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Bazaar Times

NEWS, PAGE 3

Carrie Mosley tries on a coat during the annual Mayfield Market Holiday Bazaar at the Connelly School of the Holy Child in Potomac on Saturday morning. Mosley was being assisted by Marie-Noelle Hunt.

Off Season Overhauls

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Varsity Sport of Their Own

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New School Boundaries Set

NEWS, PAGE 2

'Beauty and Beast' at Churchill

Winston Churchill High School will perform "Beauty and the Beast" next month, and select performances will feature Mrs. Potts' Tea Parties beforehand, part of the school's ongoing efforts to raise \$90,000 to send its play "Rent: School Edition" to the Edinburgh, Scotland, Fringe Festival next summer.

Tea parties aimed specifically at young princesses and princes, ages kindergarten through third grade, and will cost \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door — price includes a reserved seat to the show. The tea parties will take place on Dec. 6 from noon to 2 p.m. — the show follows at 2:30 — and Dec. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. — show follows at 7:30 p.m. Children must be accompanied by a ticketed adult; small groups chaperoned by a single adult are welcome. To purchase tickets or obtain more information, visit www.wchs драма.org or call 301-469-1246.

As for the show itself, Drama Director Jessica Speck chose it because "Beauty and the Beast" tells the story of an intelligent young girl who finds her prince while maintaining her independent spirit." The musical score will feature the three-time CAPPIE-winning Churchill orchestra under the direction of Kristofer Sanz. The play will star junior Tessa Port as Belle, junior Aaron Braverman as the Beast, junior Josh Simon as Lumiere, freshman Kamran Partovi as Cogsworth, senior Sarah Anne Sillers as Mrs. Potts, junior Steven Rigaux as Gaston, sophomore Michael Mainwaring as LeFou, sophomore Alexandra Levenson as Babette, senior Eric Brown as Maurice, junior Shelby Sykes as Madame Bouche, senior Emma Sorenson, junior Becca Murphy and senior Caitlin Murphy as the three Silly Girls, sophomore Parker Robb as Chip the first weekend and Seven Locks Elementary School 4th grader Owen Hall as Chip the second weekend, senior Rafael Hernandez-Roulet as Fight Beast, and an ensemble cast of dozens more singers and dancers.

Beauty and the Beast will be performed on Dec. 5, 6, 12, and 13 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 6 at 2:30 p.m. Tea parties are Dec. 6 from

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NEWS

New School Boundaries Set

School Board approves new boundaries for five Potomac elementary and middle schools.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

The Montgomery County Board of Education voted unanimously on Thursday, Nov. 20 to approve new boundaries for five Potomac elementary and middle schools. The boundaries will be those recommended last month by Montgomery County Public Schools Superintendent Jerry Weast.

Weast's recommendation came after a Boundary Advisory Committee of parents from each of the affected schools — Potomac, Seven Locks and Bells Mill Elementary Schools and Cabin John and Herbert Hoover Middle Schools — worked throughout the spring with Long Range Planning head Bruce Crispell to explore five sets of potential boundaries. Each school's contingent to the committee then made its own recommendation to the via PTA position papers. Timing was as important an issue during the process as the potential new boundary lines. Seven Locks representatives had hoped to have the new boundaries go into effect in 2009, ahead of their scheduled 2012 renovation. Bells Mill parents didn't want their children to have to shift from their current holding facility into the new Bells Mill slated to open next year, into Seven Locks, and potentially into the Seven Locks holding school. Seven Locks parents feared that delaying the move would put them under capacity and jeopardize services and potentially expose the school to being closed.

"This was one that many folks didn't think that was possible to do and to do it well,"

— Superintendent
Jerry Weast

Changes

To view the new boundaries visit <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/PDF/SuperintendentsRecommendation-BellsMills7LocksPotomac.pdf>.

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delaying the move would put them under capacity and jeopardize services and potentially expose the school to being closed.

WEAST'S RECOMMENDATION moves students from two Seven Locks neighborhoods into Bells Mill, and students from Potomac into Seven Locks beginning in 2010. The proposal would put Seven Locks under capacity for only one year, leave Potomac over capacity and keep all students enrolled in the Chinese Immersion program at Potomac Elementary through the 2009-2010 school year.

SEE BOARD, PAGE 4

Celebrate

BETHESDA ROW HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Friday, November 28, December 5 and December 12 | 6:30–8:30 p.m.

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The annual Mayfield Market, a holiday bazaar held at the Connelly School of the Holy Child, was held this year on Nov. 22 with thousands of items on sale for the holidays.

Checking Out The Bazaar

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION



Hannah Gessler, Taylor Baldwin and Emily Steele browse some jewelry while holiday shopping at the Mayfield Market at the Connelly School of the Holy Child on Saturday morning. The three attend the private school in Potomac.



Meg Mayo does some holiday shopping at the Mayfield Market. Mayo is the director of admissions at the school.



Shannon Pitcher of Potomac picks out a coat she wants at the Mayfair Market while a friend, Colleen Warner, gives her advice.

Close Call For Homeless Walk Funds

Disqualified registration forms could cost Stepping Stones shelter donation funds.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

A dispute over registration forms for the Walk for the Homeless between Bells Mill Elementary School and Fannie Mae might cost the Stepping Stones Shelter \$5,000. Fannie Mae officials have told Bells Mill PTA officials that the registration forms they used to register 373 participants in this year's event were invalid and that they have until Dec. 1 to get the proper forms signed and resubmitted.

The shelter must have 1,500 registered walkers during the annual fall event to qualify for a \$25,000 bonus grant from Fannie Mae, and the loss of the Bells Mill walkers could put that number in jeopardy. Similar confusion with Richard Montgomery High School's walk meant that the shelter's total registered walkers dropped from 1,817 walkers to 1,345, which would still qualify the shelter for a \$20,000, but that has not satisfied parents who think that Fannie Mae's rejection was unnecessary.

"You know what? If they really, really didn't want to use the forms, just make the donations. The money is earmarked for it," said Laurie Jacobs, who coordinated this year's walk for Bells Mill.

THE CONFUSION AROSE over an email attachment that contained registration forms for this year's walk that Jacobs was unable to open when she received it earlier this fall. After going back and forth with a representative from Dailey Events, the independent contractor that Fannie Mae uses to coordinate the Walk for the Homeless, Jacobs thought she had

"It's unreasonable to think that we could make those exceptions."

— **Chrissie McHenry, Fannie Mae spokesperson**

SEE RE-REGISTERING, PAGE 7

THIS WEEK IN POTOMAC

FROM PAGE 2

noon to 2 p.m. and Dec. 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. To purchase tickets or to obtain more information visit www.wchsdrama.org or call 301-469-1246.

