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101 Ways To Have Fun

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8

'Rapids' on River Road

NEWS, PAGE 3

County Budget To Shape Potomac's Issues in '09

NEWS, PAGE 3

Last year, Mark Myers, a park ranger and wrangler at the C&O Canal Park, introduces Dolly, the newest canal boat mule at the park in Potomac.

Churchill Gets Offensive

SPORTS, PAGE 13

CALENDAR, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 13 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 14

FILE PHOTO

THIS WEEK IN POTOMAC

Artists Collaborate with Students

Potomac Artists in Touch (PAINT) are collaborating with the Winston Churchill High School Art Department to hang a month-long, multimedia show at The Behnke Nurseries' River Road location.

The show will open on the evening of Saturday, Jan. 10. Both two- and three-dimensional pieces in a variety of media will be featured. The young artists' work will hang for two weeks, during which time it will be juried by PAINT and evaluated by the public. PAINT will be awarding cash prizes and, through two weeks of balloting, the public will decide who wins an additional people's choice award.

On the evening of Saturday, Jan. 24, the show will morph into "A Woman's Eye" —PAINT's exhibition. The student artists' winning works will hang together with PAINT's for the duration of the show.

PAINT will be donating a portion of its art sale revenue to designated charities. Their last show netted \$1,000 for The Ivy Mount School Foundation and The American Cancer Society.

This collaborative event will run from Jan. 10 through Feb. 7. Receptions on the 10th and 24th will last from 6-9 p.m. and are open to the public. This event is sponsored by The Behnke Nurseries Company

Holy Child at 200

On Sunday, Jan. 4 Connelly School of the Holy Child celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany and the 200th Anniversary of the birth of its foundress, Cornelia Connelly.

A Philadelphia native, Cornelia Connelly became a Roman Catholic sister and established the Society of the Holy Child Jesus in England in 1846. The original focus of the society was education, and over the years has expanded its service to health care, legal

SEE THIS WEEK, PAGE 12

NEWS



On a Mission Master Firefighter Larry Simmons, Firefighter Ryan Harris and Captain Bob Hough (left to right) go door to door in Potomac to check on smoke detectors. The three career Montgomery County firefighters based at Cabin John are part of a county-wide effort to go to every residence and check and replace smoke detectors. "Particularly in older neighborhoods in Potomac, with houses more than 10 years old, many of them still have the original detectors," said Hough. Last week the trio installed eight smoke detectors on one street in River Falls, all at no charge. If a group of firefighters arrive at one's door, they want residents to know they're not looking for a donation, they're there to ensure the home is properly protected. Residents should check their smoke detectors by pushing the button, following the "put your finger on it" motto of the outreach effort.



*In These Tough Economic Times
The Safest Investment Is In Your Child's Future*

A rich opportunity for students at a reasonable cost
54% of the Class of 2008 is attending a four-year college in Virginia
99% of our graduates attend college - including the most prestigious in the nation
Our families have chosen us

Information Session for Eighth Graders
Sunday, January 11
1:00 pm

BISHOP DENIS J. O'CONNELL HIGH SCHOOL

www.bishopoconnell.org

'A Class 3 Rapids' on River Road

Those involved in water main rupture on River Road recall ordeal and rescue that saved all involved.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

As Sharon Schoem drove west through light traffic on River Road around 7:50 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2008, she had no way to know she was about to be make international news. A fourth and fifth-grade teacher at Potomac Elementary School,

"I just took some breaths and said, 'OK, let's see what happens here.'"

— Sharon Schoem, Potomac Elementary teacher

Schoem thought that she was just two short miles or so away from the last day of classes before winter break. As she passed Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department's Station 10 and headed uphill, everything changed. A 44-year-old water main 66 inches in diameter ruptured near the crest of the hill, just east of the intersection of River Road and Clewerwall Drive, sending a torrent of water downhill towards Schoem and the other drivers heading uphill.

"All of a sudden I see like this brown wall of water heading straight towards me," Schoem said. The car in back of her made a sharp u-turn and headed

SEE REFLECTIONS, PAGE 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF TEDDY TAMULEVICH/CJPFVFD

WSSC repair crews at work on part of the section of pipe that ruptured on Dec. 23. Five pieces of pipe, each approximately 16-foot long were installed last week to replace the 66-inch diameter watermain that ruptured, jeopardizing the lives of commuters and leading to a swift water rescue.

Call for Change

While Montgomery County officials have lauded the efforts of rescue personnel for their successful efforts in the rescue following rupture of a 66-inch diameter water main beside River Road on Dec. 23, they have also criticized the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission for poor leadership and an aging infrastructure. County Council Vice President Roger Berliner (D-Potomac, Bethesda, Chevy Chase) questioned the viability of an organization run by six commissioners drawn equally from the two counties — Montgomery and Prince George's — that the Commission serves.

"It is the failure of the WSSC as an institution. It is an institution that is dysfunctional," Berliner said in an interview. "It is a bicounty organization in which we have been unable to work out our differences with Prince George's County." Those differences range from leadership styles to budget operations, Berliner said. "Every aspect of the organization, every major decision ends up being a 3-3 vote which deadlocks the commission." Berliner said the County Council will push for changes in state law to allow the presence of a seventh, tie-breaking member to be added to the commission, and that the Council will be briefed by WSSC officials at a full Council meeting open to the public on Tuesday, Jan. 13.

Berliner and others have also called for an influx of cash from president-elect Obama's proposed infrastructure bailout.

"This severe break is a prime example of the desperate need for increased infrastructure funding," said Councilmember Nancy Floreen (D-At large). "Any federal funds that come available through President Obama's stimulus package must be used to replace and maintain our County's own deteriorating infrastructure."

The pipe that ruptured was a 44-year-old, 66-inch diameter pipe manufactured by the now-defunct Interpace company, said John C. White, a spokesperson for WSSC. The pipe that ruptured Dec. 23 was a Class 2 Interpace Pipe that was last inspected in 1998 and wasn't due to be inspected for two more years. The 1998 inspection resulted in minor repairs, but no serious flaws were found, White said. While WSSC's Interpace pipes have ruptured in the past they have been of the Class 4 variety. About 13 of the 5,500 miles of WSSC watermain are Interpace products, said White. A forensic investigation to determine what caused the water main to rupture is expected to take approximately six weeks.

County Finances Will Shape Potomac's New Year

Budgetary constraints will mark many of the issues in and around Potomac in 2009.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

The tone for 2009 was set in November when Montgomery County adjusted its projected budget shortfall for the 2010 fiscal year from around \$250 million to nearly \$500 million. The struggle to meet that deficit will affect nearly every issue in and around Potomac in 2009, and likely beyond.

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"We're talking about an unprecedented challenge, one that is going to require sacrifice across the board," said County Council Vice President Roger Berliner (D-Potomac, Chevy Chase, Bethesda). "It's not going to be pretty and there will be a lot of pain spread around."

Cuts to County services and layoffs of County staff are likely, and any and all options are on the table, said Berliner. "This is going to be very, very hard, [and] its one of

the reasons that we're pushing for a [Federal] stimulus package for state and local governments."

However it plays out, making ends meet is the County's top objective.

"It is priority one, two, three and four right now... and there is not a clear path forward," said Berliner.

Here is a quick look at some other local issues that will likely define 2009:

SCHOOL MODERNIZATION:

A year-long study that included several meetings with groups of local parents led to the approval in December of new school

boundaries for five Potomac schools by the Montgomery County Board of Education. Designed to alleviate overcrowding at Potomac Elementary School, the new boundaries will impact Potomac, Bells Mill and Seven Locks Elementary Schools, as well as Cabin John and Herbert Hoover Middle Schools. A major sticking point among parents was that the modernization of Seven Locks (beginning 2010) and Cabin John (beginning this summer) not be delayed. With the County's projected budget deficit, many parents fear that the school system will not get the money it needs to

SEE BUDGETARY, PAGE 4

Budgetary Constraints Will Mark Issues in 2009

FROM PAGE 3

keep both of those projects on schedule and that more students could be shifted into portable classrooms.

"People are worried about that," said Laurie Halverson, co-coordinator of the Winston Churchill High School cluster schools, which include the five affected schools. "It wouldn't make a lot of sense to do the [boundary] switches if the Seven Locks modernization is delayed [but] we don't want to delay the Potomac [Elementary] kids anymore. My biggest concern really is Cabin John because it's in such bad shape right now."

