

# Potomac ALMANAC

While the Potomac Village Garden Club recently worked with Glenstone Museum to create a garden of native plants in front of Potomac Library along Falls Road, the club has been maintaining flowers and gardens around the library since its inception. Native Redbud trees have been blooming on all sides.

REAL ESTATE SALES, PAGE 2 ❖ KENNY LOURIE, PAGE 7

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## White Ferry Reopening Hits Roadbumps

NEWS, PAGE 3

## Remembering Maeve and Gideon With Your Own 5K

REMEMBERING, PAGE 3

## SENIOR LIVING

PAGE 7

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# Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

## February, 2021 Sales, \$1,250,000~\$1,067,410

IN FEBRUARY, 2021, 48 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD  
BETWEEN \$2,599,000-\$305,000.



**2** 11904  
Ledgerock Court  
— \$1,190,000



**6** 9328 Chesley Road — \$1,125,000



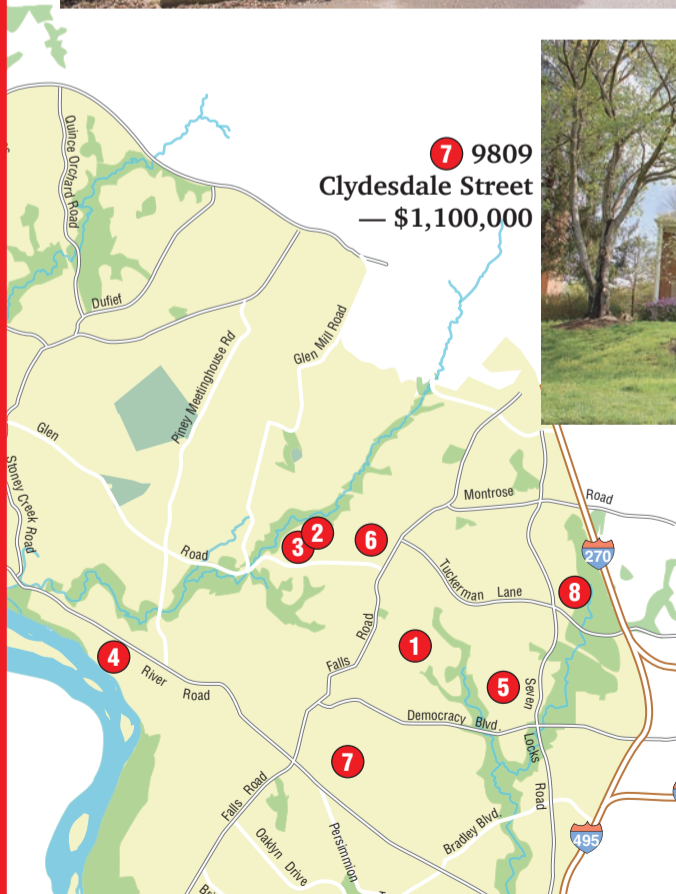
**3** 11904  
Tallwood Court  
— \$1,185,000



**8** 11326 Emerald Park Road — \$1,067,410



**5** 10534 Tyler Terrace — \$1,153,900



**7** 9809  
Clydesdale Street  
— \$1,100,000



Address.....BR FB HB Postal City.....Sold Price... Type.....Lot AC. Postal Code ... Subdivision..... Date Sold