Grant for Veterans Programs

The Wal-Mart Foundation has awarded Montgomery College a \$100,000 grant to support veterans and veteran programs at the community college. Montgomery College is one of 10 higher education institutions selected to receive a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation because of its successful veteran educational assistance programs.

The grant will support the development of new and existing programs and provide resources to assist veterans with access to education, adjustment to civilian life and success in completing their degrees. Currently, nearly 300 identified veterans are enrolled in credit classes at Montgomery College.

This fall, Montgomery College started Combat2College, a comprehensive program developed by faculty at the college's Rockville Campus that provides a welcome environment, academic opportunities and support services for veterans college-wide. The Combat2College program was developed by Montgomery College, the National Rehabilitation Hospital, the National Center for PTSD and the Veterans Administration Medical Center.

In addition, Montgomery College has collaborated with Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the American Council for Education to support wounded warriors who want a college education. These men and women have the option to attend a Montgomery College campus for classes or enroll in credit or non-credit classes at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. These classes are also available to the center's enlisted personnel, employees and federal employees. This on-site partnership has been in place since the late 1990s.

For more information about Montgomery College, visit www.montgomerycollege.edu. To learn more about the Wal-Mart Foundation, visit www.walmartfoundation.org.

Minority Legislative Breakfast

The 8th Annual Minority Legislative Breakfast will be held Dec. 15, 7:30-9:30 a.m. at the Bethesda Marriott Hotel in Bethesda. The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Montgomery County, African American Chamber of Commerce of Montgomery County and Asian American Political Alliance host this event to discuss legislative issues that have an impact on the minority business community of Montgomery County, Maryland, and to develop a common agenda presented as our legislative priorities every December. For more information go to: <http://mlbmd.wordpress.com/register/>

WSSC's Emergency Notification System

The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission launched a new Customer Notification System to alert residents about WSSC-related incidents that may affect service or daily routine. The announcement comes after a water main break this summer left county residents with possibly contaminated water for nearly two days and county officials were criticized for not alerting county residents soon enough of the break.

Residents can have e-mail and/or text message alerts about WSSC work occurring near their home, office, school or other important address delivered to computers, cell phones and/or Short Message Service devices (Blackberry, Treo, etc.).

Because of cell phone provider limitations, text alerts will consist of short messages providing key information, while e-mail alerts will deliver additional detail.

This service is free, though cell phone provider's standard text messaging charges will apply. To register, visit wsscwater.com. Contact WSSC's Communications and Community Relations Office through WSSC's main number at 1-800-828-6439, the direct office line at 301-206-8100 or via e-mail at communications@wsscwater.com with questions.

NEWS



PHOTO BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

Intermediate junior-senior riders at the third event of the Interschool Horse Show series enter the ring on Sunday, Nov. 14 at Oatland Stables in Brookeville, Md. The series, in its 13th year, gives local riders a chance to represent their schools in a sport not typically sponsored because of liability and financial reasons.

Varsity Sport of Their Own

Inter-School Horse Show series gives local equestrians an opportunity to represent their schools.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

As Kelley Crow approached the spectator area of the ring atop her horse, Jennifer Osterman called to her, "shorter reins, shorter reins." Crow drew the reins on her horse taut, removing any slack.

"Good," Osterman called again as Crow passed. It was friend coaching friend for the duo from the Bullis School at the third event of the Interschool Horse Show series as they rode at Oatland Stables in Brookeville on Sunday, Nov. 16. The series, now in its 13th year, brings together equestrians from local public and private schools to compete in their sport on behalf of those schools, an opportunity that they might not otherwise have given the liabilities and financial burdens of riding. It is a rather informal competition by high school standards — Osterman and Crow have no coach, for instance, and Sunday was the first competition they had participated in this year — but it gives students who don't have the opportunity to represent their school in other ways the chance to do so by doing what they

do best.

Osterman rides seven days a week, sometimes taking off a Monday, her horse's day off. Between the time commitment it takes to get to the stable, ride, get back home and still put in the necessary studying required to do well in school, equestrians like her don't have time to compete in school sports. It was a conundrum that Devereaux Raskauskas faced with her daughter when she was in eighth grade at the Connelly School of the Holy Child. An avid rider, her daughter realized that she couldn't both ride and play sports for Holy Child, and her mother realized she was not alone. She approached the school about starting a riding club and the school told her she could form a one, which she did. Then she realized she had nothing for the club to do, no way to compete.

"I said, well, 'I guess we better put on a show,'" Raskauskas said. Thus the Interschool Horse Show series was begun, and it has grown each year to this year, where there are between 35 and 45 schools, public and private, that rotate in and out of the shows. At some schools it

"I said, well, 'I guess we better put on a show.'"

— Devereaux Raskauskas

SEE VARSITY SPORT, PAGE 10

Board Approves New Boundaries

FROM PAGE 2

When the boundary review process began over a year ago many parents feared that the new boundaries — and the process of creating them — would be a controversial and divisive issue. As the process played out, the boundary committees strove to ensure that no community bore an excessive burden, and many viewed Weast's recommendations as the best possible solution to a difficult situation. At

Thursday's hearing Weast commended parents at the five schools for being able "to meet each other in a compromise situation." Weast also praised the Long-range Planning Division, headed by Bruce Crispell, for their hard work. "This was one that many folks didn't think that was possible to do and to do it well," said Weast. "I think we all believed that there might be some issues — and there were — but our folks did a wonderful job," Weast said.

PEOPLE

Women in Their 40s Share What They Know

Local mothers write from their perspectives in new book.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

After spending her 20s and 30s finding her husband and starting a family, Cari Shane Parven reached 40 and realized that she had neglected not just her friends, but the pursuit of friendship in general. She decided to reach out, calling old friends to catch up and engaging new people

that she met to pursue new friendships.

"I literally called people up to find out about babies who had been born and parents who had died and literally begged for forgiveness," said Parven. Reaching out opened new doors. A writer, Parven soon found herself talking with other writers and getting involved in parenting blogs. Before she knew it, one of her newer

SEE LOCAL MOMS, PAGE 7



Cari Shane Parven and Amy Kossoff Smith of Potomac, Lauren Bogart of Gaithersburg, and Jennifer Lear of Pennsylvania each wrote essays detailing their life experiences as women in their 40s for the new book "Knowing Pains." <http://knowingpains.com/>

"Knowing Pains" Excerpts

In the new book "Knowing Pains" three local women share their insight on life in their 40s. A few excerpts below:

"What A Long, Strange Trip It's Been"

"On the evening of my 40th birthday I had a teary one-way conversation with my deceased husband. Tinged with guilt and regret, I bid him yet another painful farewell as I entered a decade that

he never had the privilege to reach. He will be eternally young, having passed away at age 38. He lived half a life. I reminded him that we were supposed to spend the next half together."