POTOMAC OAK SEWER EXTENSION:

A proposed extension of a dedicated sewer line to the Potomac Oak shopping center in North Potomac has been talked about for nearly two years, but has yet to be formally taken to the County Council for approval. Potomac residents Guy Semmes and Mike Denker own the shopping center and want to attract business and say that the sewer would be a private, dedicated line that could not be tapped into. Opponents fear that extending the sewer line to the shopping center and outside of what is

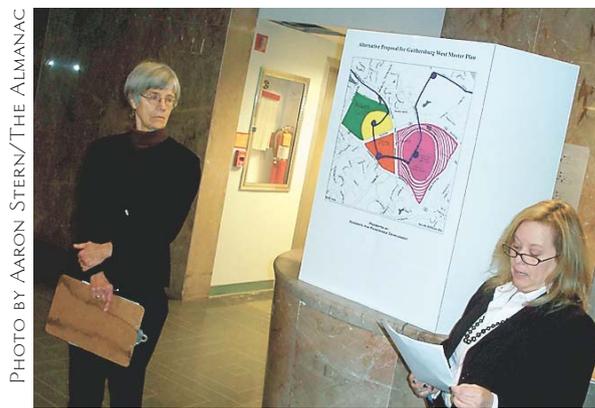


PHOTO BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC
Residents from Potomac and Gaithersburg held a press conference in the lobby of the Montgomery County Council Office Building on Monday, Jan. 5 to explain their concern over a proposed massive development in the Gaithersburg West planning area.

termed the water/sewer envelope would set a dangerous precedent that could lead to development in the semi-rural North Potomac area and beyond. Semmes and Denker pulled the proposal from the Council's agenda in 2007 to discuss the matter further with neighbors and last year

held a series of meetings with residents to discuss their plans. Thus far they have not resubmitted the plan for the Council's consideration, but could do so again this fall when the Council annually reviews a slate of proposed water/sewer category changes.

WSSC SCRUTINY:

A ruptured 48-inch diameter watermain in Derwood last summer left thousands of County residents boiling water for most of a week. Residents grumbled, County officials expressed concern about the aging Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission's infrastructure, and little action was taken. The ruptured water main that led to a swift water-style rescue on River Road just before Christmas made national headlines and has led to more severe criticisms of WSSC that could perhaps result in substantive change. Berliner said that the commission needs a seventh, tie-breaking member on its board, and that the inability of the Montgomery County and Prince George's

County leadership contingencies of the bi-county organization is a major part of the problem. The second major rupture in the County in six months has increased concerns about the aging infrastructure and how rapidly it can be replaced.

"Currently, we are on a more than 100-year cycle to replace outdated pipes. Obviously, this timeline is way too long and must be changed," said Councilmember Nancy Floreen (D-At large) in a statement after the River Road incident, adding, "[T]his severe break is a prime example of the desperate need for increased infrastructure funding. Any federal funds that come available through President Obama's stimulus package must be used to replace and maintain our County's own deteriorating infrastructure."

The full County Council is tentatively scheduled to meet with WSSC officials in a meeting open to the public on Tuesday, Jan. 13 at the County Council building located at 100 Maryland Avenue in Rockville.

CHANGING FACE OF POTOMAC VILLAGE:

The Potomac community rallied around
SEE WHAT'S AHEAD, PAGE 11

Reflections on 'Rapids' on River Road

FROM PAGE 3

back downhill and Schoem attempted to do the same, but before she could the water had engulfed her car, stopping the engine and stranding her in a situation that she shortly realized was as dangerous as it was bizarre. Wherever the water was coming from — Schoem thought at first it was somehow something that had fallen off the back of a truck — it wasn't letting up.

"My car was just swept up," Schoem said. "The sound of the water was like the rapids." With all the water came boulders, parts of trees, and — what Schoem later learned — chunks of asphalt that minutes prior had been part of River Road — storming up over her hood and, at times, her windshield.

"My first thought was, 'God, what if something cracks against the windshield?'" Schoem said. She called her fiancé, then police. The police operator had not yet heard of the situation. Schoem's fiancé called her back and said the news was reporting a water main break on River Road. She was still dry in her car, but bit by bit, the torrent of water was pushing her car downhill and towards the edge of the road. She started to panic. She felt sick in her stomach and she began to hyperventilate, but she tried to stay calm.

"Time, it was just irrelevant, I didn't know what to do," Schoem said. "I just took some breaths and said, 'OK, let's see what happens here.'"

A few hundred yards behind Schoem was a fire truck from Station 10 that had been on its way to Potomac Village to pick up supplies when the water main broke. Once the severity of the situation was realized,

the crew made began making its way uphill towards Schoem. It just so happened that the crew in the truck was part of Cabin John Department's swift water rescue team, charged with conducting rescues on the Potomac River. When the crew reached Schoem's car, a wetsuit-clad rescuer pulled her from her car and got her into the fire truck. The crew then inched its way uphill to the two cars in front of Schoem's, rescuing a pair of people from the cars, but as the road began to buckle under the truck the crew retreated downhill to safety.

"I kind of panicked because the fire truck started moving with the current of the water, so he couldn't even go any further," Schoem said.

UPHILL FROM THE RUPTURED water main, Capt. Frank Doyle of the Cabin John Department and his crew of rescuers prepared to lower a rescue boat down the hill by anchoring it with ropes to trees beside the road. Rescuers were well aware that in addition to drowning, in the morning's sub-freezing temperatures hypothermia was a major concern. And while the situation was similar to what Doyle and his men had practiced countless times before, the physical location and the depth of the water, which ranged in depth from three feet to three inches made it unique.

"It was something that none of us had ever seen before," said Doyle. "It was a critical situation, those people were in life and death situations being out there in the water and the cold, as well as our personnel."

"Literally we were dealing with class 3 rapids and as such it was a very dynamic and turbulent situation," said Cabin John

chief Jim Seavey.

With a safety harness on, swift water rescue team member Lt. Pat Mitchell manned the boat, and rescued two people from their cars before the boat swamped, he was hauled out, and helicopters were called in to finish the job.

U.S. Park Police rescue and Maryland State Police helicopter crews each rescued the remaining three stranded passengers, dropping in rescue cages through a 40-foot window lined by high voltage wires along the north and south sides of River Road.

"They really had to thread a needle," said Cabin John chief Jim Seavey. "Both of the crews did tremendous work under very, very difficult conditions. That pilot's relying solely on crew member instructions, the pilot can't see a thing ... both of those crews the work they did was phenomenal, but it was the only way we were going to get those people out."

HAD ANY OF SEVERAL FACTORS surrounding the day's disaster changed, the daring rescues might not have worked out as well, said Seavey. With many commuters out of work two days before Christmas, traffic was light and strong winds from the day before died down overnight, making the helicopter rescue possible. The greatest coincidence was the location of the incident itself, squarely in between the two fire stations in the County capable to handle the challenges it presented — Station 10 on River Road and Station 30 on Falls Road.

"We train on the Potomac river all the time for rescues, and that training very easily transferred over to the River Road incident," Doyle said.

Legion Bridge Repairs Are Temporary

A crack found in the supporting structure of the American Legion Bridge was temporarily fixed by work crews last week, but a permanent repair will be made in coming months.

The crack was in a beam that supports the bridge deck and assists the bridge's ability to expand and contract during in seasonal weather changes, said Chuck Gischlar, a spokesman for the Maryland State Highway Administration. The crack was found during a routine inspection on Wednesday, Dec. 31. Maryland conducts inspections of bridges every two years, and of underwater supporting bridge structures every three years, said Gischlar. The bridge is not on the State Highway Administration's list of structurally deficient bridges that was last updated April 1, 2008.

The left lane of the inner loop was shut down to allow repair crews to access the damaged area causing delays during high-volume traffic times, but the work was completed by 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, two days ahead of the original Jan. 5 estimated date for completion. The permanent repair will require more lane closures but will be done in off-peak hours.

PETS



Lionel

Lionel is a 2-year-old, 70 pound, neutered male Lab mix. He's great in the house, rides well in a car and gets along with other dogs in his foster's home. Lionel is a loyal "Velcro" dog, looking for an adopter to hang out with and one with no cats.

Partnership for Animal Welfare (PAW) is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit group. To adopt an animal, volunteer or make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.paw-rescue.org, call 301-572-4729 or write to PAW, P.O. Box 1074, Greenbelt, MD 20768.

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 703-917-6407.

SATURDAY/JAN. 10

Free SAT, ACT Practice Tests. 9:30-11 a.m. at Winston Churchill High School can take practice tests while parents attend free "Navigating College Admissions" presentation. Visit www.mytutor.com or 1-800-698-8867.

Talk. 9:30 a.m. at Congregation B'nai Tzedek, 10621 S. Glen Road. Hear Israeli Ambassador Sallai Meridor. Free. 301-299-0225.

MONDAY/JAN. 12

Historic Preservation. 7:45-10 p.m. at County Council Office, 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville.



Buttermilk

Buttermilk is a 10-year-old, spayed female DSH cat. She is a sweet, curious girl that enjoys attention, but not too much. She enjoys an occasional brushing and gets along with other cats, but would also be happy as an only cat.

Learn how items are deemed historic. Free. Visit www.montgomerycivic.org for more.

TUESDAY/JAN. 13

Parent Loss Support Group. For adults who have experienced the death of one or both parents, a six-week group led by Montgomery Hospice counselors. 6:30-8 p.m. at Bethesda United Church of Christ, 10010 Fernwood Road, Bethesda. Registration required: 301-921-4400.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 14

Grief Support Group. For children through teens who have experienced the death of a parent or sibling. Parent group meets at the same time. A six-week group led by Montgomery

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 7

POTOMAC SENIORS VILLAGE

A Residential Assisted Living Community Offering Respite Care

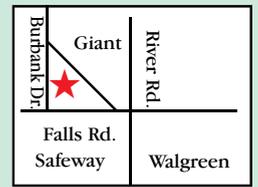
Our Community Provides:

- ★ 24-hour supervision
- ★ Transportation & Escort Service
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- ★ Activities Program

Potomac Seniors Village is nestled on lush green 6.7 acres of a Potomac estate - just steps away from the shops and cafes of Potomac "Village." Our compassionate and certified staff caters to each resident's unique needs in a gracious country-home setting that is safe and secure.