- 1** 9213 CAMBRIDGE MANOR CT. 5... 4... 1 ...POTOMAC . \$1,250,000 ... Detached.. 0.50..... 20854. POTOMAC OUTSIDE. 02/19/21
- 2** 11904 LEDGEROCK CT..... 5... 3... 2 ....POTOMAC . \$1,190,000 ... Detached.. 0.35..... 20854... COUNTRY PLACE .. 02/26/21
- 3** 11904 TALLWOOD CT ..... 4... 4... 1 ....POTOMAC . \$1,185,000 ... Detached.. 0.37..... 20854..... GLEN OAKS ..... 02/24/21
- 4** 10825 ADMIRALS WAY ..... 5... 4.....POTOMAC . \$1,170,000 ... Detached.. 1.12..... 20854 DARNESTOWN OUTSIDE 02/12/21
- 5** 10534 TYLER TER ..... 5... 3... 1 ....POTOMAC . \$1,153,000 ... Detached.. 0.20..... 20854.BELLS MILL VILLAGE 02/05/21
- 6** 9328 CHESLEY RD ..... 5... 2... 2 ....POTOMAC . \$1,125,000 ... Detached.. 0.41..... 20854..... WINTERSET ..... 02/26/21
- 7** 9809 CLYDESDALE ST..... 4... 3... 1 ....POTOMAC . \$1,100,000 ... Detached.. 0.40..... 20854. POTOMAC VILLAGE. 02/08/21
- 8** 11326 EMERALD PARK RD . 3... 3... 2 ....POTOMAC . \$1,067,410 ... Townhouse 0.00..... 20854.CABIN JOHN VILLAGE 02/24/21

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## All Hands on Deck Montgomery and Loudoun counties work together to reopen White's Ferry.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE ALMANAC

**C**huck Kuhn now has multiple deckhands eager to help White's Ferry get back to business. "We stand ready and willing to reopen," said Kuhn, founder and CEO of JK Moving Services, who bought the historic ferry service in February.

After purchasing historic White's Ferry in February, Kuhn and his wife Stacy Kuhn encountered obstacles. Last week, they announced the opening would be pushed back up to 10 months before the famed ferry can carry commuters again.

"We will be seeking more help from the county and state to ensure this vital route serves our community and people," said Kuhn. "To restart, the ferry must gain use rights in Virginia."

Montgomery County and Loudoun County are now involved. The departments of transportation from both counties will study available options for resuming ferry service between the two counties at the historic White's Ferry location. "Restoring the operation of a Potomac River Ferry between Montgomery County and Loudoun County as soon as possible is critically important to reducing travel times to and from Virginia for many of our residents," said Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich. "This connection across the Potomac will also provide more Virginians access to Montgomery County businesses and our grow-



**Whites Ferry carried 600-800 vehicles a day between Montgomery and Loudoun counties before its sudden closure at the end of 2020. Efforts are underway to get the ferry operating again.**

ing agritourism sector. Plus, the ferry ride is just plain fun."

**THE STUDY** is expected to begin within the next 30 days and be completed within 90 days of the start date, according to Montgomery County and Loudoun County documents.

"Our residents on both sides of the Potomac River need this ferry service to resume quickly," said Elrich.

The study's scope will include: roadway access and ferry use along with any other pertinent transportation issues; identifying legal and regulatory requirements associated with ferry operations; landing site improvements and landing

location options; operating alternatives that may include a public/private partnership.

"Regional solutions require regional collaboration and we are grateful to Loudoun County for partnering with us, along with our state and local partners, so we can return the ferry service our residents and businesses need as quickly as possible," said Potomac's councilmember Andrew Friedson.

"Restoring this critical transportation connection across the Potomac River is essential to our regional mobility, economy, and quality of life," he said.

**WHITE'S FERRY** has operated

since 1786, recently as an \$8 cable ferry service that carried vehicles across the Potomac River between Poolesville and Loudoun County. But a few days before the New Year, White's Ferry operators announced that it would cease operations because of land disputes with Loudoun's Rockland Farm (NOT Rocklands Farm Winery in Montgomery County).

Kuhn finalized the purchase on Feb. 11, 2021, which includes the ferry, the store and the Maryland shoreline that supports the ferry operation.

"White's Ferry represents a piece of our region's past as an early commerce route that built and sustained local economies and remains so today. This fits with my family's interest in conserving land and history as well as supporting business and the local communities. White's Ferry has provided an important and scenic transportation alternative to the swelling demands on our local roads," said Kuhn, in February.