— LAUREN BOGART

"Finding Friendship At Forty"

"I spent my childhood surrounded by estrogen: my mother, my dog, my teachers, and the 42 female classmates with whom I spent first through 12th grade. There was a little testosterone, floating in the puddles of urine — my brother's pee — that I stepped in (in the bathroom) every morning

before school and in the rings of my father's pipe smoke wafting through our New York City apartment. Other than that, the first half of my life was all about women.

"Yet two decades later, as I slid toward 40, excited to celebrate this brand new segment of my life, I found I had no female friends, good friends, to cheer me on"

— CARI SHANE PARVEN

"Stumbling into Cyberspace"

"My fingers raced across the keyboard, and my

heart pounded as I heard the school bus wheels screech to a halt outside our house. Only a few more precious minutes to get that last e-mail out before the kids would bound through the door, kick off their shoes, throw their backpacks in the hall and demand a snack. It was time to shift gears from work to kids, knowing full well that while my second shift was just starting, the third one (post-bedtime work catch-up) still lay ahead. After years of balancing three kids with my home-based PR business, I had added a scrumptious new project to my already-full plate. I started a Web site and blog that combined my organizational skills, my writing and PR background, and my passion for motherhood....

— AMY KOSSOFF SMITH

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OPINION

Shop Locally

Local shops help define community, and this year, they need local support.

The economic situation is daunting, and it's probably true that most families, even families who feel financially secure, will be more frugal in this holiday season than in the past.

But we're pretty sure that almost all of us will be doing some significant holiday shopping in the next month. While you're at it, be sure to spend a portion of your shopping dollars close to home.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of the shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambience available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season.

Small retail shops are part of what defines any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fund raising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face some of the toughest challenges imaginable right now. The costs of being in business have grown tremendously while revenues are not.

Competition from Big Box stores, expanded

shopping malls and the Internet make the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally-owned retailers.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at

the mall. In this area, almost everyone will do some shopping via the Internet.

But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores.

Give Locally

Local charities seeing unprecedented demand from struggling families for food and other help.

Putting food on the table for the family. It's such a basic activity and most of us are lucky enough to make choices of what we'll buy at the grocery store, whether this is a carry-out night or an eat-out night one or more days a week.

Meanwhile local charities and food banks are finding it hard to gather enough food to keep up with the demand from people who are suddenly unable to afford enough food to put on the table for their families.

Housing costs, the foreclosure crisis, spiking energy and food costs over the past year and other economic woes have put a tremendous strain on working poor families throughout the region.

Included in The Almanac over the past few weeks and in coming weeks are stories and listings of local organizations that help local families in need and especially nonprofit groups that provide help to families during the holi-

To Help

❖ Potomac Community Resources, 9200 Kentsdale Drive, Potomac, 301-365-0561, www.pcr-inc.org

❖ Manna Food Center, send monetary contributions to 614 Lofstrand Lane, Rockville, MD 20850, or email volunteer@mannafood.org to sponsor a food drive. www.mannafood.org

❖ Mercy Health Clinic, mail donations to 7-1- Metropolitan Court, P.O. Box 4115, Gaithersburg, MD 20885-4115 or call Ryanne Clarke, Mercy Health Clinic administrator, 240-773-0307, www.mercyhealthclinic.org.

day season. These organizations report that while demand is up dramatically, contributions are down. They need your help to respond to increasingly needy families.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIALS

BULLETIN BOARD

To submit an item for the Civic Calendar, e-mail almanac@connectionnewspapers.com or fax the submission to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Thursday at noon two weeks prior to the event. For questions, call 703-917-6451.

THURSDAY/DEC. 4

Pain Support Group. The Pain Connection Chronic Pain Support Group will meet Dec. 4, 1:30-3 p.m. at the Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. Anyone with chronic pain, family members and interested community residents are welcome.

Bring your ice/heat packs, pillows and mats. Call 301-309-2444 or visit www.pain-connection.org.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 3

Talk. 7 p.m., Harold Gans will talk about "Mystery of the Bible Codes: Scientific Research on the Discovery of the Hidden Codes in the Torah." \$18/lecture. Registration required, dawn@jewishroc.org or 301-468-3881. Takes place at JewishROC, 11304 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville. Visit www.jewishroc.org for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 8

Meeting. The Montgomery County Civic Federation will meet 7:45-10 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 8 at the County Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville. Hear a talk on the "County Growth Policy." Free. Visit www.montgomerycivic.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 10

Talk. 7 p.m., Harold Gans will talk about "Mystery of the Bible Codes: Scientific Research on the Discovery of the

Hidden Codes in the Torah." \$18/lecture. Registration required, dawn@jewishroc.org or 301-468-3881. Takes place at JewishROC, 11304 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville. Visit www.jewishroc.org for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 22

Blood Drive. Beth Shalom Congregation and Talmud Torah, 11825 Seven Locks Road, Potomac, is sponsoring a blood drive with INOVA from 3-8 p.m. Call 301-279-7010 or email office@bethsholom.org to schedule a donation.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Duke

Duke is a 7-year-old male Shepherd mix. He weighs 99 pounds and is neutered. The Duke is the picture of what a big dog should be: Well-mannered, affectionate and loves children of all ages. He shakes paw, gives great kisses and does a dance to go for a walk. Gentle Duke would be a great dog for a kind family or dog lover.



Sophie

Sophie is a 3-year-old spayed Persian cat mix. She came back to PAW due to allergies in her adopted family. She is a spectacular girl and purrs up a storm, but doesn't care for dogs. Sophie will make a great pet for an adopter who will brush her coat and give her the love she deserves.



Roxie

Roxie is a female, 4-year-old, 50 pound, spayed Collie mix. She was rescued by PAW. Roxie is housebroken, and is relearning some points about indoor living. She loves people and would do best in a cat free home.



Carson

Carson is a one-year-old male, 10 pound, neutered, Miniature Poodle. He was rescued by PAW and is healthy. Carson is a happy young poodle and is bright and active. He would make a good pet for almost any adopter who would spoil him.

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PEOPLE

Local Moms Write

FROM PAGE 5

friends, Potomac resident Amy Smith, had asked her to write an essay for a new book titled "Knowing Pains: Women on Love, Sex, and Work in Our 40s." Knowing what to write came easy for Parven.

"Having friendship, as I write in the book, is not necessarily an easy thing, it takes work," said Parven. "The women in my world, including Amy, are really, really important to me and for my sanity. You need some people that you can absolutely rely on and who can rely on you."

The book came out earlier this year, and all proceeds go to benefit Breast Cancer Action, an advocacy organization that works to eradicate breast cancer. Gaithersburg resident Lauren Bogart, originally from Potomac, was friends with the book's editor and got Smith, and subsequently Parven, involved.