At Potomac Seniors Village, we provide respite care for as little as few days or as long as a few months. Many people choose respite care for their elderly family member when preparing for a scheduled vacation, a business trip, or simply because they need time off from the demands of care giving.

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“

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have something
to say

I came here not really knowing what to expect, but now, looking back, I realize that I couldn't really see the person I would become. Because of everything I've learned at Madeira, I've started to become the person I always wanted to be.

”

Nelly

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OPINION

How To Meet 50 Percent Recycling Target?

BY CAROL VAN DAM FALK
WMCCA PRESIDENT

Montgomery County's Division of Solid Waste Services works to reduce the amount of waste that we generate and to recycle as much material as possible. The County has a waste reduction goal of no increase in the amount of waste per resident, and a goal for businesses of no increase in per-employee-generated waste over the 1992 level.

Montgomery County's goal is to recycle 50 percent of all waste generated in the County. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2008, the County's overall recycling rate was 44.3 percent, while businesses recycled 40 percent of the non-residential sector waste, up from 37.3 percent recycled in FY 2007. Businesses are critical to the success of the County's recycling achievement, as they produce more than half of the County's solid waste. If business recycling were carried out as intended, the 50 percent recycling goal for Montgomery County could be easily met.

Most of the Potomac-area businesses are too small to be required to submit an annual Waste Reduction and Recycling report to the County. Like Montgomery County's large businesses, though, Potomac's restaurants, grocery stores, retailers, medical and dental offices, home-based businesses, and swimming pools are required to recycle mixed paper, commingled materials, scrap metal, and yard trim materials.

We are concerned that some local Potomac businesses may not fully understand the County's goals, may feel that bins are unsightly, or may not be implementing a recycling program consistent with the County's goals. To address that issue, we are inviting local business owners to come and join us Jan. 14 when Mr. Pultyniewicz speaks about the County's recycling programs. We, the public, also have a role. As we patronize Potomac businesses, we need to look for — and use — recycling bins, and we can thank a manager that makes bins visible and convenient.

PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT

BY GEORGE BARNES

Potomac Swim and Recreation Club – The Planning Board voted two to two, with one Commissioner absent, on a Special Exception

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

How Effective Is Humane Society Thrift Store?

To the Editor:

Thousand of Montgomery County patrons donate their goods to the Montgomery County's Humane Society thrift store Wagging Tails to raise funds to help the animals, I know that they would also be surprised to see how little their efforts are really helping the animals. Less than 5 cents of every dollar donated seems available to help the animals according to financial's released.

MCHS finally released some fi-

WMCCA Meeting

The next meeting of the West Montgomery County Citizens Association will be Wednesday, Jan 14 at 8 p.m. at the Potomac Library. If schools are closed because of inclement weather, the meeting will be cancelled. Guest speaker will be Alan Pultyniewicz, recycling coordinator, Division of Solid Waste Services, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection. As recycling coordinator, Pultyniewicz is charged with educating residents and businesses about Montgomery County's recycling regulations, its emphasis on waste reduction, the handling of yard trim materials and encouragement of composting, the "Don't Dump – Donate" program, the Materials Recovery Facility, and the "Buy Recycled" program. As always, the public is welcome.

modification to permit additional courts and a tennis bubble for the club at Oaklyn Drive. The decision, without finding for or against, transmits the Planning Board's staff report, which recommended denial based on incompatibility with the surrounding residential neighborhood, to the Board of Appeals. The Board of Appeals hearing, originally scheduled for Jan. 9, has been postponed. A new date will be set and all parties notified.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

BY GINNY BARNES

Forest Conservation Law (FCL) Amendments – The County Executive has asked Department of Environmental Protection staff to look at creating a process to protect trees on smaller lots as well as the forest stands that are currently part of our County FCL. Councilmember Marc Elrich, who has sponsored a set of amendments to the FCL now under consideration by the County Council, is enthusiastic about this approach.

Circle Drive Ash Tree – Several years back, WMCCA worked to protect an enormous specimen Ash tree from land disturbances impacting the critical root zone. We hired an arborist and testified at the Planning Board on a proposal the Board subsequently denied. The tree is again in danger from a plan to remove the old house located just next to it, preparatory to developing the property. We have concerns about how the tree will be made safe if the house is removed as well as the placement of long-term maintenance protections if the prop-

erty is developed.

River Road Water Main Break – The enormous volume of water that rushed down River Road during the 66-inch water main break was directed by gravity to the nearest watershed, the Cabin John Creek. While much has been made of the damage to the road and the disruption of vehicular transportation, there is an untold story in this disaster. What did thousands of gallons of chlorinated water roaring into Cabin John do to the stream banks, aquatic life and the nearby Potomac River into which the creek flows – and from which River Road takes its name?

UPDATE ON GAITHERSBURG WEST MASTER PLAN

BY DIANA CONWAY

The current draft of Gaithersburg West Master Plan adds 20 million square feet of space, 60,000 jobs, and thousands of housing units to an area very near Potomac. The land under study consists of several hundred acres in parcels around Shady Grove Road and Darnestown Road that are not in Potomac proper but abut our area. This would have serious impacts on our roads, our homes, and our streams and forests.

A group of citizens in the Gaithersburg West area has formed Residents for Responsible Development (RRD) to advocate for more balanced growth that respects existing neighborhoods and natural resources as well as original Master Plans. WMCCA is participating in the citizen group because of the impacts so much development would have on our sub-region along with its threats to our region's role as a Green Wedge between the rural up-county and the urban down-county areas.

WMCCA recently joined numerous civic associations in co-signing a letter to Park & Planning Chairman Royce Hanson, listing the objections and concerns of RRD and proposing several alternative planning scenarios with more appropriate densities. RRD is particularly concerned that the transit component upon which so much density is premised — the Corridor Cities Transitway — may not be funded in these difficult budget times. For more information, contact Diana Conway at dconway@erols.com or Pam Lindstrom at pamela.lindstrom@gmail.com.

financial figures to its members at the Montgomery County Humane's Society Annual meeting. The continued loss of confidence in the management practices of its current remaining Board members as voiced by members and reported in several newspaper articles and reduced revenues seem to still plague the organization. To see that FY 08 revenue from Wagging Tails reported at \$462,787 sounded great, but I was shocked to see total expenses of \$442,902 and it begs the question of whether MCHS can afford to run the thrift shop as a cost effective means of raising funds to help animals. The FY 07 released figures showed revenue of \$396,942 and expenses of \$373,259. If more than 95 cents of every dollar is expenses and less than 5 cents can be used to help the animals then it raises the question of sound management.

As a former Board member and volunteer I assisted in setting up Wagging Tails. I know that its manager and staff works extremely hard, but should an organization be spending over \$400,000 to make less than \$20,000? A 501 C3 nonprofit should be raising money in a much more financially efficient manner.

As I remember the rent on the 11,850 square foot store was around \$11 per foot and was below market at the time of the lease,

but even if rent/utilities are now estimated at over \$160,000, it still leaves over \$280,000 in expenses for a store where all the items for sale are donated.

The intent of the store was to be run by volunteers with few paid staff. When I asked about the number of paid employees — MCHS Human Resource Director Ellen Goodman only stated that they are all part time. No one would give any further details on the expenses. If we truly want to help the animals — let's cut expenses or close the store and find a way to help the animals in a much more cost efficient way.

Allan Cohen
Potomac

CRIME

Criminal activities reported by the Montgomery County Police Department through Dec. 31.

A **residential burglary** occurred in the 11900 block of Jubal Early Court in Potomac on Thursday, Dec. 4 between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Forced entry, property taken.

A **commercial burglary** occurred at the Dominos pizza located at 12962 Travilah Road in North Potomac between 1:14 a.m. and 6:48 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 6. Forced entry, property taken. The officer talked to a district manager for Dominos who stated that the suspect has been fired from at least two different Dominos for suspicion of theft. A potential suspect is being investigated.

A **theft from a vehicle** occurred at Bedfordshire Avenue and Wilden Lane in Potomac on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 1 p.m. A leafblower was taken from a landscaper's vehicle.

A **burglary** occurred at the Tobytown Community Center, 12600 Tobytown Drive in Potomac overnight between Wednesday, Dec. 17 and Thursday, Dec. 18. Forced entry but nothing was reported missing.

A **theft from a vehicle** occurred overnight between 1 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 12 and 7:45 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13 in the 13800 block of Grey Colt Drive in North Potomac. Unknown type of entry, removed two speakers.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5
Hospice counselors. 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Registration required: 301-921-4400.
Support Group - DBSA. 7:30 p.m. at St. Raphael's Church, 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville. Meeting for families and friends of people diagnosed with depression or bipolar illness. Free. Visit www.dbsanca-family.org or 301-299-4255.

