

Left, pastrami-cured salmon salad. Above, Duane Keller.

Maryland-style hard shell crabs are served piping hot on the deck overlooking the Potomac River.

To tempt land lovers, Keller might offer veal liver and Vidalia onions served with garlic mashed potatoes, crisp bacon and wild mushroom demiglaze or Australian lamb chops over wild mushroom risotto with Merlot, fresh thyme and roasted garlic.

Before moving to Potowmack
Landing, the award-winning chef
was at Blue Point Grille in Alexandria
and at Ashby Inn in Paris, Virginia.
Keller's resume includes fine hotels
and restaurants along the East Coast
and in Canada. His inspirations were
the late Julia Child and television's
"Galloping Gourmet" Graham Kerr.
He was honored by being chosen to
participate in Child's 90th birthday
celebration.

Duane Keller comes by his interest in food honestly. While he was born in Saskatchewan, Canada, he grew up in Hershey, Pennsylvania, where his parents entertained often. His mother Jan was a fashion model, and his father Ralph was a professional hockey player who played for Vancouver, New York and Baltimore. Their home often overflowed with guests.

"My parents are both good cooks. Our kitchen was the center of entertaining, and I helped." When he was 9 or 10 years old, Keller came up with a recipe called "Popeye Eggs." He cut a hole out of the middle of a for a variation on an egg-over-easy.

A graduate of Pennsylvania State University's Hotel and Restaurant School, he studied under many old-school chefs who had trained in Europe. His hockey background has stood him in good stead. He often rides his bike on the trail that runs past the restaurant. "Exercise is so important in this business. You need to stay in shape. You have to use everything you've got to succeed," he says.

Loyal patrons who followed Keller to Potowmack Landing told him he was "doing a public service for the community" for revitalizing the eatery, which is a stone's throw south of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. The restaurant's close proximity to the airport makes it perfect for anyone waiting for a delayed plane, or a perfect reason to get up to the airport early. Conveniently, there's parking at the restaurant as well as an overflow lot on the property. In addition, the restaurant (info at PotowmackLanding.com) is part of

the Washington Sailing Ma only is there the restaurant marina offers bike and sails als, as well as a nautical gi

Ask Keller about his graest accomplishment and he you it was the standing on he received at New York's gious James Beard House served Sunday brunch to a of very serious foodies. He siasm is contagious. "I like teacher, the classroom end and being a coach in the love what I do and waker about going to work each

Potomac Views & Cruises | ON THE VIRGINIA AND D.C. WATER

Potowmack Landing is the only D.C. waterfront restaurant with a phonetic Indian spelling of the river, it is by no means the only water restaurant in D.C. Although many cities' waterfront dining is almost always for the view, in sophisticated D.C., some diners can end and something more than surf 'n' turf. In addition, dining on the Potomac can also (and obviously) be accomplished by dinner book 0 out Odyssey Cruises.com, Spirit City Cruises.com/WashDC/bridge.html and Dandy Dinner Boat.com.

Alexandria

CHADWICKS: An Old Town casual favorite. A little back from the river. Continental, burgers. 203 The Strand, (703) 836-4442.

CHART HOUSE: Part of the famed seafood chain. Restaurant is directly on the water in Old Town at the end of the dock. There is a food court adjacent. One Cameron St., (703) 684-5080.

MY THAI: Sophisticated, tranquil with great upstairs river view.

New to the Old Town restaurant scene. 6 King Street, (703) 548-0600.

D.C. Waterfront

CAFÉ MOZU: In the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Asian.

Sophisticated, attractive blend of Oriental elements with great views. 1300 Maryland Ave., S.W., (202) 787-6868.

CANTINA MARINA AT GANGPLANK MARINA: Casual with tip of the toque to Louisiana, with po' boys with oysters, fried catfish tortillas. Overlooks boats and a view of Washington Monument.

seafood platters, fried seafood. Nightlife too. 800 Water 2 (202) 484-6300.

NICK'S RIVERSIDE GRILLE: Steaks, pasta and the fresher on the promenade at Georgetown's Washington Harbo's St., N.W., (202) 342-3535.

PHILLIPS FLAGSHIP: Beginning as an Ocean City, Maryla institution that grew from a crab shack. Patio seating, alse eat seafood buffet and traditional mid-Atlantic seafood 9 Water St., S.W., (202) 488-8515.

PIER 7: At the Channel Inn Hotel, seafood with view of We Channel. 650 Water St., S.W. (202) 554-2500.

Georgetown

SEQUOIA: Tiered outside decks and tall windows inside for American, pasta, seafood. 3000 K St., N.W., (202) 944-42 TONY & JOE'S: Popular with young Washingtonians, too Riverside location in the midst of lots of activity. 3000 S