"It's really nice, I'm lucky that it has never touched me personally ... [but] this is the age where that

happens," said Smith. "For me, that was really the perfect way to do it."

Smith's essay in the new book of balancing family with running her own PR company and becoming an author and blogger on parenting issues. Other essays range from the serious to the racy. Bogart writes of raising her family as a widow at 40 while others write about juggling two affairs or the stigma that comes as being an older mother.

"For me, that subtitle really says it all," said Smith. "You've got a lot of balls in the air, you're still juggling a lot, but you're free to start a new chapter in your life."

"At 40 you've lived through some life experiences ... but you're still young enough and vibrant enough to say I'm still going to pursue a dream and that really comes out in the book," said Parven.

To learn more about "Knowing Pains" or to purchase it, visit knowingpains.com. To learn more about Breast Cancer Action, visit bcaction.com.

Re-registering for Walk

FROM PAGE 3

opened the right attachment. She printed the forms, distributed them to parents, and submitted them on Oct. 24.

The walk went off without a hitch. That was until Friday, Nov. 14 when she heard from the Stepping Stones Shelter, which provides services to homeless families in Rockville, that the forms had been denied. The forms Jacobs had used, it turned out, were last year's forms. Though the \$6,000 that Bells Mill walkers would still go directly to Stepping Stones, Fannie Mae representatives told Jacobs that she would have to get the proper forms signed and resubmitted in order for her school's walkers to count towards the 1,500 mark that would trigger the \$25,000 donation.

Jacobs went to the streets — literally. Instead of sending them home from the school and waiting for parents to return them, a process Jacobs thought would take too long, she went to bus stops in the morning, Boy Scout gatherings, and school events in the last 10 days, collecting over 250 signatures.

"The fact that that was the only solution ... I think was extreme," said Robin Sparer, executive director of Stepping Stones. Sparer said that with the effort by Jacobs and other Bells Mill parents, the 1,500 threshold is now likely to be met.

"It couldn't have been done if

the school wasn't really up for the challenge," Sparer said.

USING LAST YEAR'S forms was in no way acceptable from a legal standpoint because prior to this year the event had been run by the non-profit Fannie Mae Foundation, which ceased to exist earlier this year, said Chrissie McHenry, a Fannie Mae spokesperson. The Fannie Mae Foundation's names were on last year's forms, making their use in this year's walk unacceptable, and while that may sound like excessive legal wrangling, it was unavoidable, McHenry said.

"These are legal waiver forms, they have to be done the right way, submitted the right way," she said. "It's unreasonable to think that we could make those exceptions."

In the current economic environment the money is critical now more than ever, as rental units in the county become more sought-after and homeless shelters back up, said Sparer. Fannie Mae has backed the event for over 20 years, something that she said "can't be ignored" and for which her shelter and many others are grateful, and she hopes the event continues despite any of this year's confusion or any of Fannie Mae's fiscal troubles. "It just shows how important this particular event is, for not only us, but for non-profits who serve the homeless community," said Sparer.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by

Michael Matese

DIFFERENT GENERATIONS WANT UNIQUE FEATURES IN A HOME

If you are preparing to sell your house in an area that is dominated by a certain age group, it's important to do a little "market research" about what your buyers are looking for in a home. Although there are many aspects of a home that are universally desirable to most homebuyers, some features are more "generation specific".

The era that each generation was born into has as much influence on their tastes and needs as their stage of life does. For example, members of the Silent Generation, born in the Great Depression, want economy and are looking to retire in a smaller home fitted with safety "age in place" features. They want to stay close to family, doctors and medical facilities and have easy access to social gathering places. While Baby Boomers (1946 - 1964), born in more affluent times, want space and luxury. They want a private retreat for retirement and put state-of-the-art kitchens, whirlpool baths, fireplaces and walk-in closets at the top of their must-have lists. This "sandwich" generation homebuyer is often looking for that "granny flat" outside, to house a parent or a grown child.

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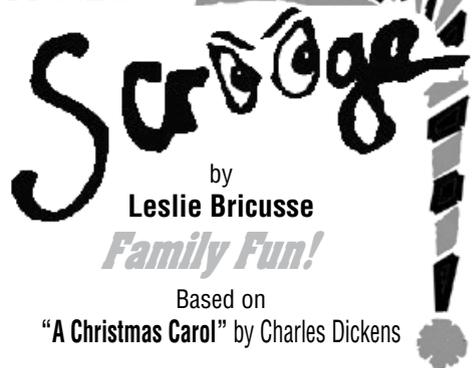
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CALENDAR

To have community events listed free in *The Potomac Almanac*, e-mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and artwork encouraged. For more information, call 703-917-6407.

FRIDAY/NOV. 28

Contra Dance. The Friday Night Dancers presents traditional American dancing including contra dances, square dances, and waltzes at the Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo Park. Contra dance lesson from 7:30-8:15 p.m., dance from 8:30-11:30 p.m. to live music. \$9/person. E-mail fndcontra@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/NOV. 29

Conversation Club. Join in practicing and improving your spoken English with the help of volunteers leading discussions from 3-5 p.m. at the Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Registration not required.

Greeting Cards. A workshop on how to make Victorian-era holiday greeting cards will be held at Clara Barton National Historic Site in Glen Echo, 5801 Oxford Road at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Reservations required; call 301-320-1410.

Swing Dance. Enjoy a swing dance at the Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo Park. Beginner Swing lesson from 8-9 p.m. and dance from 9 p.m.- 12 a.m. to live music. \$15/person. Visit www.GottaSwing.com.

SUNDAY/NOV. 30

Greeting Cards. A workshop on how to make Victorian-era holiday greeting cards will be held at Clara Barton National Historic Site in Glen Echo, 5801 Oxford Road at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Reservations required; call 301-320-1410.

Contra and Square Dance. The Folklore Society of Greater Washington presents traditional American dancing including contra dances, square dances, and waltzes at the Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo Park. Dance lesson from 7-7:30 p.m., dance from 7:30-10:30 p.m. to live music. \$12/non-members, \$9/FSGW members.

MONDAY/DEC. 1

Afternoon Tea. Pianist Becky Dukes is performing at 1 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Prepaid reservations required; \$21 plus tax. Call 301-581-5108.

THEATER LISTINGS

The Potomac Theatre Company presents "Scrooge," based on "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens **Nov. 28, 29, 30 and Dec. 5, 6 and 7** at the Bullis School Blair Family Center for the Arts, 10601 Falls Road, Potomac. Tickets: \$20/adults; \$18/seniors and children. Leave a message at 301-299-8571 for reservations.

"The Nutcracker" is running **Nov. 28- Dec. 31** at the Adventure Theatre in Glen Echo Park. Performances on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Special shows on Nov. 28 and Dec. 26-31 at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tickets: \$10. Call 301-320-6668 or visit www.thepuppetco.org.