SATURDAY/JAN. 17
Registration Begins. Register for classes at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave. All ages. Visit www.imaginationtheatre.org or 301-961-6060 for class schedule.

SATURDAY/JAN. 24
Free SAT, ACT Practice Tests. 9:30-11 a.m. at Winston Churchill High School can take practice tests while parents attend free "Navigating College Admissions" presentation. Visit www.mytutor.com or 1-800-698-8867.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by
Michael Matese
CHILDREN AND MOVES

When you decide it's time to move, it is important to involve your children in the process. Depending on the reason for the move and the distance, moving can cause some concerns for children that parents may not be sensitive to right away. Moving often means going to a new school, leaving favorite playmates, and feeling a lot of uncertainty about what the new neighborhood will be like.

Things will go a lot easier if your children support your efforts to get your current home sold. It is important to encourage the children to participate in selling the house by keeping their toys and clothes picked up. Teenagers may be especially touchy about strangers invading their space, and may resist keeping their room in "showing" condition. It is also important when showing your home to give buyers the free space to look around without the sellers being there.

How can you get the whole family involved in the sale? Include everyone in the discussions about the move and invite the children to participate in house-hunting trips. Work with a Realtor who is comfortable with children and can remain sensitive to your children's needs and concerns.

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

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101 Ways to Have Fun in Potomac

Potomac may lack the nightlife of downtown Washington, D.C., but there's no shortage of ways for all ages to have fun, both in Potomac proper and the surrounding area. Outdoor recreation abounds, as do cultural opportunities, whether somebody wants to experience the fine arts or become a fine artist. Read on ...

EXERCISE

Take a challenging hike on the Billy Goat Trail

Great Falls Tavern, 301-767-3714
www.nps.gov/choh and click the links under "Plan Your Visit"

More than 16 side trails are off the towpath near Great Falls Tavern. Among them, the granddaddy is Section A of the Billy Goat Trail, which begins 0.6 miles below Great Falls Tavern and requires climbing over rocks and boulders as it follows a cliff until its end, 0.7 miles above Old Anglers Inn. Don't be fooled by the moderate-sounding 1.1-mile distance — this section is strenuous.

Take a moderate hike on the Billy Goat Trail

Great Falls Tavern, 301-767-3714
www.nps.gov/choh/Recreation/ and click the links under "Trails"

The downstream portions of the Billy Goat Trail — sections B and C — are longer than Section A, but are also flatter and less treacherous.

Find out more: Area or the parking lot across from Old Anglers Inn. Section C of the Billy Goat Trail is 1.4 miles of "moderate" hiking, according to the National Park Service. Hikers may access it from Carderock Recreation Area, and it is marked with blue blazes.

Section B of is 1.6 miles long, also dubbed "moderate" by the Park Service. Hikers may access it from Carderock or at Old Angler's Inn.

Take a leisurely hike on the C&O Canal towpath.

Great Falls Tavern, 301-767-3714
www.nps.gov/choh for hiking information and a trail map.

Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas raised support for turning the C&O Canal into a national park when he led a group of nine men on a hike along the entire 184-mile canal. Naturalists will enjoy the flora and fauna along the towpath, while history buffs can see surviving lockhouses and locks of the 176-year-old canal. Remember to walk on the right-hand side of the path — pedestrians are sharing the towpath with bikers, who don't always signal as they approach a hiker (although they're supposed to).

Start a running routine

Montgomery County Road Runners Club,

301-353-0200
www.mcrrc.org

Montgomery County Road Runners holds weekly workouts for various ability levels in Rockville, Gaithersburg and the Kentlands. They also conduct race training, youth clinics, and regular member events. Membership is \$25 per year for individuals and \$40 per year for families.

Start a hard-core running routine

Montgomery County Road Runners Club, 301-353-0200
www.mcrrc.org/program.html

The Montgomery County Road Runners Club offers a six-month program that trains first-timers to run the Marine Corps Marathon. The club also sponsors races, training runs, special events and other activities for runners of all ages and experience levels.

Run for a cause

Cure Autism Now 5K, www.canrun.org
Potomac Library

10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, 301-765-4083
It's a Potomac Fourth of July tradition since 2001. Cure Autism Now hosts a 5-kilometer road race and 1-mile walk to help raise money for autism research by Potomac Library every July 4. Runners and walkers enjoy food and music after the race, and free random prizes. Registration for the race is \$30 until July 1, \$35 at the Potomac Library on July 3, and \$40 the day of the race. Children are \$15 to register.

Shred asphalt, water or snow

potomacboardrats.org
The Potomac Board Rats are a group of local enthusiasts whose passion for riding any type of sport board — skateboard, surfboard or snowboard — is their unifying commitment. The group is for all ages and holds events, competitions and trips for its members throughout the year. The new season of events starts Jan. 10 but the group always welcomes new members so those interested in serious shredding.

Play tennis, honor a legend

www.mc-mncppc.org/parks/enterprise/tennis/cabin_john/cabin_shtm

Pauline Betz Addie may not be a household name, but true tennis buffs know that there may have never been a better woman to pick up a racket. Betz Addie won six major titles — including the 1946 Wimbledon without losing a set — but her career was interrupted by World War II and then cut short by rules that banned her from the tour for talking to a sports agent because at the time tennis was an amateur sport. A longtime area resident, Betz Addie helped to start and then for years taught at the Cabin John indoor tennis facility, which is now run by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Renamed in her honor last year, the center was upgraded with improved lighting and now features photos and information about its pioneering namesake. Because of its popularity reservations are best made well in advance.

Play Table Tennis

Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac, 240-777-6960

Whatever you do, don't call it ping pong. True players know it by its real name and know that it has a specific set of rules. Some of the nation's best players live in and around Potomac, and every Wednesday and Saturday night the Potomac Community Center hosts table tennis tournaments. The center's gym is filled with tables on those nights as players — many wearing special shoes — stand well behind the tables and blast spinning shots back and forth across the net. It is a sight to behold, and those with the tenacity to give it a shot are welcome. For those looking for a more casual game of table tennis, there are tables in the back of the main lobby of the center every day of the week.

Go mountain biking

Seneca Creek State Park
11950 Clopper Road,
Gaithersburg, 301-924-2127
Cabin John Trail

Parking and access points on MacArthur Boulevard, River Road, Democracy Boulevard and Tuckerman Lane, 301-299-0024

www.more-mtb.org (Click "Where to Ride")

Mountain bikers who crave hills and tricky terrain may grow tired of the C&O Canal's flat towpath, but they need not despair — two local trails permit mountain bikes. The Cabin John Trail is 10 miles long and runs alongside Cabin John Creek between the Beltway overpass near Seven Locks Road and Montrose Road. Seneca Creek State Park in Gaithersburg offers multiuse trails at Schaeffer Farms that are especially popular with mountain bikers. Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts is a nonprofit organization representing area mountain bikers. Done these already? Another good resource is "Mountain Biking the Washington, D.C./Baltimore Area" by Scott Adams and Martin Fernandez, published by Globe Pequot Press. Find it online or at local book stores.

Bike to work

Washington Area Bicyclist Association, 202-518-0524

www.waba.org
For far too many people in the Washington, D.C. area, the morning commute is a miserable, traffic-choked affair. Biking to work — or at least to a nearby bus stop or Metro station — is a more realistic possibility than many people in the Potomac area think. The Washington Area Bicyclist Association has an online Bicycle Commuter Assistance Program, an interactive guide that provides commuter information and maps online. Each spring, WABA hosts Bike to Work Day, and provides pit stops, convoy routes and information for those who join.

Walk or bike to school

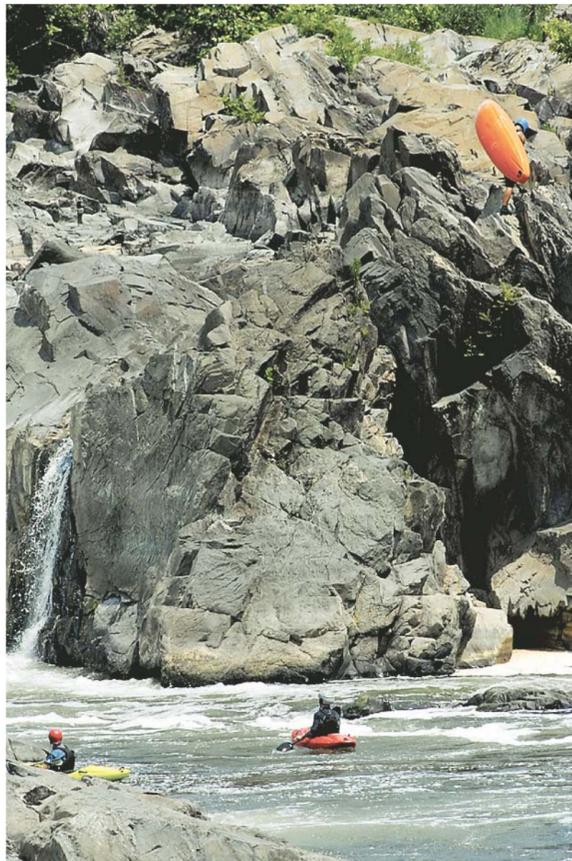
International Walk to School, 919-962-7419 (long distance)

www.walktoschool.org
Beverly Farms Elementary
8501 Post Oak Road, Potomac, 301-469-1050
Cold Spring Elementary
9201 Falls Chapel Way, Potomac, 301-279-8480
Wayside Elementary
10011 Glen Road, Potomac, 301-279-8484

Every weekday morning throughout the school year, local streets near elementary schools are choked down amid gridlock from buses and a parade of SUVs dropping students off. In recent years, Beverly Farms, Wayside, and Cold Spring were among dozens of county schools participate in Walk to School Day, to show families that there's another option for many students and a healthy way to get to school in times of increased child obesity and Type II diabetes. Walking isn't an option for every student in Potomac, but it may be worthwhile for parents to explore this possibility with their children. International Walk to School Day is in early October each year.

