volunteers to drive seniors to medical appointments or to help with grocery shopping. Training and liability coverage are provided. Volunteers access a web-based scheduling system so they can set their own schedules and help seniors who are nearby. Email volunteer@seniorconnectionmc.org, call 301-962-0820 or visit www.seniorconnectionmc.org for more.

THROUGH MAY 27

Kindergarten orientation sessions will take place through May 27 for children entering kindergarten in the 2016-2017 school year. During orientation, parents and students will meet the school principal, kindergarten teachers and other staff members. Parents will have an opportunity to ask questions about the school's procedures and programs; enroll students for next school year and complete important forms. Children who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2016, can be enrolled in kindergarten. For more information about the kindergarten program and orientation sessions, parents can call their home school or 301-230-0676. Visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org for more.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Daniel Ricci, of Potomac, was recently inducted into a Sigma Alpha Pi at Lebanon Valley College (Annville, Pa.) during the College's annual Inquiry celebration. Ricci, a graduate of Winston Churchill High School, is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in politics at The Valley.

Danielle Green and **Emily Sherer**, both from Potomac, were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Green was initiated at The University of Texas at Austin. Sherer was initiated at University of Maryland, Baltimore Campuses.

Taylor Morgan, a Stevenson University senior and men's lacrosse player, is one of 12 players to be recognized by the MAC Commonwealth. Morgan helped win the team their fourth-straight MAC Commonwealth Championship. The Mustangs beat Messiah College 10-3 in the 2016 championship game.

The following students from Potomac were named Finalists in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program:

❖ **Noah D. Levine**, Montgomery Blair High School, probable career field: science/research

❖ **Eileen Moudou**, Richard Montgomery High School

❖ **Uri Schwartz**, Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, probable career field: mechanical engineering

❖ **Kevin Wang**, Winston Churchill High School, probable career field: physics.

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