"Playing from the Heart," a play inspired by the early life of internationally acclaimed percussionist Evelyn Glennie will be running at the **Imagi-**

TUESDAY/DEC. 2

Chinese Book Club. Join in a Chinese book discussion in the Chinese language from 7-9 p.m. at the Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Registration not required.

Afternoon Tea. Harpist Sue Richards is performing at 1 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Prepaid reservations required; \$21 plus tax. Call 301-581-5108.

Metropolitan Philharmonic. The Metropolitan Philharmonic Orchestra is performing at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$75 and \$45. Call 301-581-5100.

Chinese Language Book Club. 7 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Ask for the book at the circulation desk. Free. 240-777-0690.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 3

Afternoon Tea. Pianist Rosalind Breslow is performing at 1 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Prepaid reservations required; \$21 plus tax. Call 301-581-5108.

Artist in Residence. Jennifer Cutting, artist in residence at Strathmore, is playing at 7:30 p.m. in the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Tickets: \$15; call 301-581-5100.

Golden Boys. Dick Fox's Golden Boys starring Frankie Avalon, Fabian and Bobby Rydell is performing at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$38-127. Call 301-581-5100.

THURSDAY/DEC. 4

Music Club. The Friday Morning Music club is performing at 11 a.m. in the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Free; no tickets required. Call 301-581-5100.

FRIDAY/DEC. 5

Holiday Time. Decorate a holiday treasure box, decorate a winter wreath and enjoy story time with Perfect Parties by Terrye at the Cabin John Mall Atrium, 11325 Seven Locks Road, Potomac, 9:30 a.m.

Geology Hike. Join National Park Service Volunteers for a geology hike of the Billy Goat Trail from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Visit www.nps.gov/choh/.

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. The Orchestra performs "Too Hot to Handel: The Gospel Messiah" at 8

nation Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda, **through Nov. 30** at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays, 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays and 4 p.m. on Sundays. Recommended for ages 6 and up. Tickets: \$18.50. Call t301-280-1660 or visit www.ImaginationStage.org.

The **Wootton High School** Center for the Arts, 2100 Wootton Parkway, Rockville, presents the musical "Grease" **Dec. 4, 5 and 6** at 7:30 p.m. and **Dec. 7** at 2 p.m. Reserved tickets \$12; general admission \$8 and can be purchased at the Wootton Box Office Dec. 1-3, 3-6 p.m. and two hours before show times on performance days. Visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/woottonhs/academics/art/GreaseOrder.pdf. Tickets may be purchased online at www.fieldhouse.com/woottondrama.

Winston Churchill High School will perform Walt Disney's classic, "Beauty

p.m. at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Visit www.BSOmusic.org for tickets.

Contra Dance. The Friday Night Dancers presents traditional American dancing including contra dances, square dances, and waltzes at the Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo Park. Contra dance lesson from 7:30-8:15 p.m., dance from 8:30-11:30 p.m. to live music. \$9/person. E-mail fndcontra@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Musical Tea. Enjoy complimentary tea and sweets in addition to free performances by the Levine School of Music's faculty-artists and students at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda at 11 a.m. Free; reservations required. Call 202-686-8000, ext. 1068.

Greeting Cards. A workshop on how to make Victorian-era holiday greeting cards will be held at Clara Barton National Historic Site in Glen Echo, 5801 Oxford Road at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Reservations required; call 301-320-1410.

Specialty Tea. Harpist Carolyn Kemper is performing holiday music at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Tea menu and holiday story telling for children. Prepaid reservations required; \$21 plus tax. Call 301-581-5108.

National Philharmonic. The National Philharmonic Orchestra is performing "Choral Masterworks: Handel's Messiah" at the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda, 8 p.m. Tickets from \$29; children 7-17 free. Call 301-581-5100.

Swing Dance. Enjoy a swing dance at the Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo Park. Beginner Swing lesson from 8-9 p.m. and dance from 9 p.m.- 12 a.m. to live music. \$12/person. Call 301-340-9732.

Waltz Dance. Enjoy a waltz dance at the Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo Park. Beginner Waltz lesson from 3-3:30 p.m. and dance from 3:30-6 p.m. to live music. \$8/person. Call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or visit www.WaltzTimeDances.org.

Climb Wall Weekend. Scale a climbing wall at Discovery Creek Children's Museum in Glen Echo Park from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Free for members and children under 2; \$5/non-members. Wall is located in the old stables building, near the Park entrance. Call 202-488-0627 or visit www.discoverycreek.org for more information.

and the Beast," set for **Dec. 5, 6, 7, 12, and 13.** The Bish Auditorium at Winston Churchill High School is located at 11300 Gainsborough Road. Tickets for the show cost \$12 or \$10, depending on seat location, and may be purchased on-line at www.seatyourself.biz/Churchill

"Frosty the Snowman" will be playing at the Adventure Theatre in Glen Echo Park **Dec. 5-Jan. 4.** Call the box office at 301-634-2270 for show times and tickets.

The **Puppet Co.** presents "Tiny Tot Tuesdays," a program designed for ages 0 - 4. The shows are shorter, the lights stay on, the doors stay open and the show is set up on the floor. Performances on two Tuesdays each month at 10 and 11:30 a.m. The **Dec. 9** show is "Nutcracker Fantasy." Tickets: \$5. Call 301-320-6668 or visit www.thepuppetco.org.

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FINE ARTS

A **Holiday Art Show and Sale** will be held in the Popcorn Gallery in Glen Echo Park Saturdays and Sundays, **Nov. 22- Jan. 11**, 12-6 p.m. Exhibition will feature works by resident artists.

An **exhibition of portraits by photographer Emily Whiting** is on display through **Nov. 30** at the Photoworks Gallery in Glen Echo Park every Sunday and Wednesday, 1-8 p.m. Free. Call 301-229-7930 or visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

The **Yellow Barn Studio** announced its open call for applications to participate in a tuition-free 10-week program of intensive art learning. Application deadline is **Dec. 1**. Applications will include a CD with 10 images, a list of works, and a completed application form. Application forms can be downloaded at www.YellowBarnStudio.com. Notifications of acceptance are sent out Dec. 15. The course runs Saturday mornings Jan. 24 - March 28.

Work from **The Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, D.C.** is on display at the Mansion at Strathmore's Gudelsky Galley Suite from **December through Jan. 3**. All the work is original and must be rendered 1/6 or less than life size and the image may not exceed 25 square inches. Free. Visit www.strathmore.org.

Peruvian artist **Nebur Arellano** is displaying tapestries inspired by the indigenous cultures of her homeland at the Mansion at Strathmore's First Floor Galleries from **December through Jan. 3**. Free. Visit www.strathmore.org.