Go road biking locally

Washington Area Bicyclist Association, 202-518-0524
www.waba.org



Visit the Falls at C&O Canal, or learn how to kayak them during the summer.

Potomac Pedalers Touring Club, 202-363-8687
www.bikepctc.org
Montgomery Bicycle Advocates, 301-767-5998
www.internetglo.com/mobike

Every weekend, Potomac's roads fill up with hard-core and not-so-hard-core bikers enjoying the area's scenery and open roads. The most popular routes are along MacArthur Boulevard, Falls Road, and River Road, which conduct bikers to popular and less-trafficked areas upcounty. Montgomery County Bicycle Advocates (MOBIKE) and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) conduct bicycling advocacy and provide maps, safety information and other resources for bicyclists. Potomac Pedalers provide weekend ride schedules for trips throughout the Washington, D.C. area.

Go road biking upcounty

Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation, 240-777-7170

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/dpwt/ (Click "Sidewalks & Bikeways")
Washington Area Bicyclist Association, 202-518-0524
www.waba.org/new/paths/gwaba.php
Poolesville, 15 miles away from Potomac Village, has roads better suited for bike riding than many of the narrow and busy roads in Potomac.

Find out more: Montgomery County's Department of Public Works and Transportation has a bikeways map that includes a route along roads in the Poolesville area. The Washington Area Bicyclist Association publishes the "Greater Washington Area Bicycle Atlas," with suggested routes for 67 bike tours. The last (fifth) edition is out of print, but a revised edition is supposed to come out soon.

Bike part of C&O Canal

C&O Canal National Historical Park, 301-739-4200
www.connectionnewspapers.com

739-4200
www.nps.gov/choh
Bike Washington
www.bikewashington.org/canal

The C&O Canal towpath is 184 miles of biker's paradise. It is almost completely flat, making it great for families, children, and inexperienced bikers. For most of the 22 miles between Georgetown and Seneca, the towpath is smooth and wide — it's rougher and narrower above Seneca.

Bike all of the C&O Canal

C&O Canal National Historical Park, 301-739-4200
www.nps.gov/choh
Bike Washington
www.bikewashington.org/canal

Alzheimer's Association
Tour de Canal, 703-359-4440
http://www.alz-nca.org, type "Tour de Canal" in the search box on the top right

The C&O Canal offers the opportunity for long, scenic rides that more serious bicyclists will enjoy. There is one detour along the 184 miles, a stretch 84 miles upstream from Georgetown at Big Slackwater near Williamsport, Md. The National Park Service conducts occasional canal through-rides, with overnight camping and a support vehicle to carry gear. Other organizations, including the Alzheimer's Association, conduct through rides for charity.

Rediscover canoeing

www.ccadc.org
Swain's Lock

These days, kayaking may seem to hold more of an X Games appeal, but for cruising the C&O Canal, or the Potomac River above Seneca, canoeing may be the perfect way to enjoy the outdoors. The Canoe Cruisers Association teaches canoeing basics courses at the Fletchers Boathouse in Georgetown. CCA also holds beginning whitewater canoeing courses, beginning whitewater kayaking courses, and swiftwater rescue classes. The Club holds general meetings at the Clara Barton Community Center on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. One must be a member of CCA to enroll in classes.

Find out more: The Canoe Cruisers Association teaches canoeing basics courses at Fletchers Boathouse in Georgetown.

Swim outdoors in the summer

Bethesda Pool
Little Falls Pkwy & Hillandale Road, Bethesda, 301-652-1598
www.montgomerycountymd.gov

Washington summers are famously humid and muggy. One sure way to cool off is a swim at a local pool. Potomac has numerous private swim clubs and easy access to several public pools. The Montgomery County Department of Recreation operates eight outdoor pools. The closest is the Bethesda Pool. Its facilities include a six-lane, 50-meter pool, 1- and 3-meter diving boards, junior pool, tot pool, separate 6-lane 25-meter lap pool, bath house, and snack bar. One place definitely not to swim is the Potomac River. Nearly every year, people — both locals and out-of-town visitors — die in the Potomac River, and others are rescued from life-threatening situations. Though a few victims fall in, most either wade in, try to swim to an island, or just decide to "take a dip," and are swept away. While the surface may appear calm, strong currents exist underneath.

Montgomery Aquatic Center
5900 Executive Boulevard,
North Bethesda, 301-468-4211
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/aqua.asp
Even on the coldest of winter days, local swimmers need not despair. The Montgomery County Department of Recreation operates three indoor pools. The Montgomery Aquatic Center's facilities include an indoor pool, hot tubs and hydrotherapy pools, a 10-meter diving platform, an exercise room, a snack bar, locker and shower facilities, saunas and racquetball courts.

Swim year round

Montgomery Aquatic Center
5900 Executive Boulevard,
North Bethesda, 301-468-4211

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/aqua.asp
Even on the coldest of winter days, local swimmers need not despair. The Montgomery County Department of Recreation operates three indoor pools. The Montgomery Aquatic Center's facilities include an indoor pool, hot tubs and hydrotherapy pools, a 10-meter diving platform, an exercise room, a snack bar, locker and shower facilities, saunas and racquetball courts.

Join a community swim club

www.mcsl.org
The Montgomery County Swim League sponsors competitive swimming and other activities to help young people learn to love swimming and further develop their aquatic skills. A number of pools in the area are members of MCSL and other leagues. The swim clubs have other social events throughout the summer, both for children and adults alike.

Join a summer swim team

Montgomery County Swim League
www.mcsl.org/teamdiv/team.html

Where can local children ages 6-18 join together on summer weekends? At any of the local summer swim clubs, many of which field teams that compete in the Montgomery County Swim League. Saturday morning meets are chock-full of shouting, cheering and splashing as the swimmers compete in five age groups. Many parents are involved as team reps or officials, and the clubs have social events for the adults.

LEARN SOMETHING NEW

Play golf

Congressional Country Club
10800 Falls Road, Potomac, 301-299-5156
Poolesville Golf Course
16601 W. Willard Rd., Poolesville, 301-428-8143
www.montgomerycountygolf.com

You don't have to be a millionaire to play golf in Potomac. Home to world-famous tournament courses at Congressional Country Club and the Tournament Players Club at Avenel, Potomac also has its own public golf course on Falls Road, with another public course up the road in Poolesville. The courses, operated by the Montgomery County Revenue Authority, include clubhouses, driving ranges, and pro shops offering equipment and lessons.

Learn to dance

Glen Echo Park
7300 MacArthur Blvd, Glen Echo, 301-634-2222

www.glenechopark.org/dancing.htm
Glen Echo park offers classes in waltz, swing, contra, salsa, and more. Dances take place in the historic Spanish Ballroom and Bumper Car Pavilion.

It also hosts regular social dances, open to the public, for all ages, with no experience or partner required. Many of the dances offer an introductory lesson, and live music. Tickets are \$7-\$15 and are sold at the door. Dress is casual, and layers are recommended.

Become the next Freddy Adu

www.msissoccer.org (Montgomery Soccer, Inc.)

www.bethesdaasoccer.org (Bethesda Soccer Club)
www.potomacsoccer.org (Potomac Soccer Association)

Before he joined the U.S. Under-17 soccer team and MLS, the locally-grown soccer phenom played on a club team in Potomac Soccer Association and then in the Bethesda Soccer Club. Local soccer leagues offer a variety of levels for school-aged children, from club teams that travel to Brazil to beginners' teams that travel a short ways down Falls Road.

Watch insane kayakers

Great Falls Tavern & C&O Canal National Historical Park
www.nps.gov/choh

Some of the world's best kayakers come to the Great Falls area of the Potomac river to train. A summer hike along one of the C&O Canal National Historical Park's riverside trails is sure to yield some spotting opportunities. The Potomac Whitewater Festival, held annually in July, features dozens of events including dramatic runs over Great Falls. Watch from the Maryland overlook in C&O Canal National Historical Park by crossing the wooden walkway near Great Falls Tavern.

Become a sane kayaker

www.potomacpaddlesports.com
www.liquidadventures.org

Want to try paddling yourself? The C&O Canal, with a closed water system and little flow, is an ideal place to learn, and several outfitters offer lessons there. Inexperienced paddlers and swimmers are injured or killed every year entering the water without proper training and equipment. Learn from professionals at schools like Potomac Paddlesports or Valley Mill Kayak School.