**THE LAST OF** the 100 ferries that operated on the Potomac River, White's Ferry connects Whites Ferry Road in Montgomery County by a road by the same name in Loudoun County. The ferry took 600-860 vehicles across the Potomac River each day through last year, according to the Loudoun County Department of Transportation.

White's Ferry ceased operations on Dec. 28, 2020, following a Circuit Court opinion in a private dis-

pute over the use of private land for the ferry landing in Virginia.

Shore disputes between Maryland and Virginia date back to colonial times. In 2003, the Supreme Court of the United States settled a dispute between the Commonwealth of Virginia and the State of Maryland regarding Virginia's rights to draw water from the Potomac River, *Virginia v. Maryland*. The court ruled in favor of Virginia, citing the Maryland-Virginia Compact of 1785, an agreement between the two states concerning navigational and riparian water rights along the Potomac River.

"Since the closure, Loudoun County has been actively engaging the owners of the ferry and property on which the landing in Virginia is located to facilitate a resolution between the private parties involved. Loudoun County and Montgomery County strongly support the resolution of issues between private parties to re-establish daily ferry service as soon as possible at White's Ferry," according to documents from the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors.

"The ferry has ramifications for our local economy and the livelihoods of many people, from technology workers to retail employees to farm workers," said Kuhn. "The former ferry owner Herb Brown and his team have been a pleasure to work with as have all the municipalities and states—all of which are interested in protecting this important transportation route," said Kuhn.

## Remembering Maeve and Gideon

**F**amily and friends created the maeveandgideon.org website in memory of former Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend's daughter Maeve and grandson Gideon "to serve as a virtual scrapbook of their lives and those who loved them."

Maeve Kennedy Townsend McKean and her son Gideon McKean died April 2, 2020, in a boating accident in Maryland.

Family and friends started the non-profit website. Virtual 5K runs in April will be held in their memory, and residents are encouraged to run their own races this month. The website is to "rally support for the fellowships and funds memorializing them as well as offering a space to learn about and to support the ongoing work being done in their

names," according to the website.

People who support the efforts are asked to donate to any cause they want to in honor of Maeve or Gideon.

"The curation of this website is an act of love. And an imperfect and incomplete one," according to the website. "We welcome any additions, suggestions, or participation in updating it in ways that will better share their stories. Please sign up to hear about these updates — plans for in-person events — from relay races to conferences and workshops will get underway when it is safe to gather again."

They ask for those who participate to share photos at maeveandgideon@gmail.com

"If you knew Maeve or Gideon, we hope that as you look through this site

you are reminded of all the joy they brought to your life and we hope that you will share any memories or artifacts — photos, videos, letters, voice-mails — that bring a strong memory. We also hope that those who love them and those who are just learning about them are able to share in their joy and support causes that they care about."

**In April, run your own 5K, and support any cause you choose, in memory of Kathleen Kennedy Townsend's daughter Maeve and grandson Gideon. Maeve Kennedy Townsend McKean and her son Gideon McKean died April 2, 2020, in a boating accident.**





While the Potomac Village Garden Club recently worked with Glenstone Museum to create a garden of native plants in front of Potomac Library along Falls Road, the club has been maintaining flowers and gardens around the library since its inception. Native Redbud trees have been blooming on all sides. For listing of virtual events, see <https://mcpl.libnet.info/events?l=virtual+branch&r=thisweek>

## Preparing to Reopen Libraries, Likely in June

Montgomery County's public library system is preparing for a phased-in reopening of its libraries, which have been closed since March 13, 2020, due to the pandemic. No date yet for the reopening, but it's likely to be sometime in June.

The following safety features are being implemented in preparation for the reopening:

- putting in plexiglass dividers
- installing more self-checkout stations to limit person-to-person interaction
- spreading computers apart to ensure social distancing
- putting hand sanitizer stations in buildings

The county also is installing enhanced WiFi outside library branches that will be available at some distance from the buildings.