Alice Hui's wood fire stoneware, porcelain teapots and vases and scul-

tures both wheel-thrown and slab-built and **Jane Brashares'** handmade paper, natural dyes, and found objects such as sea glass, stones and weathered wood are on display at the Mansion at Strathmore's Invitational Galley from **December through Jan. 3**. Visit www.strathmore.org.

Potomac artist **Martha Lechner Spak** will have artwork on display in the Target Gallery's juried art show from **Dec. 11 through Jan. 11**. Target Gallery is located in the Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Free. Visit www.torpedofactory.org or 301-469-0189.

Joyce Zipperer's "Unmentionables...Then and Now," a display of undergarments made of metal fabrics runs at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, from **Jan. 5-31**.

The 35th anniversary celebration of the **Potomac Vally Watercolorists** runs at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, from **Jan. 10-Feb. 21**.

Yellow Barn Gallery at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Free exhibits of emerging artist work and art sales. Each weekend features the work of a different artist. Every Saturday and Sunday from 12 - 5 p.m. Call 301-371-5593 or visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com.

The **Bethesda Art Walk** allows art lovers to visit downtown Bethesda's gallery community from **6-9 p.m. on the second Friday of every month**. Many galleries change exhibits monthly and hold receptions showcasing the fea-

tured artist in conjunction with the Bethesda Art Walk.

Glen Echo Pottery. Glen Echo Pottery maintains ongoing exhibits in the Glen Echo Pottery Gallery in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. These feature a special selection of work by resident artists, instructors and students. Every Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Call 301-229-5585 or visit www.glenechopottery.com.

The Art Glass Center at Glen Echo exhibits continually in the Art Glass Center Gallery. These exhibits feature the work of resident artists Diane Cab, Christine Hekimian, Bev and Zayde Slep, and Bobbi Vischi. Sculpture, vessels, functional art, and jewelry are also for sale. The Art Glass Center also produces other exhibits featuring resident artists, faculty, students and invited artists. The gallery and studio are open on the weekends and by appointment. Contact Bobbi Vischi at BBVischi@comcast.net.

Glen Echo Pottery in Glen Echo Park presents **ongoing exhibitions** in the Glen Echo Pottery gallery. These feature a special selection of work by resident artists, instructors, and students. Open every Saturday and Sunday, 12-5 p.m. Call 301-229-5585 or visit www.glenechopottery.com.

Photoworks is a unique resource for both student and professional photographers to develop their talents through classes, workshops, and exhibitions. The Photoworks gallery is open every Sunday and Wednesday, 1-8 p.m. and during all scheduled classes and workshops. Call 301-229-7930 or visit www.glenechophotoworks.org.

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NEWS



PHOTO BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

The Bullis School's representation in the Interschool Horse Show Series of seniors Jennifer Osterman and Kelly Crow won't compete for the overall title this year, but the two took home ribbons from Sunday's event riding on Osterman's Meca, shown here, as well as her jumping pony Rain.

Varsity Sport of Their Own

FROM PAGE 4

is recognized as a varsity sport, at others it is a club, and still others the school may be barely aware that they are affiliated with the series, Raskauskas said.

"It really comes down to the administration, the principal, and if they feel comfortable doing it," Raskauskas said. The riders compete in beginning, intermediate and advanced skill level groups in junior varsity and varsity divisions in events sponsored by The Surrey Tack Shop in Potomac. They collect points in two floor routines where the rider's form and ability to properly balance a horse through turns while trotting and cantering is judged and the top riders in each set advance to jumping competitions.

MANY OF THE COMPETITORS ride and compete at local barns ("here it's definitely more friendly," Osterman said on the Interschool series), but when they come to Interschool shows the playing field is leveled because unless they bring their own horse, each rider rides a horse from that particular stable. The selection is designed to match the rider's height and weight, but they are not usually horses that the riders are familiar with.

"It's kind of confusing when you get here. You don't

always know if your horse is going to be fast or slow or going to spook easy, but it's a real good test to see how well you can ride," said Robin Klomprens, the Thomas S. Wootton coach and a freshman at the University of Maryland.

"Most of the horses are good and sane, which is always a plus," said Osterman. Osterman has two horses stabled at Oatland, so she and Crow rode those on Sunday and both took ribbons in their competitions.

"I love Jen's horse," said Crow of 16-year-old Meca, a chestnut mare who gave birth to Bart in May.

POINTS EARNED throughout the season are tallied and carried over from one show to the next resulting in the top teams getting rewarded at the end of the season that runs from September to May. But the real reward, said Raskauskas, is that riders get to come to school on Mondays knowing that they rode for their school team over the weekend. Perhaps just as importantly, they also have the chance to compete and improve at a sport that, provided the opportunity, can be carried out in life a lot further than the average varsity team sport.

"The more that they show the better they get at it, [and] it's like anything ... this gives them a lot more experience," Raskauskas said.



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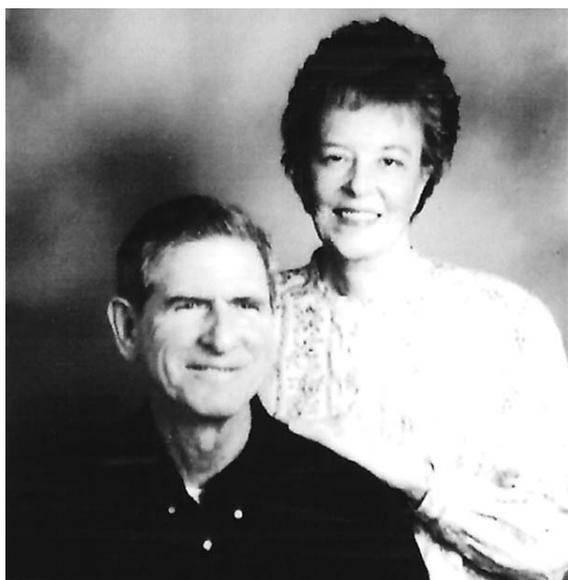
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PEOPLE



60th Anniversary Celebration

On Nov. 1, Irma and Ned Spencer celebrated their 60th Wedding anniversary with family and friends. They were married in Miami Beach, the day before Harry Truman unexpectedly beat Thomas Dewey for President in 1948. The Spencers have three children: Donald, Andrew and Laurie, and six grandchildren, one of who is serving in the Peace Corps in West Africa. Mr. Spencer retired from the MITRE Corp and currently works as the managing editor of the Air Traffic Control Quarterly. His wife is a sculptor. They left Long Island in 1971 for Potomac with their family and a Labrador retriever.

BUSINESS NOTES

To have an item listed free in *The Potomac Almanac*, 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean VA 22102, e-mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com, or fax to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and artwork encouraged. Unless otherwise noted, all events are in Potomac. If you have any questions, call Matthew Razak at 703-917-6457.