Traverse an EPIC trail

Equestrian Partners in Conservation, epicmontgomery.org, pbhta.org

Potomac has long been horse country, and for those that love to ride there are new trails that have recently been cleared by local riding organizations as part of an ongoing effort to create more routes for horse enthusiasts in the area. The trails are designed to be used by hikers as well, but they can be challenging so those who are new riders or are unfamiliar with the trails are encouraged to go with a guide for their first time out.

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SPECTACULAR OPEN HOUSES

January 10 & 11



When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in the Almanac. For more real estate listings and open houses visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

POTOMAC

8801 Brickyard Rd.	\$2,445,000	Sun. 1-4	Lynn Stewart	WC & AN Miller	301-580-4552
13 Lawngate Ct.	\$569,900	Sun. 1-4	Caryn Gardiner	Long & Foster	240-497-1700

NORTH POTOMAC

14227 Floral Park Dr.	\$900,000	Sun. 1-4	Alan Bruzee	Long & Foster	301-519-8066
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BETHESDA

7323 Arrowood Rd.	\$2,650,000	Sun. 1-4	Susan Rusnak	Re/Max Realty	301-921-2669
8012 Beech Tree Rd.	\$835,000	Sun. 2-5	Mary Sepucha	Long & Foster	703-407-8544
4822 Broad Brook Dr.	\$899,900	Sun. 1-4	Christopher Hager	Long & Foster	301-468-0606
10 Dudley Ct.	\$389,000	Sun. 1-4	Stephen Withrow	Long & Foster	301-404-0410
6114 Goldtree Way	\$999,900	Sun. 1-4	Ashton Vessali	Weichert	703-760-8880
4801 Hampden Ln. #103	\$899,900	Sun. 1-3	Allan Chaudhuri	WC & AN Miller	301-765-6110
5908 Lone Oak Dr.	\$1,879,000	Sun. 1-4	Traci Levine	Long & Foster	301-765-0161
5420 Mohican Rd.	\$899,000	Sun. 1-4	Susan Brooks	WC & AN Miller	301-229-4000
5301 Westbard Cir. #404	\$625,000	Sun. 1-3	Lisa Marcais	Keller Williams	301-515-1115

CHEVY CHASE

3700 Woodbine St.	\$1,625,000	Sun. 12-4	Laura McCaffrey	Gerlach Real Estate	301-656-8686
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To add your Realtor-represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Kenneth Lourie

703-917-6475 or E-Mail the info to
Klourie@connectionnewspapers.com
All listings due by Monday at 3 pm.

CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/JAN. 8

MLK Celebration. The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra performs in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at 8 p.m. in the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Visit www.BSOmusic.org for tickets.

Alaska Movie Night. 7 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Watch "The Heart of Alaska." Free, but reservations required, movienight@cruiseweb.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 9

Home Tours. Guided tours showing the history and personal stories of the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Call 301-581-5100.

Opening Reception. 6-9 p.m., see "Figurative Work" by Drew Parris from Jan. 6 through Feb. 7 at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. See drawings and more. Free. 301-951-9441.

Contra Dance. 7:30-11:30 p.m. in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$9/person. Beginners welcome. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 10

Children's Tour. Children ages 5 and older, accompanied by an adult, go on a guided tour and do an art activity from 10:15 a.m.- 12:15 p.m. in the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Reservations required; call 301-581-5100.

Live Music. Pianist Pallavi Mahidhara performs at 7:30 p.m. in the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Tickets \$25; call 202-342-6221.

Maestro's Birthday. The Symphonic Blockbusters performs at 8 p.m. in the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda in honor of Maestro Piotr Gajewski's 50th birthday. Tickets from \$29, children 7-17 free; call 301-581-5100.

Park Movie. 4 p.m. at Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Watch a movie documenting the park's 115-year history. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Carousel Tours. Noon at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See how it was made, how it works and more. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Nature Programs. Enjoy activities, stories, animals, hikes and more from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free for members and children under 2, \$5/non member. Visit www.discoverycreek.org or 202-488-0627.

Swing Dance. 8 p.m.- midnight in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Admission to be determined. Beginners welcome. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Book Sale. 9 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Browse paperbacks, hardcovers and more. Free. 240-777-0690.

Art Talk for Adults. 1 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane. Learn about the Potomac Valley Watercolorists. Free. Visit www.strathmore.org for more information.

SUNDAY/JAN. 11

Maestro's Birthday. The Symphonic Blockbusters performs at 3 p.m. in the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda in honor of Maestro Piotr Gajewski's 50th birthday. Tickets from \$29, children 7-17 free; call 301-581-5100.

Cold Weather Activities for Dog. 2-4 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road. Free, but register at www.yourdogsfriend.info or 301-983-5913.

Critiques and Coffee. 10 a.m.-noon at Photoworks studio at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Bring a photo and enjoy coffee, bagels and discussion. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org or 301-229-7930.

Park Movie. 4 p.m. at Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Watch a movie documenting the park's 115-year history. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Carousel Tours. Noon at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See how it was made, how it works and more. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Nature Programs. Enjoy activities, stories, animals, hikes and more from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free for members and children under 2, \$5/non member. Visit www.discoverycreek.org or 202-488-0627.

Blues Dance. 7-11 p.m. at Town Hall in Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$15/lesson and dance or \$8/dance only. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Opening Reception. 1:30-3:30 p.m., see "Maryland Pastel Society" through Jan. 27 at the Dennis and Phillip Ratner Museum, 10001 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. Free. 301-897-1518.

Slide Show. 7:30 p.m. at Clara Barton Community Center in Cabin John, 7425 MacArthur Blvd. Roy Sewall will give a slide show from his book on the Potomac River. Free. 301-229-0010.

Poetry and Prose Reading. 2 p.m. at the Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. Free. 301-654-8664.

Zydeco Dance Party. 3-6 p.m. at the Spanish Ballroom in Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$15/person. Visit www.dancingbythebayou.com or 301-634-2222.

MONDAY/JAN. 12

Time for 2s and 3s. 10:25 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. Children ages 3-6 can enjoy stories, songs and more. Register at the library or 240-777-0690.

TUESDAY/JAN. 13

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. 301-581-5108.

Mother's Circle. 9:30 a.m. at Washington Hebrew Congregation. Mothers can learn about Jewish rituals, ethics and more. Free with free babysitting. 202-362-7100.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 14

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.

Author Reading. 6:30 p.m. at The Harbor School, 7701 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda. Daniel H. Pink will discuss "A Whole New Mind: Why Right Brainers Will Rule the Future." \$10/person. Registration required, info@theharborschool.org or 301-

365-1100.

Music Performance. Artist in Residence Tosin Aribisala and his group the Hallelujazz Project will perform at 7:30 p.m. at the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. \$10/person. Visit www.strathmore.org or 301-581-5100.

FRIDAY/JAN. 16

Contra Dance. 7:30-11:30 p.m. in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$9/person. Beginners welcome. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

SATURDAY/JAN. 17

Choral Reading. Learn how to read choral music at 1 p.m. in the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Tickets: \$30; call 301-581-5100.

Performance Workshop. Violinist Ivan Stefanovic coaches select students from the Levine School at 3 p.m. in the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Free. Reservations required; call 202-686-8000, ext. 1599.

La Valse. The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra performs "La Valse" at 8 p.m. in the Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Visit www.BSOmusic.org for tickets.

A Way to Help Fearful Dogs. 2-4 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road. Free, but register at www.yourdogsfriend.info or 301-983-5913.

Park Movie. 4 p.m. at Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Watch a movie documenting the park's 115-year history. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Carousel Tours. Noon at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See how it was made, how it works and more. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Nature Programs. Enjoy activities, stories, animals, hikes and more from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free for members and children under 2, \$5/non member. Visit www.discoverycreek.org or 202-488-0627.

Swing Dance. 8 p.m.- midnight in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Admission to be determined. Beginners welcome. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Art Class. Noon-2 p.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive. His-Mei Yates presents a watercolor workshop for all above age 10. Free. Registration required, 240-777-0690.

Art Exhibit. Noon-6 p.m. at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See "Common Ground: Robert Bilek & Colin Campbell." Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

SUNDAY/JAN. 18

Guitar Quartet. The Potomac Guitar Quartet performs at 3 p.m. in the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. Tickets: \$25; call 301-581-5100.

Park Movie. 4 p.m. at Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Movie documenting the park's 115-year history. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Carousel Tours. Noon at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. See how it was made, how it works and more. Free. Visit www.nps.gov/glec or 301-320-1400.

Nature Programs. Enjoy activities, stories, animals, hikes from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Free for members and children under 2, \$5/non member. Visit www.discoverycreek.org or 202-488-0627.

What's Ahead for 2009?