While the libraries have been physically closed, MCPL has conducted about 200 virtual library events and activities per month and processed more than 300,000 re-



If butterflies could read ...

quests from patrons for books and other library materials for contact-less pickup.

For listing of virtual events, see <https://mcpl.libnet.info/events?l=virtual+branch&r=thisweek>



The Potomac Library is available for telephone service and Holds to Go! contactless holds pick-up service only. The bookdrop is open. But the plantings and blooming trees around the building brighten the view. <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/services/holds-to-go.html>

## Council Approves Phased Reopening Tied To Improving Metrics

BY COUNCILMEMBER ANDREW FRIEDSON

hibits.

Tuesday, the County Council acting as the Board of Health approved a phased reopening strategy tied to the significant progress we've been able to make on vaccinations. Thanks to the precautions taken and sacrifices made by residents and business owners, and the diligence of just more than 50 percent of County residents who have received at least their first dose of vaccine so far, we're in a much safer and more stable situation. Together, we've successfully reduced COVID case rates in Montgomery County below the important benchmarks of 10 new cases per 100,000 residents (currently 7.93) and the test positivity rate of three (currently 2.15).

I have consistently pushed for our County to employ target reopening metrics because of our responsibility to be transparent about the conditions public health experts believe would be safe to begin loosening restrictions. Today's amended public health order does just that and is modeled on phased reopening strategies that are being successfully implemented in states such as Illinois and California.

Here are some of the major changes that went into effect today, as more than 50 percent (50.4 percent) of the County's population has now received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine:

Gathering limits increase to 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors;

Businesses previously open at 25 percent capacity (including theaters) now move to 50 percent capacity and may serve concessions with social distancing;

Capacities for sports activities increase to 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors, with a similar number of spectators.

Malls may fully reopen concourses and museums may reopen interactive ex-

Once 60 percent of the County's population has received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, which we hope to achieve in the coming weeks:

Gathering limits will increase to 250 people indoors and no limit outdoors (including for sports and summer camp activities);

Most businesses move to 75 percent capacity;

Camps may permit campers from outside of Maryland, D.C., or Virginia;

Convention and banquet facilities will be limited to 50 percent capacity in line with State restrictions;

Religious facilities move to 75 percent capacity.

Finally, at 50 percent of the County's population being fully vaccinated, the County will follow any State or Maryland Department of Health requirements in place at the time. With 33.6 percent of the population fully vaccinated as of today, this phase is expected to occur within six weeks.

If COVID community transmission metrics begin to increase, the Health Officer will report those concerns to the Council, which may suspend the next phase of reopening pending the required public hearing procedure.

As always, please encourage your loved ones and friends age 16 and over to pre-register to receive a vaccine, through the County, the State, or a private physician or pharmacy. The more we encourage those around us to get vaccinated, the faster we can move to the next phase of reopening. The decreasing number of people suffering from COVID proves that vaccines work. This has been an incredibly challenging period of our lives. Thanks to your commitment to keeping yourself and others around you safe and healthy, we're finally much closer to returning to some semblance of normalcy.

# MCDOT Launches Free, Direct Shuttle Service to Montgomery College Germantown Campus Mass Vaccination Site

For County residents 16 and older who have an appointment, MCDOT is now providing free Ride On bus service between the Montgomery College Germantown Campus mass vaccination site and the Shady Grove Metro Station.

The shuttle service is marked "Vaccine Shuttle" and operates Monday through Friday every 30 minutes between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Bay H on the east side of the Shady Grove Metro. Pick-ups and drop-offs at the Germantown Campus are in front of the Bioscience Education Center.

Weekend travel between the two sites is available on the Ride On Route 55.

Residents can pre register for a COVID-19 vaccination on the County's vaccine website at [montgomery-countymd.gov/COVID19/vaccine](http://montgomery-countymd.gov/COVID19/vaccine).