Tax attorney **Albert B. Ellentuck, Esq.** of Potomac was presented with the Arthur J. Dixon Award at a luncheon held Oct. 30 as part of the fall meeting of the Tax Division of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants at the J. W. Marriott in Washington, D.C.

Ellentuck practices law at King & Nordlinger LLP, located in Arlington, Va. He was formerly the head of the Tax Department of the International Accounting Firm of Laventhol & Horwath, and prior to that had served as a specialist in the IRS Office of Chief Counsel (formerly Rulings Division). Although he now specializes in estates, trusts and family businesses, he has written and spoken extensively on a range of tax subjects.

The Arthur J. Dixon Award is the highest award given by the accounting profession in the area of taxation. The award was given to Ellentuck for his record of more than three decades of leadership and service in the field of taxation. He served as chairman of the Institute's Tax Executive Committee, and on various Tax Division committees.

Ferguson Asset Management, Inc., a fee-only money management firm and registered investment advisor has been named a "Top Dog" financial advisor by Bloomberg Wealth Manager Magazine for the sixth year in a row. The list recognizes top independent wealth management firms across the nation.

Firms are selected based on leadership in three major categories: Client Relationships, average assets per client, and number of professionals.



Albert B. Ellentuck, Esq.



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Off Season Overhauls for Basketball Teams

Area boy's basketball teams hope summer work will pay off.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE ALMANAC

Coming off a 13-9 record a year ago, the last thing the **Churchill** boy's basketball program thought it would need was another facelift. Especially with eight juniors that received significant playing time a season ago back for their last go-around.

But former coach Dan O'Conner stepped down following the season, but before he let go of the reins completely he made sure a strong successor was in place. Last June, Churchill announced the hiring of coach Matthew Miller to lead one of the most talented Bulldog basketball teams in recent memory.

Looking back, Miller says the early hiring has already paid huge dividends. Miller

due in large part to the versatile style Miller intends his Bulldogs to employ. Rather than stick to a certain formula, Miller believes he has enough veteran experience to adapt his game plan on an opponent-by-opponent basis.

Miller wants Churchill to be able to run with fast break team, while still maintaining a level of execution should it get involved in a grind-it-out half court battle.

He will count on the offensive exploits of Hicks, who is Churchill's leading returning scorer. Guard Danny Holzman should also figure heavily into the Bulldogs' attack.

The eight senior leaders that will make up the core of the team have lofty aspirations armed with a new coach and the confidence that a year older, their solid record from last season should only improve.

"I think we're all expecting to do good things and not only be competitive in Montgomery County, but also in the state," said senior Luke Fishman.

Said Hicks: "We want to go (states) at all costs."

IT WAS ONLY three short years ago that the **Whitman** boy's basketball team was on top of Maryland's basketball mountain. In 2006, a senior-laden Viking squad stormed all the way to the state title thanks in large part to their ability to finish out close games.

Flash forward to last season, a year in which Whitman faltered to a mediocre 7-15 mark, and it seems the Vikings have much to do if they are to re-capture the glory of just a few seasons ago.

First and foremost in the mind of coach Chris Lun is getting Whitman back to closing out games, something it failed at doing a year ago. Of the Vikings' 15 losses, 11 were by five points or less.

So it was only fitting that the Vikings' sea-



PHOTO BY MARK GIANNOTTO/THE ALMANAC

The Churchill basketball team's senior class has adjusted to new coach Matthew Miller and appears primed to improve upon last season's 13-9 record.

Churchill at a Glance

Coach: Matthew Miller, 1st season
Player to Watch: Chase Hicks, senior
First game: Dec. 5 at Springbrook

credits new rule changes by Montgomery County that have allowed more off season contact between players and coaches. It allowed Miller to institute his own training regimen and schemes once he took over in June and even coach a few games in summer league to get used to his new team's playing style.

"A lot of times it's hard for new coaches to take over a senior group," said Miller. "However these kids have been fantastic."

The players and coaches have quickly formed a close-knit relationship as a result.

"Starting in June instead of Nov. 15 makes a huge difference," said senior Chase Hicks. "We've really gotten used to coach Miller's offense."

The emphasis on off-season training was

Whitman at a Glance

Coach: Chris Lun, 5th season
Player to Watch: Michael Fowler, senior
First game: Dec. 5 at Seneca Valley

son ended last year with a one-point play-off loss to Walter Johnson. It certainly has provided players with plenty of motivation.

"I hope we did learn our lesson last year," Lun said. "We have to do what it takes to win close games."

Lun will lean on the veteran leadership of senior point guard Michael Fowler, who is the team's leading returning scorer. But the coach also is quick to point out that with a very young team that features a plethora of juniors getting their first taste of varsity play, all 10 other players will get a chance to show they can contribute — especially when it comes to tight, fourth-quarter contests.

THE BAR HAS BEEN raised for the

Wootton at a Glance

Coach: Chris Bohlen, 3rd season
Player to Watch: Nitin Patarazu, senior
First game: Dec. 5 at Blake

Wootton boy's basketball program, coming off a season in which it won the 4A West Division Championship. However, the Patriots return only two players who got legitimate playing time on the team last season. Seniors Nitin Patarazu and Brian Hollins headline the Patriots roster, but will feature a number of younger players that must prove themselves if the team is to reach a second straight division championship. "We may not have as much experience as other teams in the county, but we work extremely hard," Patarazu said.

"All the young guys work real hard in practice and we'll adjust well to them," third-year coach Chris Bohlen said.

— Almanac intern Mike Weiner contributed to this report

SPORTS BRIEFS

Area Soccer Players Excel

Local high school soccer products have been flourishing at the college level this season, and their respective leagues have been paying attention.

Freshman Forward Zachary Kabelac, a Churchill graduate now playing at MIT, was named Rookie of the Year for the New England Women and Men's Athletic Conference, becoming the Cardinal and Gray's fourth-ever recipient. He currently ranks second on the squad in scoring, having tallied 10 goals and eight assists for 28 points as of Nov. 11. Yoni Behanu,

a Potomac native who attended Sidwell Friends for high school, was named Atlantic-10 rookie of the year for his play on the George Washington University soccer team.

Berhanu becomes the seventh GW freshman to receive the league's Rookie of the Year award, and the first since 2001. The elusive forward, who also became the program's ninth All-Rookie Team selection, finished third on the team in goals (4) and points (11), including the game-winning golden goal against Duquesne Nov. 7. Berhanu opened his collegiate career with All-Tournament Team honors in helping the Colonials capture their second straight DC College Cup title in August.

Lastly, midfielder Ryan Gracia, a Wootton graduate now playing at George Mason, was named to the CAA all-rookie team, Gracia led all freshman on the team in points with 10 and goals with five.