FROM PAGE 4

Sprinkles ice cream store in the Potomac Village shopping center last summer when word got out that the store's lease would not be renewed. Petitions were signed, Facebook support groups created, and eventually officials from the center's management company, Zuckerman-Gravely, relented. Sprinkles owner Tom Orban appears likely to bring his store back for a 21st summer in Potomac, but his struggle is indicative of the ongoing changes in Potomac Village. In recent years many local stores have left the center or gone out of business completely, citing high rents. The number of national banks and chain stores in the Village has surged, and the latest addition to the Village is slated to be a PNC Bank drive-through ATM facility. Zuckerman-Gravely officials have said that they want to maintain the small-town character of Potomac Village, but many residents are not so sure.

"To see this whole [community] theme deteriorate and to see this now, I mean what's going on?" said Potomac resident Howard Silvers last summer when the Sprinkles saga was unfolding. "All of a sudden we're seeing more banks and drugstores, what do we need [them] for?"

GAITHERSBURG WEST DEVELOPMENT:

Massive development proposed on the northeast side of Route 28 at the Shady Grove and Darnestown Roads could bring 62,000 jobs and 15,000 housing units, and 20 million square feet of commercial to

that area, referred to as Gaithersburg West. At the heart of the plan is an expansion of Johns Hopkins University's Shady Grove campus. The development would be completed in phases, with an estimated final completion between 2030 and 2040.

County officials met with residents four times in a five-week period at the end of last year over those plans in development of a Gaithersburg West Master Plan. On Monday, Jan. 5 Gaithersburg and Potomac residents — a group that calls itself Residents for Reasonable Development — held a press conference in the lobby of the Montgomery County Council Office Building to propose a scaled-down plan that would emphasize establishing adequate public transportation and access to and from the development. They also criticized what they view as a rushed planning period, particularly when compared to the development of the Potomac Master Plan several years ago that incorporated 18-months of input from a formal citizen advisory panel.

Long-time Potomac resident Elie Cain said that the Gaithersburg West proposal would have a severe impact on Potomac. "We're so congested with traffic everywhere and we can't just keep building roads, we have to have transit she said. "It does affect us all, we all need to work as a team."

The goal of Residents for a Reasonable Development is to convince the Montgomery County Planning Board and the County Council to consider their alternative proposal before the Council makes a final decision, tentatively scheduled for September.

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PEOPLE

National Network Honors Couple

Potomac residents Dr. Judith Ann Pauley and Joseph Pauley received the 2008 Individual Crystal Star Award for Excellence in Dropout Prevention, Intervention and Recovery from the National Dropout Prevention Network.

Judith Ann (Judy) Pauley taught chemistry and physics for 42 years in various high schools and universities in the United States and in Asia, including 18 years as chair of the science department at Connolly School of the Holy Child on Bradley Boulevard in Potomac. For the past 10 years she has been CEO of Kahler Communications (Washington, D.C.), headquartered in Potomac. She is an adjunct professor at several universities from New Hampshire to California, including the Education Leadership Program at George Mason University in Virginia and the graduate education department at Columbia Union College in Silver Spring.

Joseph (Joe) Pauley has taught at all levels — elementary, middle school, high school, college and graduate school. He served in the navy during the Korean War and, in all, had a 34-year career with the U.S. government during which he served in a variety of management and leadership positions. He spent 21 of those years in Asia where he became an



Dr. Judith Ann Pauley and Joseph Pauley

authority on cross cultural communications and motivating people from different cultures. For the past 21 years he has been president of Kahler Communications (Washington, D.C.) and vice president for education of Kahler Communications Inc., located in Little Rock, Ark.

THIS WEEK

FROM PAGE 2

work, parish ministry, spiritual direction and social work. Holy Child's mass is one of many events scheduled to take place throughout the country during this yearlong celebration to commemorate the anniversary of Cornelia's Jan. 15 birthday. Holy Child

Sisters from around the area will attend this mass and renew their vows.

Connolly School of the Holy Child is a private, independent Catholic school for young women in grades 6-12. Holy Child is located at 9029 Bradley Boulevard in Potomac, Maryland.



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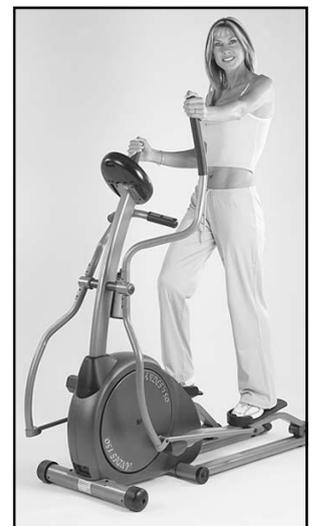
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Churchill Gets Offensive

After slow start in new system, Bulldogs are scoring in bunches.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE ALMANAC

It was a rude awakening for first-year Churchill coach Matt Miller when his Bulldogs took the floor back on Dec. 5 and laid a clunker against county title threat Springbrook, scoring no field goals in the first quarter en route to a 57-43 loss to open the season.

They followed that up in their third game of the year by blowing a double-digit halftime lead to Blake, another top contender this season, courtesy of a flurry of fourth quarter turnovers. Not exactly an auspicious start for

a team that won 13 games a year ago and said all the right things in the preseason — how a squad chock full of seniors would have little trouble adjusting to a new coach, a new offense, and a new style of play.

“We knew we were a lot better than we played,” said senior Luke

Fishman.

Turns out it simply took a little longer than expected for the Bulldogs to get out of their cage, offensively speaking.

Churchill (7-2) has now reeled off six straight wins following Monday's 67-56 win over Walter Johnson. Led by senior Chase Hicks (23.2 points per game), the Bulldogs have averaged more than 65 points per contest after not reaching 50 points in three of their first five games.

“They're getting a lot more comfortable with what we're doing and I think it's showing on the offensive end,” said Miller after the win over the Wildcats. “We still haven't put together a complete game, but I'm really happy the guys are clicking offensively to support their defensive effort.”

As was expected coming into the season, the catalyst has been Hicks, who has led Churchill in scoring in all but one of its seven

SEE PLAYOFFS, PAGE 15

“I'm really happy the guys are clicking offensively.”

—Churchill coach Matt Miller



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Senior point guard Danny Holzman has helped Churchill rebound after a 1-2 start to the season. The Bulldogs have reached the 60-point plateau in their past four games heading into Wednesday's showdown against Whitman, which takes place after the Almanac's press time.

'It's All Mental' for Lady Bulldogs



PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Senior Samantha Redman and the Churchill girl's basketball team “have a lot to work on,” according to coach Aubree Lawrence, even though the Bulldogs are off to a 7-2 start to the season.

Despite 7-2 record, coach thinks Churchill can play much better.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE ALMANAC

Just listen to the groans in their voices and it's easy to see the Churchill girl's basketball team is about as frustrated as a 7-2 team can be entering the brunt of its schedule.

Coaching a team that has mostly breezed through all its wins, third-year Bulldogs coach Aubree Lawrence describes herself as being “stressed out” by her team's up-and-down performances thus far.

“When we're on, we're on and when we're off, we're really off,” said Lawrence.

Senior center Alex Vasilla could

barely describe the feeling in words.

“We're right there,” said Vasilla before pausing. “Ughhh, we just have to do it now.”

With a lineup of five three-year starters, Lawrence knows her team is capable of more even if the record suggests things are going swimmingly following Monday night's 54-30 beatdown of Walter Johnson that saw the Bulldogs cruise after taking a commanding 41-10 halftime lead.

“It's all mental,” said Lawrence. “Everything with these girls is mental. They have to be prepared and it's more when we make substitutions ... there's just such a gap and

“We've got the potential, we just got to pull it all together.”

— Churchill senior Alex Vasilla

SEE LADY BULLDOGS, PAGE 15

SPORTS BRIEFS

Churchill Hires Football Coach

After a month long search, Churchill has decided on a new football coach. Joe Allen, previously the head coach at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School in Bethesda, will take the reins of the program starting this week, according to Churchill athletic director David Kelley.

Allen will take over for former coach Greg Neuendorf, who left the team after his wife accepted a job outside the area. Allen was one of seven coaches the school interviewed. Although the team went 10-10 during Neuendorf's two-year tenure, the program had taken significant strides and just missed out on a playoff spot this season, finishing with a 6-4 record.

Allen's B-CC team finished 2-8 this past season, but won two of its last three games. He has a career record of 4-16 during his two years as varsity football coach there.

“We thought he was the best candidate in terms of organization and taking what Neuendorf did to another level,” said Kelley.

The school's booster club made an announcement through email last week and Allen will meet with players and parents in a meeting Thursday night at Churchill.

Wootton-Whitman Basketball

The Wootton girl's basketball team continued its winning ways Monday night, notching a 53-36 win over Whitman. The Patriots are now 8-1 as they continue their march towards a county title. Leading the charge was Jessica Welch, who finished with 16 points, and Gabby Flinchum, who added 15 points. Susan Russell led Whitman with a game-high 18 points in a losing effort.

SEE SPORTS BRIEFS, PAGE 15

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Growth in a Growing Man



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

So I need some new underwear, so what? It's not like I'm undertaking some Herculean task. It's fairly simple. In fact, it's as simple as simple gets. It's not a style issue. It's not a color issue. It's not a brand issue. It's not even a where-to-buy issue. And thankfully, it's definitely not an issue that involves my wife, Dina. In this one unique and rather personal choice, I don't need, nor do I want, my wife's input. I know what I want, where I should go to buy it, and quite frankly, don't need to be told when it's time to buy it.