Pandemic safety measures remain in effect. All pas-

sengers are required to wear a face covering while on the bus. All buses have a supply of face coverings for those who do not have their own.

Social distancing continues to be strongly recommended in all public spaces including on board the buses and trains and at bus stops and shelters. Riders are asked to make their best effort to maintain maximum physical distance between themselves and other riders who are not from the same household.

Bus interiors continue to be cleaned by the County's Department of General Services twice daily with hospital-grade disinfectant. Bus filter and ventilation systems also are treated each night with a disinfectant.

As a reminder, all Ride On, Ride On extRa, and Flash buses remain free to all passengers through at least June 30. The Flex on demand service remains suspended.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

### WEDNESDAY/APRIL 28

Making Your Home Safer. 7-9 p.m. Via Zoom. Making Your Home Safer for Older Adults, with an expert from AARP's HomeFit program teaching us how to examine our own homes, how they fit our needs - or if they don't. Visit the website: [www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org](http://www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org).

### COUNTY PREPARING TO REOPEN LIBRARIES

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### GREENFEST 2021

Montgomery County's GreenFest 2021 Continues Celebration of Earth Month.

Creating a Planter with Native Plants. Thursday, April 29. 7-8 p.m.

Lecture will highlight the benefits of using native plants to beautify gardens while helping to support local wildlife and pollinators. Participants will learn steps to create a beautiful planter using plants native to this region. One participant will win a native plant container. Register at [https://apm.activecommunities.com/montgomerycounty/Activity\\_Search/115148](https://apm.activecommunities.com/montgomerycounty/Activity_Search/115148).

The Story of Plastic. Tuesday, April 27. 7-8 p.m.

Plastic pollution is everywhere, smothering watersheds, bays and oceans and poisoning communities around the world. The session will address what is being done to increase recycling and eliminate plastic waste. Join

environmental leaders to discuss the efforts underway in Montgomery County and Maryland to reduce waste stream and improve the environment.

Registration required at [https://apm.activecommunities.com/montgomerycounty/Activity\\_Search/115153](https://apm.activecommunities.com/montgomerycounty/Activity_Search/115153). A link to watch the film online will be emailed to participants after they register.

### REQUEST FOOD ASSISTANCE

Residents looking for information on food assistance resources can now request help by completing a simple online form. Available in seven languages (Amharic, Chinese, English, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese), the form is reviewed by a trained resource specialist, and residents receive a return phone call within one business day. The specialist will determine a resident's individual food needs and help them locate food assistance in their community. No Personally identifiable information is needed to get help.

Information is available about free food distribution sites, free meal and grocery delivery, SNAP (Food Stamps), local food assistance providers, and other resources in Montgomery County. Residents can also call 311 and ask for the Food Access Call Center to get help with their food needs.

During this pandemic, Potomac Community Village is active via Zoom and helping members where possible.

Our Help Desk is ready for you at 240-221-1370

To join our mailing list send email to [info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org](mailto:info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org)

Visit us at

[www.potomaccommunityvillage.org](http://www.potomaccommunityvillage.org)



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back to 2008 are available at

<http://connectionarchives.com/PDF>

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9. This year we will continue to publish submissions through the May 5th and 6th editions. Photo submissions are due by Sunday, May 2, 2021.

Please complete a submission form at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/mothersday) and send us your photo(s). You may also email the requested information and photo(s) directly to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Mother's Day Photo Submission**  
Publishes: May 5, 2021



This edition also creates a wonderful advertising opportunity for local businesses. For Advertising: Call 703-778-9431 or Email [advertising@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:advertising@connectionnewspapers.com)

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The courtyard in Potomac Place Shopping Center, next to Starbucks, is a popular gathering spot as the weather gets warmer. There is also space for outdoor dining for Renato and Lock 72 restaurants as well.