Alumni Thanksgiving Soccer

This Thanksgiving morning, like every Thanksgiving morning the past 32 years, the Churchill soccer team will hold its annual Turkey Bowl on the outfield grass of Churchill High School's baseball field.

The event is a soccer game pitting past

Churchill soccer alumni against the current players that made up this year's Bulldog team. It has become a holiday tradition for all those involved.

This year's game is slated to take place at 10:30 a.m.

"It's just a great way to keep everyone up-to-date with the program," said Churchill athletic director and former soccer coach David Kelley. "A lot of these guys probably haven't touched a soccer ball for awhile, so they enjoy coming out and seeing each other after all these years. I don't know too many programs with this many alumni coming back year-to-year."

SPORTS

Madness at Churchill

Bulldog basketball teams kick off season with annual Midnight Madness fan night.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE ALMANAC

Chances are if Churchill senior Chase Hicks misses three dunks in a row once the basketball season begins, his coaches won't be in the mood to laugh at him.

But last Friday night at Churchill's Midnight Madness to kick off the high school basketball season, there was coach Matt Miller and his staff with wide grins on their faces after Hicks tried over and over again to throw down a 360-degree tomahawk jam.

This being the preseason still, Hicks was quick to point out that his coaches were the very reason his explosive dunks seemed to just miss the mark.

"It's all these workouts they've been putting me through," said Hicks, who despite the misses still won the contest over assistant coaches Dave Bell and Mike Lovitt, Jr. "My legs were already kind of sore."

It was all part of a music-filled evening in Churchill's gym, as both the Bulldogs' boy's and girl's basketball teams took part in an event aimed to get the community pumped up for what could be a his

SEE MADNESS AT CHURCHILL, PAGE 15

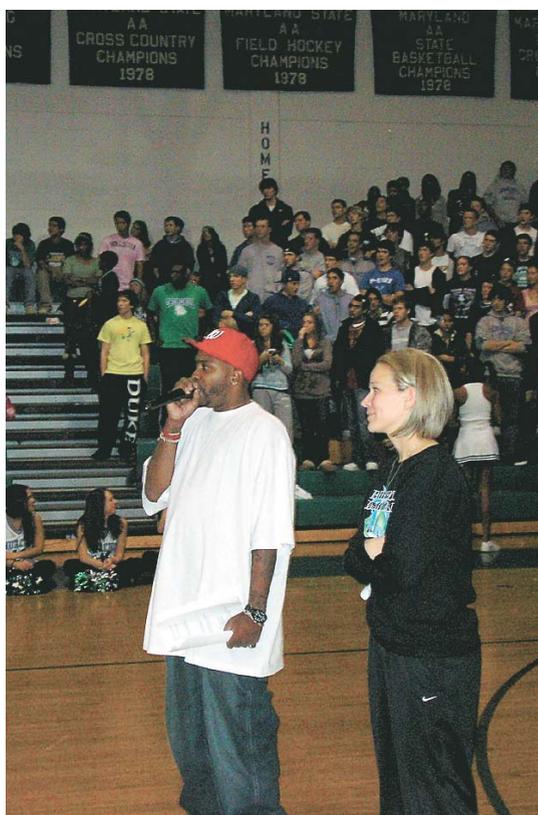


PHOTO BY MARK GIANNOTTO/THE ALMANAC

Churchill girls' basketball coach Aubree Lawrence, local radio disc jockey DJ Rico, and the rest of the school's student section watch as festivities unfold at last Friday's Midnight Madness.

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SPORTS



PHOTO BY MARK GIANNOTTO/THE ALMANAC

Senior Chase Hicks emerges from the fog after being introduced to the crowd at Churchill's Midnight Madness.

Madness at Churchill

FROM PAGE 13

toric season for Churchill.

The third-annual event also included performances by Churchill's cheerleaders, pom squad, and step team, fan games and prizes, a three-point shooting competition, and fog-machine aided player introductions by local radio disc jockey, DJ Rico.

"It was a good turn out," said Alex Vassila, a senior on the girl's basketball team. "Hopefully this gets everyone excited to come out to the games once the season starts."

SCHOOL NOTES

To have an item listed mail to 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean VA 22102, e-mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com, or fax to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper.

Sarina Rosenthal of Potomac is participating in the Bates College Junior Semester Abroad program. Rosenthal, a politics major, is **studying in Kampala, Uganda**, through the School for International Training. Rosenthal participated in the

VOLUNTEER

To have an item listed mail to 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean VA 22102, e-mail to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com, or fax to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Thursday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos and artwork encouraged. Unless otherwise noted, all events are in Potomac.

The American Cancer Society is looking for **Road to Recovery drivers**. The ACS will provide training and a flexible schedule that suits volunteers' needs. Road drivers are desperately needed throughout Montgomery County, so get in touch with us today. To volunteer or link a friend with Road to Recovery, call Sarah Ness at 202.483.2600 x101 or sarah.ness@cancer.org.

Montgomery Hospice, a nonprofit medical hospice that provides end-of-life services to residents of Montgomery County, is looking for volunteers to help support terminally ill patients and their families and caregivers. Bereavement Care Volunteers are also needed to provide emotional support to county residents who have lost a loved one. Applicants must be interviewed and

Churchill girl's basketball coach Aubree Lawrence first started the event three years ago when she took over the program. She saw it as a way of giving recognition to the school's winter athletes. At Churchill, there is no winter pep rally since the gym is too small to fit the entire school.

"They like the lights off, and the fog and announcing their names," said Lawrence. "High school basketball is about having fun and being recognized. I would do it 100 times over because they work so hard for us coaches."

Mount David Summit, a showcase of student achievement at Bates in 2007 and is the daughter of Robert Rosenthal and Nina Simon, 11401 Toulone Drive.

She is a 2006 graduate of Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School.

Carol R. Shabe, formerly of St. Francis Episcopal Day School and The Harbor School, is currently the Interim Head of School at **Christ Episcopal School** in Rockville.

complete a three-day training session. The training will be held at the Montgomery Hospice office, located at 1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 100, in Rockville.

To request a volunteer application, contact Terry Stewart at 301-921-4400 or visit www.montgomeryhospice.org.

The Volunteer Mentoring Project for the Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) is seeking volunteer mentors. Mentors give four hours a month to help low-income adult housing residents achieve their goals towards economic self-sufficiency. Mentors play an important role in guiding and motivating residents as they work toward developing job skills through education and job training. Mentors need to be at least 25-years-old and able to make a commitment to the program for at least one year. Program staff provide mentor training and ongoing supervision. Call 301-929-5660, if interested in other volunteer opportunities in the Montgomery County area, contact the Montgomery County Volunteer Center at 240-777-2600.

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