I will spare you the details (because my editor wouldn't allow it), but the time is now! And if my wife was indeed involved in the selection process, and her opinion was of some importance to me (with respect to this very private and personal matter), the time to buy would have been months ago. But I'm a big boy and I make my own decisions.

And it's that bigness that has partially delayed this much-needed purchase. You see, I'm not quite the same man — or size — that I used to be. Nor am I the size that I would like to be, and I'm definitely not the same weight I said I was nearly 10 years ago when I last renewed my driver's license (a renewal for which I recently received notice in the mail) and had to answer the ever-unpopular weight question. (Oddly enough, the height question never really bothered me as much as the weight question, even though its answer often has something to do with the less-than-honest weight answer.)

Ordinarily I wouldn't care about such weighty matters, and wouldn't have hesitated concerning this rather mundane purchase, if I were not having to decide between the waist size that I once was and the waist size that I actually am. And though the difference is only one even-numbered increment up, it is nonetheless a bit of a mental reality check.

What I am referring to is, a "threshold," a precipice-type break through, to wider and heretofore uncharted territory. Territory that, once reached, might never be retreated from again, sort of like base camp at Mt. Everest. Once I step my left leg into that expanded universe, I fear the crossover will be permanent, and the elastic waistband designed as much for future expansion as it is for current comfort, will become a crutch on which my entire body, both physically and mentally, will rely forever more.

But who am I kidding, really? Just as I'm not getting any younger (with each passing year), neither is it likely that I'll be getting any thinner. I'm not out of control yet, but I wouldn't say I'm in control either.

Still, I am aware of my limitations and cognizant of the fact that in many instances size does matter, but also realizing that in this weight context, bigger is definitely not better.

It's only a slippery slope if I allow it to be. However, once I'm comfortable in my new underwear, there may be no stopping me. And that's what worries me.

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

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PHOTO BY HARVEY LEVINE/THE ALMANAC

Senior point guard Angela Bicciochi is part of a senior-filled starting lineup that has helped Churchill start the season with a 7-2 record.

7-2 Start for CHS

FROM PAGE 13

we have to fix that.”

Churchill has more than gotten by its deficiencies in the early going thanks to the play of Vasilla (11.6 points per game) and her interior counterpart, senior Marlena Phillips (nine points per game). Seniors Angela Bicciochi, Samantha Redman, and Kristy Tung complete a well-rounded set of starters that has mostly lived up to its hype from the preseason. Sharpshooter Ashley Nelson has also provided a welcome spark off the bench.

But with games against Whitman, Quince Orchard, and county title favorite Wootton on the horizon in the coming weeks, the first order of business for the Bulldogs is to develop some more consistency throughout the entire roster.

Lawrence was happy with her team's showing against Paul VI (ranked No. 18 in the area by the Washington Post) at Churchill's holiday tournament even though it came in a losing effort. But all too often for the coach's taste, though, have been games like Churchill's 68-53 loss to Northwest just before winter break — very disappointing for a squad that had state title aspirations coming into the season.

Even Monday night's thumping of Walter Johnson concerned Lawrence, as the Bulldogs relied on their talent and came out with a victory despite being outworked by the Wildcats.

“It's teams like that, that allow us to see we have a lot of things to work on,” said Lawrence about the Walter Johnson win. “If we want to be what we expect to be, we have to make some changes.”

Still, the Bulldogs are well ahead of their 15-win pace from last season, and with a powerful and veteran core that has been through the ups and downs of a varsity season before, the physical tools are already in place. All the lady Bulldogs have to do now is get their heads on straight.

“We've got the potential, we just got to pull it all together,” said Vassila, this time without the groan.

Churchill: Toughening Up for Playoffs

FROM PAGE 13

wins. Miller said his star player has appeared more at ease playing within the new system in recent games and the numbers bear proof. Hicks is scoring at a 27-point clip in the team's last five games.

Now, though, with Churchill about to start the meat of its schedule beginning with Wednesday's contest against Whitman, which takes place after the Almanac's press time, the Bulldogs understand a more complete and balanced effort will be key.

Senior Elijah Gore has provided a much-needed secondary scorer behind Hicks, av-

eraging 14.1 points per game, while seniors Luke Fishman and Patrick Fauquier have developed into exactly the type of role players a championship caliber team needs. But after Hicks' recent surge, expect teams to make the other Bulldogs take control.

“Come playoff time, when we play the real tough games — the Springbrooks and the Blakes — we're not going to be able to count on just Chase to win us the game,” said senior point guard Danny Holzman. “It's gotta be a team effort.”

And even against a weaker team like Walter Johnson, Churchill showed some

chinks in its armor, giving up 27 points in the fourth quarter in a game that should have been more lopsided than the final score suggested.

Now that his team is getting more and more comfortable with what he wants, Miller knows the next step is to develop the killer instinct to finish teams off. If his team's quick recovery from that disastrous first quarter is any indication, it's only a matter of time.

PEOPLE NOTES

Army Reserve 2nd Lt. **Jonathan J. Keung** has graduated from the Army Medical Officer Basic Leadership Course at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. He is the son of Raymond W. and Wendy W. Keung of Potomac. The lieutenant graduated in 2003 from Winston Churchill High School, Potomac, and received a bachelor's degree in 2007 from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Montgomery College has appointed **Brett Eaton** as the new director of communications. He will manage the college wide Office of Communications, which includes the areas of media relations, marketing and creative services/publications. He will join Montgomery College on Jan. 5.

Patricia Davis, a sales associate with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Potomac, helps find funding for veterans to retrofit their homes or build new homes to meet

their needs. Davis, along with the support of local government officials, paid off on Nov. 20 at the closing of a property in Winchester, Va. that will house the first veteran to benefit from the program. Davis is a native of Washington, D.C. who was a loan officer for 18 years before joining Coldwell Banker.

Marine Corps 1st Lt. **Paul B. Pintek**, a 2002 graduate of T. S. Wootton High School, Rockville, Md., recently was promoted to his current rank while serving with Marine Air Support Squadron Two, Marine Air Control Group 18, Okinawa, Japan.

David D. Doh has graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Leader Development and Assessment Course, also known as “Operation Warrior Forge,” at Fort Lewis, Tacoma, Wash. He is the son of Harrison and Hye Doh of Potomac and a 2005 graduate of Winston Churchill High School.

SCHOOLS

Bullis Students Get Life Lesson

Lung cancer gave Dan Waeger something he never imagined having: a platform. Speaking to the students of The Bullis School's upper school in December he seemed to make effective use of his new tool.

“During the speech you could hear a pin drop,” said Waeger. A Bethesda resident and Pennsylvania native, Waeger was diagnosed in 2005 with stage IV lung cancer. He was 22 and had never been a smoker. Just out of college and fully in the throes of early adulthood, Waeger was laid low by his diagnosis.

“At that time, at the age of 22, after going through college, that lady told me I had cancer, I didn't know what the word meant,” Waeger recalled. “When you get diagnosed with cancer your world kind of stops.”

Three years later Waeger continues to battle his disease, and earlier this year stepped up to a more aggressive form of therapy when his condition worsened. He hopes that his message to Bullis students — to learn to appreciate life at their early age and to spread cancer awareness — left an impact. He hopes, too, that the organization he has started does the same thing.

Aimed to help young adults diagnosed with cancer, particularly college students, the National Collegiate Cancer Foundation, provides scholarship funds to cancer patients who want to continue their college careers as they battle through treatment. Beyond the studying and the fun times, college is a fragile period where students are no longer children and are learning independence and adult responsibility, said Waeger. The funds can be used for medical, school, or living expenses.

“A [cancer] diagnosis rips that independence away,” said Waeger. It can also rip away their support network of friends when they are forced to move back home, and Waeger wants to help students who want to sustain such a support network or who lack one altogether.

“I'm one of the lucky ones with a good support network of family and friends, [but] to read the applications [for his scholarship] of people with no support system, its just crazy,” said Waeger.

Members of the Bullis student council got to read some of those applications, and Waeger hopes it left an impression on them.

On Friday, Dec. 5 Bullis students did their part for Waeger's cause, putting on a dodgeball tournament that raised more than \$1,500, said Waeger. Waeger's speech at Bullis was his first high school event, but he hopes to talk to all of the high schools, public and private, in the months and years to come, even as he continues his battle that as of right now does not have an end in sight.

“It's going, I'm still here,” Waeger said.

To learn more about the National Collegiate Cancer Foundation visit collegiatecancer.org, or to track Waeger's treatment waegerwillwin.blogspot.com.

— AARON STERN

Sports Briefs

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Wootton takes on Walter Johnson Wednesday, after the Almanac's press time, followed by a Friday match-up against Northwest. Whitman takes on Churchill Wednesday night.

The Wootton boy's basketball team was also victorious over Whitman, winning 58-48 Monday night. Nitin Potarazu had 13 points for the Patriots, while Whitman's Amin Haririnia had a game-high 18 points.

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