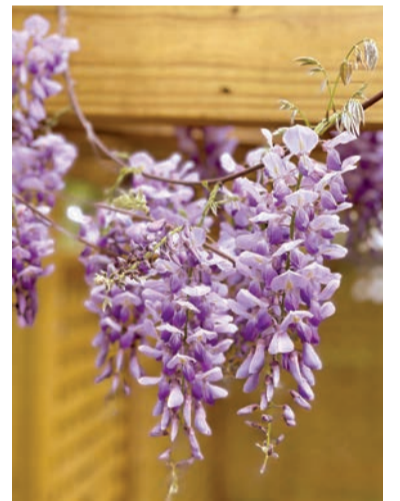
Before May Flowers ...



Mayapples are plants that grow in the woods, and groups like this sometimes share a single root. While they might flower in May, the fruit will ripen late in the summer.



More Potomac flowers of the spring. Azalea, redbud, late blooming daffodil, bleeding heart and wisteria.



Free Cinco de Mayo Lyft Rides to Prevent Drunk Driving

While stating unequivocally that “we’re all safer at home” this Cinco de Mayo during the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, a local nonprofit organization today announced that -- as a “necessary safety net” to next month’s high-risk, high-alcohol consumption period -- free safe rides will be offered to would-be drunk drivers throughout the Washington-metropolitan area on Cinco de Mayo (May 5th).

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program

(WRAP), the 2021 Cinco de Mayo SoberRide program will be in operation beginning at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 (Cinco de Mayo) and operate until 2 a.m. on Thursday, May 6, 2021 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

“We are also a public safety organization which regularly looks to mitigate risk,” said Kurt Erickson, WRAP’s President. “We therefore urge all Greater Washington residents to respect public health restrictions this Cinco

de Mayo. However, if persons do venture out and alcohol is involved, we are all benefited from the safety net role which the region’s SoberRide program plays to remove drunk drivers from area roadways.”

During SoberRide’s hours of operation this Cinco de Mayo, area resident’s age 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones, then enter a SoberRide code in the app’s “Promo” section to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home.

The Cinco de Mayo SoberRide® promo code will be posted at 3 p.m. on May 5th on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

During the 2019 Cinco de Mayo period (COVID-19 prevented last year’s offering), nearly 800 (792) persons in the Washington-metropolitan area used WRAP’s SoberRide® program rather than possibly driving home impaired. The charity also offers its SoberRide program on St. Patrick’s Day, Independence Day, Halloween and the winter holidays.

SoberRide® is offered through-

out Lyft’s Washington D.C. coverage area which includes all or parts of: the District of Columbia; the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George’s; and the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William.

Since 1991, WRAP’s SoberRide program has provided 80,190 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area. More information about WRAP’s SoberRide® initiative can be found at [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).



PHOTO COURTESY

There are an abundance of options for luxury retirement communities in Northern Virginia, including Sunrise of Old Town.

# When it's Time to Downsize

Suggestions for transitioning to a new living community.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE ALMANAC

The decision to trade the comfort of home where you've lived for years and transition to retirement can evoke a range of emotions. From leaving behind a place that holds memories of having raised an active family to sorting feelings around a perceived loss of freedom can be overwhelming.

"One of the hardest things to do is embrace change," said therapist Carol Barnaby, LCSW. The older we get the harder it is to embrace change. It takes about three to six months to adjust to new changes and routines."

"That space between ending what was and becoming what will be can be a dark and scary place," added Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology at Northern Virginia Community College.

Finding a retirement community where one feels comfortable can help make the transition easier. Virginia was ranked number one in the country for having the best resources for seniors by SeniorAdvice.com, an independent, non-prof-

it organization that offers free information and guidance.

Touring a community before selecting one or deciding to move can allay fears of the sterile living conditions and sedentary lifestyles that are often associated with retirement communities, advises Barnaby. "Find activities to join in the care facility," said Barnaby. "Joining groups allows people to form connections."

One such community is Sunrise of Old Town, which is scheduled to open later this spring. "We have activities going all day long to keep our seniors active and moving so that they have a sense of purpose," said Maggie McElroy of Sunrise. "Residents can bring their furnishings to help make their suites feel more like home."

Creating a sense of the familiarity of one's old home can make the transition less jarring. "We can bring items like photos and decorations that help recreate the familiar home environment," said Jerome Short, Ph.D., professor of psychology at George Mason University. "Then think about good aspects of the move for our health and safety."

"Take time to actively think about memories in your home and reminisce," said psychologist Stacie Isenberg, Psy.D. "You can do this while packing up. Take photos of each room before you pack up and consider making a video where you walk through it and narrate events that happened in the room. It will be a nice keepsake to reflect on ... and a way to get closure and say goodbye to your home."

## POTOMAC ALMANAC

www.PotomacAlmanac.com

@PotomacAlmanac

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## "My Thoughts to Your Thoughts"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

You know the expression: Can't walk and chew gum at the same time," a disparaging characterization of a person, company or municipality unable to multi-task or even task at all? Fortunately, I've not had much interaction in any of these categories (myself included). I do however, have a similar description of yours truly: I can't write a column and eat at the same time. I can drink (not alcohol) and write. And back in college - in the 70s, while writing a weekly column for "the diamondback" (the college newspaper) at The university of Maryland, I could partake, recreationally, and still write my column. In fact, I still remember what I thought about my inability to use tools (while under said influence) : "The only power tool I ever used was a hammer." Ah, the good old daze.

Fast forward and I mean fast, to 2021, approximately 45 years, since I was a weekly columnist for the campus newspaper. Time hasn't merely flown by, it has broken all former land speed records. In fictional fact, it hasn't been mach, it has been at "warp" speed, for those of you regular readers who are still trying to "Live long and prosper" while watching cable channel "H&I" Sunday through Friday, off and on between 8pm and 1am. For us "Star Trek" fans, these five hours of nightly programming fill a void that no replicator can match.

Spock could certainly multi-task. How else could he master three-dimensional chess? Perhaps some of his skill set had its origins in the "Vulcan mind-meld" which enabled him to read other's thoughts and gain unique insights into previously unshared experiences. As I think back over the years of previous "Star Trek" viewing (and my current re-infatuation), I can't recall ever seeing Spock eat, or even drink for that matter. Maybe he couldn't eat and be First Officer/second in command at the same time? Not that I'm equating myself with Spock, he was way more intelligent and accomplished than me. But maybe we did share a common affliction: an inability to eat and simultaneously perform other tasks?

And though Spock never seemed any the worse for the wear and tear he endured while rarely eating, I, as a red-blooded human, need to eat. I just can't eat while I'm writing. It seems to take away from my focus and blunt the creative process. Maybe if I were able to "narrow the confinement beam," I could put more of my thoughts down on paper before they're lost in my head. Thoughts which occasionally are fleeting, but usually are pertinent to the column I'm writing. Unlike Spock however, my thoughts are not always logical and though I try to embrace his Vulcan philosophy: "The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few," I think I'm too needy to do so. (My nephew bought me Star Trek pajamas for Christmas. It didn't exactly fill a need but it sure has made me happy to wear them. If you're at all curious they are Spock's rank and color: blue top with black pants, with proper Star Trek insignia.)

As is the case with my weekly column. I deprive myself of nourishment in order to write in a semi-coherent way. Sometimes I fail (perhaps the proof is right here in the words which you are reading), but it's never because I ate while I wrote, it's because the "inertial dampeners" (whatever they are) were not functioning within normal parameters. I just have to hope that my communicator doesn't malfunction or that an ion storm doesn't develop locally and knocks out the power to my house. I don't have a "Scotty" around to transfer power from one system to another. All I have is that hammer. And I know from limited experience, that a hammer is not going to solve my problem. I need a whole crew with all their own tools.

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